



In this issue:

Page

2	Vale - Oska
3	Committee Contact Details
3	President's Message
3	General Meeting Agenda – 20 March
4	Scale of charges
4	From the Secretary
4	AMCV Website
4	Malamute Mail Deadline
5	One by One they Pass by my Cage
5	Rainbow Bridge
5	Open Show – Donations Requested
6	2013 Activities Calendar
7	Picnic Fun Walk – 10 March
8	Information & Activities Day – 17 March
9	Backpacking Event – Day hike 23 March
10	Sledding Training Day – 28 April
11	Open Show Schedule
11	Obedience Sessions
12	Weight Pull Training Day – 24 March
12	Something to Howl About
13	Weight Pull Event Schedule

Page

14	Secret to a well socialised dog
14	AMRAA – Help Needed
15	Committee Profile – Antoinette Wagenvoort
15	Breeders' Directory
16	Christmas Fun Day photos
17	Carrying the Load – Backpacking article
21	Show Point Score – Final Results 2012
22	So you want an Alaskan Malamute?
24	Melbourne Pet & Animal Expo photos
25	Dogs for Adoption
26	Show Point Score Rules
26	AMRAA – Donation request
27	AMCV Merchandise
27	Windchill Dog Gear advertisement
28	How to tell a Malamute from a Husky
30	Register of Achievement
30	Dogs' Diary / Cat's Diary
30	Dogs & Beach Etiquette
31	Winterkeep advertisement
31	Dishlickers Resort advertisement



In Memory of *Oska*

**Australian & NZ Champion
Icewinds Body N Soul
Imp NZ [AI] [A] WTD WPD X ROA**

12/5/1998 – 16/1/2013



Our old boy Oska passed over the rainbow bridge on Wednesday, 16 January – he was 4 months shy of his 15th birthday. He left this world lying peacefully near his favourite spot in the yard where he used to sit gazing out over the valley, his granddaughter Buffy by his side.

I will never forget the first time I saw Oska with his owner & breeder Helen Greaves at the Melbourne Royal in 2000, where he went on to win Best of Breed and Runner Up in Group.

Oska sired two litters to our girl Laska (Ch Windchill Tawni Laska) and all his Windchill kids went on to achieve in either the showing or working activities, including some top sledding dogs, most notably Timber, Ch Windchill Kaos Arcticboy WLDX WTD X WWP D WPD X ROA.

After a few trips to and fro across the Tasman, Oska came to stay with us in 2002 and achieved his Working Pack and Team dog titles within a year. Helen gave us the honour of signing Oska over to us in 2004, and he went on to achieve his Working Pack Dog Excellent title.

Oska had so much personality – he was the cool dude of the kennel, treating the other boys who might have tried to get a reaction out of him with disdain. He used to do a little dance and shake his head when he was excited, something that some of his kids and grandkids still do.

Being a stud dog, some of his antics became quite memorable – one year up at the snow with bitches in season, Oska took his frustrations out on the brake cable under our truck where he was tethered, causing it to leak hydraulic fluid. Needless to say, driving down the mountain from Dinner Plain to Omeo without front brakes was a bit of a nerve wracking experience, but we managed a patch up and got home okay. Scary at the time, but we laugh about it now.

Ozzie is behind so many of our dogs, he really is a bit of a legend who made a big impact on us and on the breed in Australia.

For a Malamute to live to his age is exceptional, and even though he was pretty deaf, had limited sight and his legs didn't function too well any more, he was still in quite good health and never lost his interest in his food. We know he was well past his use-by date, but it didn't make it any easier when he left us.

We will never forget you Oska, you still live on in our memories and in your many kids, grandkids, great grandkids and so on...



Run Free Oska...

Our handsome clown Ozzie, you may be gone but we will never forget you or the joy that you brought us...
We are forever grateful to Helen for allowing us the honour of sharing Oska's life for the last 10 years.

Sandy, Ralph & the Windchill Gang





Alaskan Malamute Club Victoria, Inc.

Registered No. A0016353X

PATRON: Mrs Olive Singer**HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS:** Mrs. Dulcie Sullivan, Mrs. Sandy Koch & Mr. Ian Luke**Postal Address:**

PO Box 41, Hurstbridge VIC 3099

General Enquiries:

Ralph & Sandy Koch

9714 8540

Email: amcv@bigpond.com.au**2012/2013 Committee****President:**

Antoinette Wagenvoort

0401 614 994**Vice President (Breed Welfare):**

Sandy Koch

(03) 9714 8540

Vice President (Activities):

Ian Luke

0417 103 615

Secretary

Marty Cord

0425 776 295

Treasurer:

Ralph Koch

(03) 9714 8540

Show Secretary:

Lorraine Green

5784 1849**Puppy Registrar/Referral:**

Michele Nimmo

0422 338 779

Publicity/Education:

Ian Luke

0417 103 615

Fundraising:

Sharen McPhan

0410 192 210

Malamute Health:

Anna Paxton

0403 758 664

Newsletter Editor:

Sandy Koch

(03) 9714 8540

Obedience:

Marty Cord

0425 776 295

Sledding:

Merv Turner

5978 6001

Weight pull:

Melanie Gray

0404 104 619

Backpacking:

Stuart Vanderpol

0413 118 305



President's Message

Well – here we are with the New Year already well under way – I hope that you have all enjoyed your Christmas and New Years break, now it's back into

the hum drum of work, no rest and little play, or perhaps for some of you there was no break at all.

I am sure that this year is set to be an exciting one with loads of activities – while I have not yet seen the calendar, I am sure that there are not many weekends with vacancies. I am looking forward to starting weight pull with Charlie and also a few other activities which the club committee have planned for.

So come on everyone, let's all get involved in whatever takes your fancy, bring along your friends, their fur kids and let's enjoy an exciting year of fun, great friends, laughs, and enjoyment.

Antoinette Wagenvoort
President



AMCV Club Contact Details

PO Box 41, Hurstbridge VIC 3099,

Ph: (03) 9714 8540

Email: amcv@bigpond.com.auWebsite: www.amcv.org.au

Alaskan Malamute Club, Victoria Inc.

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 20 March

to commence at 7.30 pm

Bulla Exhibition Centre, 5 Uniting Lane, Bulla

Melways Map Reference 177 G 8

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of previous General Meeting
(as published in the June 2012 Malamute Mail)
3. Correspondence
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Committee Reports
6. General Business
7. Any other business
8. Show Point Score Award Presentations

From the Secretary...

Hi Everyone,

Welcome to the first issue of Mallie Mail for 2013. I hope you all had a great Christmas and a safe and happy new year.

Looking over the activities calendar for this year we are all in for a busy year. All the usual favourites are there and some new ones too, so I hope you will all show your support by attending your furkids. I'm looking forward to hiking with Luna this year and possibly a scooter race or two.

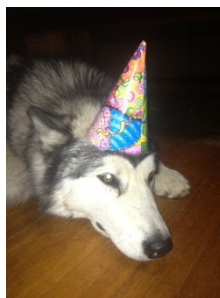
A big reminder to everyone as well as this heat drags on please please make sure your dogs have plenty of water and if possible a wading pool to cool off in and never leave them in a car while you're in the shops. The statistics on dogs overheating in cars is frightening.

I would also like to extend another big thankyou to Sandy for her help lately. I have had huge demands put on me work wise for a few months and Sandy has been right there ready to help and make sure everything for the club gets done. Thanks Sandy you're the best.

That's it for now, take care

Marty

AMCV Secretary



SCALE OF CHARGES

Membership:

Joining fee	\$10.00
Single (VCA Member)	\$30.00
Non VCA	\$36.00
Double/Family (VCA Member)	\$35.00
Non VCA	\$48.00
Special Interstate (Non-voting)	\$25.00

Other:

"A" Suffix Application	\$5.00
Ch'd Certification	\$10.00
Working Dog Title Application	\$30.00

Malamute Mail Advertising:

Members' rates:

Inside front cover – colour	\$50.00
Full page	\$30.00
Full Page - copy ready	\$20.00
Half Page	\$30.00
Half Page - copy ready	\$15.00
Quarter page	\$5.00
Eighth Page: per issue	\$3.00
or per year	\$15.00
Stud Dog Register (1 year)	\$50.00
Breeders Directory (1 Year)	\$25.00
Puppy Register	\$25.00

Vale Notice (quarter page) Free.

Normal rates apply for full and ½ pages.

Non Members:

All advertising for non-members are double the rates listed above.

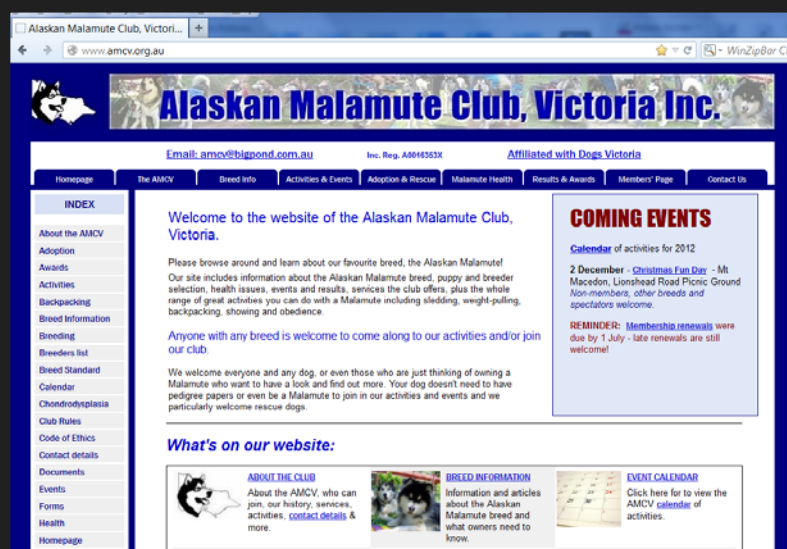
All Advertisers who pay for a year's advertising will also have their ad placed onto the AMCV website at no extra cost.

MOVING?

Change of address notifications must be made in writing to the Secretary at
PO Box 41, Hurstbridge VIC 3099
or by email to
amcv@bigpond.com.au

This is the official organ of The Alaskan Malamute Club, Victoria Inc. (Incorporations Registration No. A0016353X). Subscription is by membership only. The Editor and Publisher reserve the right to edit all copy including advertisements. The club and the committee assume no responsibility for false claims or articles submitted by the public or individual members or persons. Any views submitted may not necessarily be those of the club or committee

Have you checked out the AMCV Website?



www.amcv.org.au

APRIL 2013 ISSUE

Copy Deadline: **1st March 2013**

If you have any letters, photos, or items of general interest to the members please email them to the Newsletter Editor, Sandy Koch at
amcv@bigpond.com.au

or mail to: **PO Box 41, Hurstbridge VIC 3099**



One By One they Pass by my Cage....

*One by one, they pass by my cage,
Too old, too worn, too broken, no way.
Way past his time, he can't run and play.
Then they shake their heads slowly and go on their way.*

*An old man, arthritic and sore,
It seems I am not wanted anymore.
I once had a home, I once had a bed,
A place that was warm, and where I was fed.*

*Now my muzzle is grey, and my eyes slowly fail.
Who wants a dog so old and so frail?
My family decided I didn't belong,
I got in their way, my attitude was wrong.*

*Whatever excuse they made in their head,
Can't justify how they left me for dead.
Now I sit in this cage, where day after day,
The younger dogs get adopted away.*

*When I had almost come to the end of my rope,
You saw my face, and I finally had hope.
You saw thru the grey, and the legs bent with age,
And felt I still had life beyond this cage.*

*You took me home, gave me food and a bed,
And shared your own pillow with my poor tired head.
We snuggle and play, and you talk to me low,
You love me so dearly, you want me to know.*

*I may have lived most of my life with another,
But you outshine them with a love so much stronger.
And I promise to return all the love I can give,
To you, my dear person, as long as I live.*

*I may be with you for a week, or for years,
We will share many smiles, you will no doubt shed tears.
And when the time comes that God deems I must leave,
I know you will cry and your heart, it will grieve.*

*And when I arrive at the Bridge, all brand new,
My thoughts and my heart will still be with you.
And I will brag to all who will hear,
Of the person who made my last days so dear.*

Author - Leslie Whalen in memory of her dog Tray.



Rainbow Bridge

*We say a sad farewell to the following
Malamutes who have now passed over
the rainbow bridge, and our
sympathies go to their owners on the
loss of their much-loved family
member.*

Simba

*Niltaran Saratom Simba
Owned & loved by
Nicole & Lorraine Green*

Chloe

*Niltaran Manko Supastar
WTD WPD
Owned & loved by
Di Mitchell*

Oskga

*Aust & NZ Ch Icewinds
Body N Soul WTD WPD
Owned & loved by
Sandy & Ralph Koch*

Donations Required for the AMCV Open Show

Donations are requested for trophies and sashes for our Open Show to be held on Saturday, 13 April at the Bulla Exhibition Centre. Donations required are \$10.00 for a sash and \$15.00 for a trophy. Donations will be acknowledged in the Open Show catalogue.

If you are able to make a donation, please contact the Show Secretary, Lorraine Green on 5784 1849 or email: amcv@bigpond.com

2013 Activities Calendar

Please note that this calendar is subject to amendment at the discretion of the AMCV Committee and that scheduling of some events may be altered due to temperature restrictions. Please contact the AMCV or check the website to confirm event schedule & venues

Month	Day	Date	Activity	Event	Venue
MARCH	Sunday	10	Backpacking	Picnic Fun walk	Westerfolds Park, Templestowe
	Sunday	17	Activities Day	Introduction to Activities + Obedience	Mt Macedon
	Wednesday	20	Meeting	General & Committee	Bulla – Calabria Club
	Sunday	24	Weight Pull	Weight Pull Training Day	KCC Park
APRIL	Saturday	6	Backpacking	1-day hike	Mt Macedon
	Sunday	7	Weight Pull	Weight Pull Competition 1	KCC Park
	Saturday	13	Show	Open Show	Bulla
	Sunday	21	Weight Pull	Weight Pull Competition 2 - ASTCV	KCC Park
	Sunday	28	Sledding	Sledding Training day	You Yangs
MAY	Sunday	5	Weight Pull	Weight Pull Competition 3	KCC Park
	Saturday	11	Backpacking	Day Hike 2	Blackwood
	Saturday	18	Sledding	Sled Dog Race - Event 1 + sledding training	You Yangs
	Sunday	19	Sledding	Sled Dog Race - Event 2	You Yangs
JUNE <i>Queen's B'day</i>	Wednesday	5	Meeting	Committee	Bulla
	Sat - Mon	8 - 10	Sledding	Northern Victorian Sled Dog Classic	Kialla West
	Sunday	9	Weight Pull*	Weight Pull Competition - ASTCV	KCC Park
	Saturday	15	Sledding	Sled Dog Race - Event 3	TBA
	Sunday	16	Sledding	Sled Dog Race - Event 4	TBA
	Sat / Sun	29/30	Sledding	Gold Seekers Sled Dog Race	TBA
JULY	Saturday	20	Sledding	Sled Dog Race - Event 5	TBA
	Sunday	21	Sledding	Sled Dog Race - Event 6	TBA
AUGUST	Sat / Sun	3/4	Sledding	Falls Snow Race	Falls Creek
	Sat / Sun	10/11	Sledding	A5K Snow Race	Dinner Plain
	Sunday	11	Weight Pull*	Weight Pull Competition - ASTCV	KCC Park
	Sat / Sun	24/25	Sledding	State Cup – 3 heat race event	You Yangs
	Wednesday	28	Meeting	Committee	Bulla
	Saturday	31	Backpacking	Day Hike 3	You Yangs
SEPTEMBER	Sunday	8	Weight Pull	Weight Pull Event 4 (Tuggy Shield)	KCC Park
	Sunday	15	Activities Obedience	Activities Introduction & Breed Information Obedience Practice Session	Templestowe – Birrarung Park
	Friday	27	Show	Melbourne Royal Malamute judging	Showgrounds
OCTOBER	Saturday	5	Backpacking	1-day hike	TBA
	Thursday	10	Meeting	Annual General / Committee	Bulla
	Sunday	13	Weight Pull	Weight Pull Competition 5 - ASTCV	KCC Park
	Sunday	20	Backpacking	Picnic Fun walk	Brimbank Park
NOVEMBER	Sat - Mon	2-4	Backpacking	3-day Hike	TBA
	Sunday	3	Show	Championship	Sunbury
	Wednesday	13	Meeting	Committee	Bulla
DECEMBER	Sunday	1	Christmas Fun Day	Includes BBQ, Funny classes & Fun Agility Comp	Mt Macedon

*not included in AMCV Annual Weight Pull Competition Events not conducted by the AMCV are in italics

For further details please go to the AMCV Website closer to the event date, or check the next issue of the Malamute Mail.

Email: amcv@bigpond.com.au

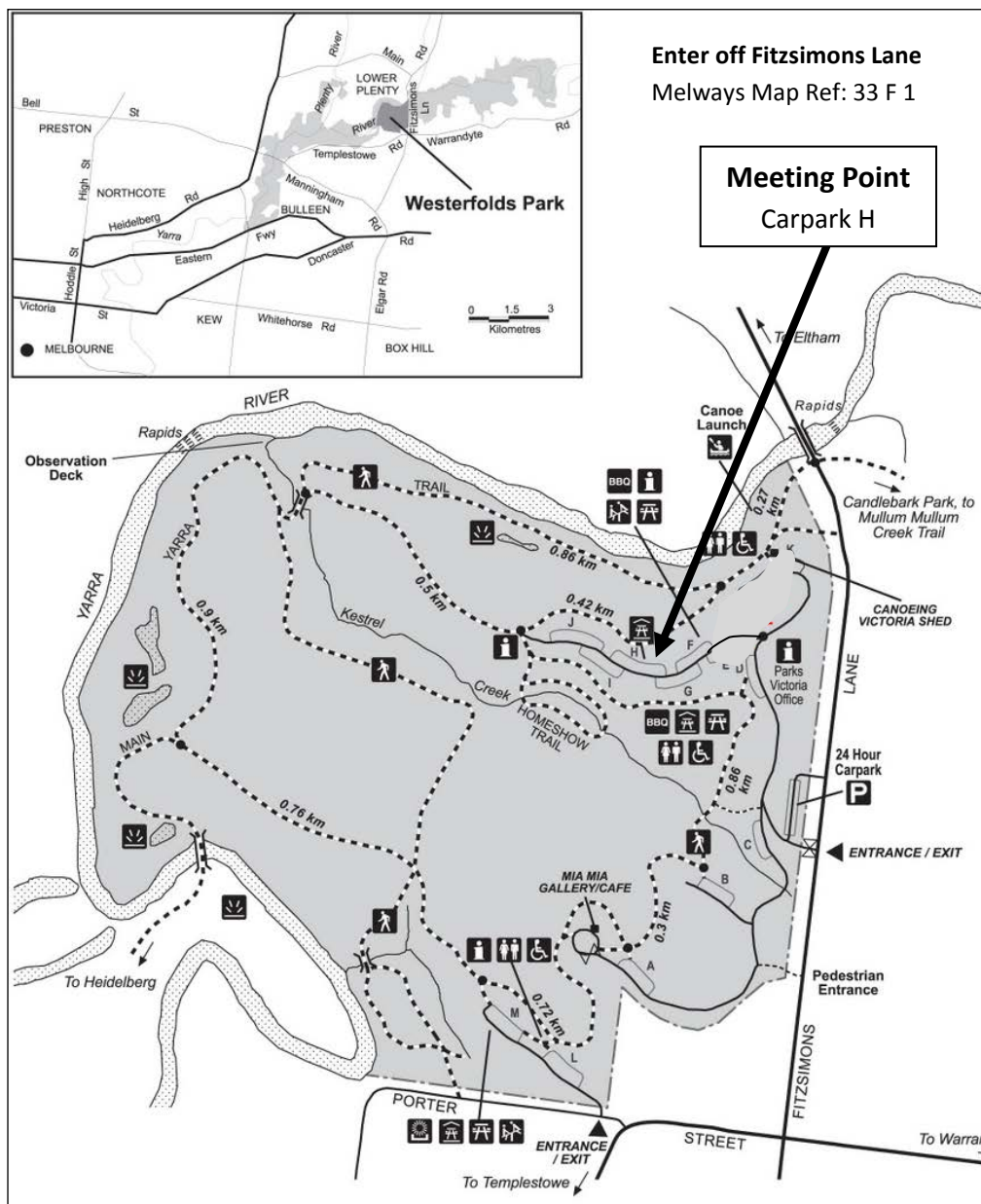
Website: www.amcv.org.au

General Enquiries: Phone (03) 9714 8540

EXTREME WEATHER POLICY & RESTRICTIONS: Please note that temperature restrictions apply to some activities. In addition, events may be cancelled if forecast temperature on day of event is equal to or greater than 30°C, or in extreme weather conditions unless otherwise indicated. Please phone or email to confirm.

Picnic Fun Walk

Sunday, 10 March – 11.30 am Westerfolds Park, Templestowe



Who Can Join In?

Anyone and their dog(s) are welcome to come along. Please note that young puppies should only walk a short distance and must have had their 3rd (16 week) vaccination at least a week prior.

All breeds and non-members welcome – PRE-REGISTRATION ESSENTIAL.

Cost: Gold coin donation

What to bring:

Bring your lunch. Your dog will require a sturdy lead & collar, water & water bowl for your dog and bags to clean up after your dog.

PLEASE NOTE: Dogs are to be kept **on lead or suitably tethered at all times** and remain the responsibility of their owner/handler.

Weather & Temperature:

The event may be cancelled if the forecast temperature on the day is 30°C or over or in the case of extreme weather conditions – if so please contact the Backpacking coordinator or check the website to confirm.

Registration & Further information:

Contact the Backpacking Coordinator, Stuart Vanderpol on 0413 118 305 or Sandy Koch on 9714 8540 or send an email to amcv@bigpond.com

Facilities at Westerfolds Park:

Toilets and picnic tables. Drinks and some food (scones, biscuits etc.) can be purchased from the Mia Mia Café.

Walk Etiquette:

Please remember that not everyone likes big dogs and some people may be scared of them.

- Dogs on the walk must be kept **on lead at all times**.
- Keep to the left on the paths, give way to other users and watch out for bikes.
- You must clean up after your dog.
- Be courteous and respectful of other people and their dogs, and keep your dog at a suitable distance.

Walk Distance:

Approximately 2-4 km of undulating paths. The park is not big so you can do as much or as little as you like.

This will be a short easy walk so everyone and their dogs and puppies are welcome.

Bring your picnic lunch.



PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Please contact Stuart or Sandy if you are coming to the fun walk to give us an idea of numbers and notify Stuart if you wish to hire a backpack (hire fee \$5.00).

Information & Activities Day



Backpacking



Showing



Weight Pulling



Sledding



Obedience, Agility & Puppy Socialising

Sunday, 17 March 11 am – 1 pm

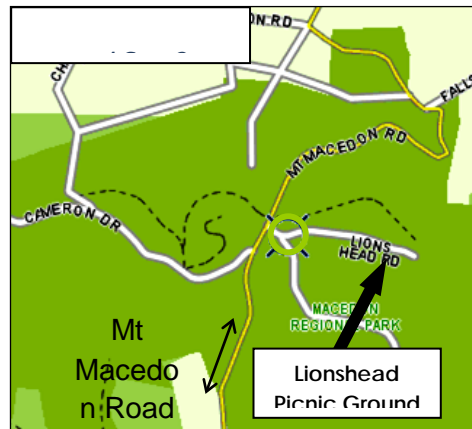
Mt Macedon – Days Picnic Ground, Lionshead Rd

Melways Map Reference 609 G10

You do not need your own equipment – we will have equipment that you can borrow to try the activities. The Dog Shop will be there with harnesses, dog-lines, collars, backpacks and other working-dog and Malamute related items for sale.

PLEASE NOTE:

In extreme weather conditions or if forecast temperature on day of activities is equal to or greater than 30 degrees, please contact Ralph or Sandy to confirm if event will be held.



The Malamute is a working breed that loves to get involved in all these activities.

The Introduction to Activities Days are an ideal opportunity for those who would like to find out more about their Malamute and what's involved in showing, obedience training or working activities, and how to get started.

Further Information:

Phone Ian on 0417 103 615 or Sandy on 9714 8540
Obedience enquiries to Marty on 0425 776 295



OBEDIENCE PRACTICE & PUPPY SOCIALISING

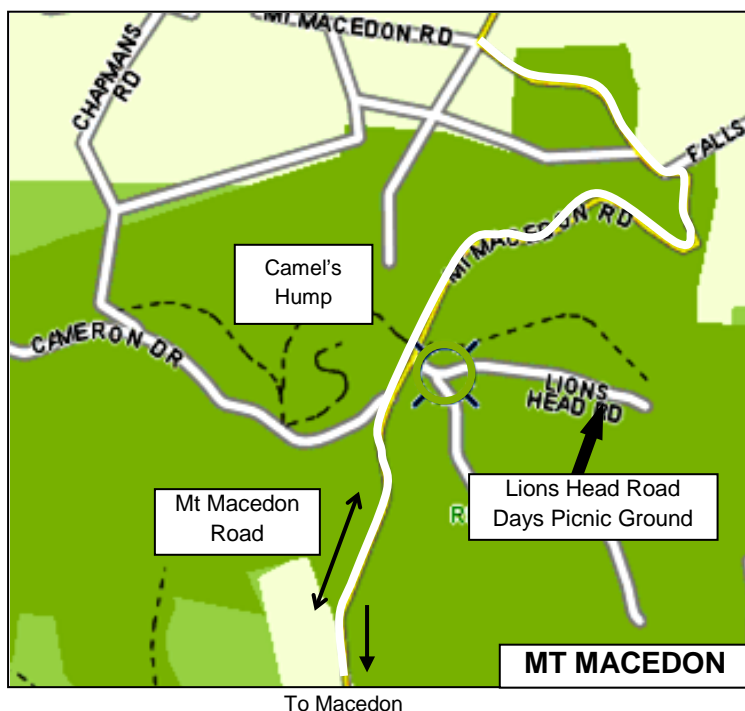
The AMCV will also be conducting Obedience Practice sessions & Puppy Socialising on the same day at the same venue commencing at 11.30 am.

All Welcome - do your dogs a favour and come along!

Non-members, puppies and other breeds of dog are also very welcome

BACKPACKING EVENT

Day Hike



What to bring:

Sturdy lead & collar, canine backpack, weight for the backpack (pre-weighed), water & water bowl for your dog, basic first aid items, rubbish bags, sensible footwear, warm & waterproof clothing (the weather can be unpredictable), human backpack, food & drink, sunscreen, hat, insect repellent, etc. Please load and weigh your dog's backpack to roughly the correct weight at home, this will save time on the morning of the walk.

NOTE: A first aid kit will be on hand, but walkers must carry their own basic first aid items. **Dogs are to be kept on lead at all times** and remain the responsibility of their owner/handler.

Cost: \$3.00 per member or \$5.00 per Family

Backpack Hire: \$5.00 per day – please contact co-ordinator to book a club backpack

Facilities at Days picnic ground: Toilets, Picnic tables

Further information: Phone Stuart Vanderpol on 0413 118 305 or Sandy on 9714 8540, or send an email to amcv@bigpond.com.au

SATURDAY, 6 APRIL

MT MACEDON

Days Picnic Ground, Lions Head Road

Please arrive by 8.00 am to register

Hike starting at 8.30 am sharp – do not arrive late!

Hike Distance: Approximately 16 km

Terrain: Generally undulating with some steeper sections

NOTE: Please notify the Backpacking Coordinator if you are interested in coming in case the event needs to be cancelled or rescheduled.

How to get there:

From Melbourne: follow the Calder Highway past Gisborne. Take the Macedon/Mt Macedon turn-off and turn right at the T-intersection, heading under the freeway. Continue straight ahead at the roundabout and stay on the Mount Macedon Road, go through Mt Macedon. Turn right towards Sanatorium Lake/Barringo Road taking the left fork into Lions Head Road (near the Camels Hump). Hike registration will be on your left at the far end of the picnic ground.

Who can participate:

ALL DOGS OVER 12 MONTHS OLD WELCOME.

Please note that dogs must be 18 months old to carry weight to the Working Pack Dog title standard.

New members & non-members are welcome to come along. You don't have to walk the entire distance, and your dog does not have to have a backpack or carry the entire weight – it's up to you, and your dog.

Extreme Weather Policy

Please note that a temperature restriction applies to this activity. In addition, events may be cancelled in extreme weather conditions. If unsure, please phone or email to confirm.

NOTE: THE EVENT MAY BE CANCELLED IF THE FORECAST TEMPERATURE IS 25°C OR OVER.

If in doubt please contact the Backpacking Co-ordinator, Stuart Vanderpol, the day before the hike

Working Pack Dog Title:

This backpacking day will be a qualifying event for the Working Pack Dog title and Associate Working Dog Certificate for dogs over 18 months of age only. The rules for the Working Pack Dog title are available from the Backpacking Co-ordinator.

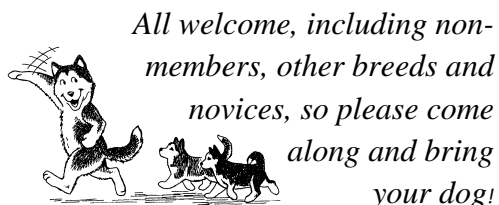
You will require a sturdy backpack which is sufficiently large to hold the required weights. The weight should be made up of something that is dense yet can mold to the shape of your dog: bags of damp sand and/or a soft pack of water (similar to the bladder of a wine cask) are suitable. Anyone attempting a walk should also carry a backpack containing some basic first aid items (dog & human), food (dog & human), drink (dog & human), water bowl and wet weather gear (as the weather dictates).

Your dog must carry 30% of its body weight for a minimum of 16 km for a walk to count towards the title - a dog weighing 40 kg would therefore have to carry 12 kg of weight, which is the equivalent of 12 litres of water. This is too much weight for an untrained and/or unfit dog to be expected to carry. Obviously you will need to train your dog, gradually adding more weight, before you can consider tackling the full load, and your dog will need to be fit and in excellent physical condition.

The only decrease in the weight carried by the dog on a backpacking trip may be by NORMAL consumption of food or water by your dog. What your dog doesn't drink must get poured back into the container he is carrying, and the final pack weight must be no less than 75% of the initial pack weight.

Please watch your dog carefully for signs of stress, and please remove the weight from his pack and shorten your walk if you feel that he is not coping well. You know your dog best, and it is up to you to recognise and act appropriately if he is struggling.

Sledding Training Day



All welcome, including non-members, other breeds and novices, so please come along and bring your dog!

This event is FREE!

Sunday, 28 April - 10 am – 2 pm

You Yangs Western Plantation (near Little River)

Enter from Sandy Creek Road Melways – Page 11 – Ref C12

Who can attend? Members and non-members are welcome to attend with your dog(s), regardless of whether you and your dog are raw beginners or have done a bit of sledding, and whether you want to compete in sledding events or just run your dog in harness for fun and exercise.

The training session will include basic information about how to get started sledding with your dog, sledding equipment, basic trail rules, passing practice and a training run.

Sledding Rules & General Information: Participants will receive a copy of the AMCV's Sledding Introduction booklet which includes information on training, equipment, race rules, event preparation, dog health and other information about dog sledding and the events and programs the AMCV offers.



Equipment:

There will be some equipment available for sale or to borrow at the training session if you do not have your own equipment, but please bring your own equipment if you have it.

The dog shop will be there for equipment purchase or to get your dog measured for a harness. If you wish to purchase specific products, please contact Windchill Dog Gear prior to the event so they will have it in stock for you – orders@windchill.com.au

Directions :

From Melbourne – Take the Princes Highway towards Geelong. Take the Little River turn-off and follow signs to Little River. Cross the railway line in Little River then turn left into You Yangs Rd, then left into Farrars Rd and right into Branch Rd - proceed past the main park entrance. At the end of Branch Road, turn right into Sandy Creek Rd, after approx. 2 km at the bend in the road, turn left into the Western Plantation car park.

Further Information

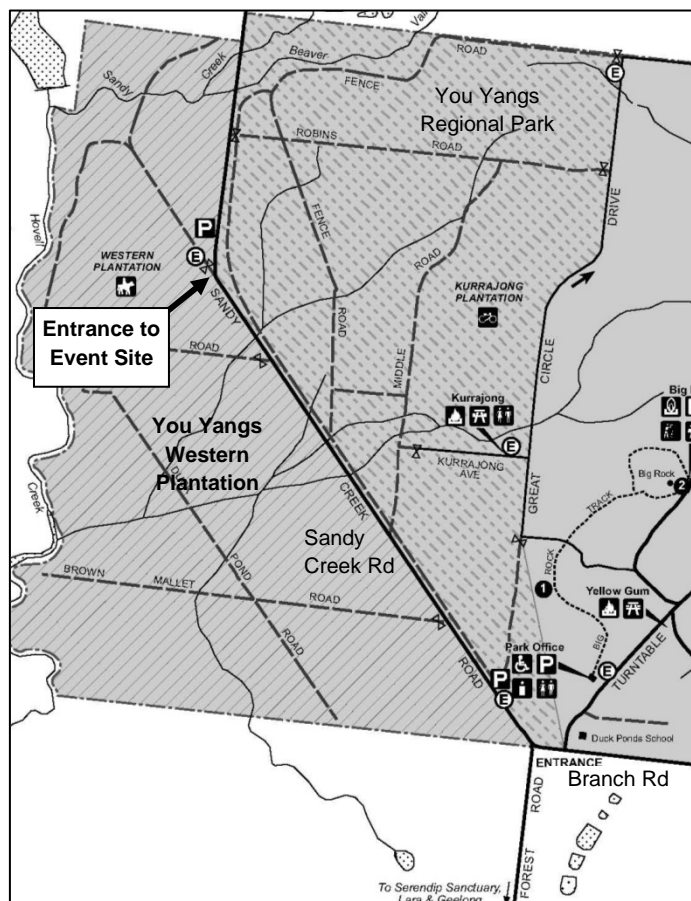
Phone: Merv Turner (Sledding Co-ordinator) 5978 6001 or Ian (Activities Vice President) 0417 103 615

Email: amcv@bigpond.com.au

Website: www.amcv.org.au

All Welcome - bring your dogs!

We also welcome non-members & other breeds



Entries Close Friday 22nd MARCH, 2013

Alaskan Malamute Club Victoria, Inc.

Open Show

To be held at

Bulla Exhibition Centre, Uniting Lane, Bulla

Saturday, 13th APRIL. 2013

JUDGE: Mrs Nicki Lane

Entries, accompanied by the Fees, to be sent to the Show Secretary

Mrs Lorraine Green, PO Box 216. BROADFORD 3658

Cheques to be made payable to **The Alaskan Malamute Club, Victoria Inc.**

Catalogue: \$3.00 please order and pay with entry

Entry fees – per class : \$7.00 (includes all levies). Special Classes \$2.50 per class, 5 entries or more \$2.00 each.

Entries not accepted without fees. Desexed Classes \$5.00

Judging Times: Judging commences at 10.00 am with Breed Classes. Special Classes after General Specials.

Fixture Closes: 5 pm

Exhibit Numbers: A stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed for return of exhibit numbers, otherwise exhibit numbers are to be collected from the Show Secretary on the day of the Fixture.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES:

Dogs: **1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11, 21** Bitches: **1a, 2a, 3a, 4a, 5a, 11a, 21a**

SPECIAL CLASSES:

18 Best Desexed Dog
18a Best Desexed Bitch
24 Best Gait

25 Best Coat: Dog
26 Best Coat: Bitch
27 Best Head: Dog

28 Best Head: Bitch
30 Best Tail

Baby Puppies may only compete against other Baby Puppies and are not eligible for Special Classes

Champion Class - The winners of these classes are not eligible to compete for Best Dog, Best Bitch, or Best of Breed, therefore can only compete for Best Champion in Show. The Champion class shall be judged first.

Classes 18 & 18a: Desexed dogs and bitches can only compete in this class.

Classes 24 to 30: To compete in Special Classes 24 to 30 exhibits must be entered and compete in at least one ordinary class – Champions may compete in these classes.

Special Prizes: Trophy and sash will be awarded to Best Exhibit, Runner up to Best Exhibit, Best of each Class.

Sashes only will be awarded to Best Opposite Sex of each class and for all Property class winners. Trophy list incomplete (refer catalogue for full details)

Obedience Sessions

Held by the Rottweiler Club of Victoria – Malamutes welcome!

What to Bring: Your dog, appropriate collar and lead, water & treats for your dog.

Restrictions: Puppies must be at least 13 weeks of age.

Costs: \$5 per session, or \$20 for 5 sessions.

Where & When: Obedience practice sessions are scheduled weekly as follows:



Date	Register	Starting	Venue / Directions
Tuesdays	7.00 pm	7.30 pm	Bulla: Calabria Club, 5 Uniting Lane, Bulla <i>Melways Map Ref. 177 F8</i>
Wednesdays	7.00 pm	7.30 pm	KCC Park, Westernport Highway, Skye (1.5 km south of Thompsons Rd) <i>Melways Map Ref. 128 H 12</i>

Check the Rottweiler Club of Victoria Website for further details and to confirm session dates

www.rotweilerclubofvictoria.com – click on the 'Training Venues' link on the left side of the homepage.

Weight-Pull Training Day

Weight Pull information, demos, training & practice

When: Sunday, 24 March, commencing at 10.00 am

Where: KCC Park, Westernport Highway, Skye
(near Cranbourne) Melways Map Reference 128 H 12

Who can come? The AMCV Weight Pull Training Day is an ideal opportunity for those who are interested in having a go at weight pulling with their dog to find out what it's all about and give it a try.

We welcome all breeds of dog, those who've never tried weight-pulling before and those who just want to give their dogs some practice.

Equipment: You don't need your own equipment, but if you have it please bring it. The club will have harnesses in a range of sizes for participants to borrow for the day as well as other Malamute equipment for sale and provision for dogs to be measured and harnesses to be ordered.

Further Information:

Ph: Mel Gray 0404 104 619 or Ian Luke 0417 103 615 Email: amcv@bigpond.com.au



All breeds, newcomers,
non-members,
and those who just
want some
weight-pull practice
are all welcome.



Bring your dog along and try Weight Pulling!

Has your dog got ...

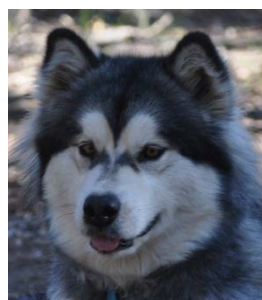
SOMETHING TO HOWL ABOUT!

*If your dog has had a birthday,
gained a title or achieved
something to be proud about,
then why not share it with us by
sending in a photo and a few lines of text.*

FREE TO MEMBERS!!! Entries for "Something To Howl About" can be sent
to the Newsletter Editor, PO Box 41, Hurstbridge, Vic, 3099. or email to amcv@bigpond.com



A Big Happy Birthday to the McPhan Clan!



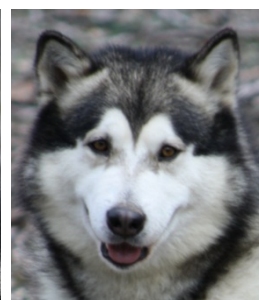
A Happy 4th Birthday to
"Millie" on 23rd
February (Tanome Get
Off Of My Cloud WTD)



A Happy 1st Birthday to
"Ryme" on 17th
February (Tanome
Divine Intervention AI)



A Happy 4th Birthday to
"Brock" on 23rd
February (Ch Tanome
King Of The Mountain
ET WTD ROA)



A Happy 7th Birthday to
"Jai" on 24th February (Tanome Kiss Thiss
WWPDX WTD)



A Happy 5th Birthday to
"Shelby" on 20th March
(Ch Asleda Limited Edition
WTD)



2013 Weight-Pull Events

ENTRIES TAKEN ON THE DAY – NO PRE-ENTRY REQUIRED

Venue:

KCC Park - Westernport Highway (Dandenong-Hastings Road), Skye
(Approx. 1.5 km south of Thompsons Road roundabout) Melways Map Reference 128 H 12

Weightpull Event Format & Schedule:

Events will be conducted as per AMCV Weight-Pulling rules – copies of the rules are available on the AMCV website at www.amcv.org.au or from the Weight-pull Co-ordinator.

Competitors are asked to arrive in plenty of time to register, weigh-in and organise equipment if necessary. The AMCV & ASTCV have weight pull harnesses available in a range of sizes that competitors can hire for the event (fees below).



Event Number	Date	Venue	Registration / Weigh-in	Start time
Training Day	24 March	KCC Park	10.00 am	10.15 am
Event 1	7 April	KCC Park	9.45 – 10.15 am	10.30 am
Event 2*	21 April	KCC Park	9.45 – 10.15 am	10.30 am
Event 3	5 May	KCC Park	9.45 – 10.15 am	10.30 am
ASTCV Event*	9 June	KCC Park	9.45 – 10.15 am	10.30 am
ASTCV Event*	11 August	KCC Park	9.45 – 10.15 am	10.30 am
Event 4	8 September	KCC Park	9.45 – 10.15 am	10.30 am
Event 5*	13 October	KCC Park	9.45 – 10.15 am	10.30 am

*** NOTE – Events may be cancelled if forecast temperature on day of competition is over 25°C.**

Please contact the relevant Weight Pull Coordinator to confirm

NB: Event 5 2012 - 7 October 2012 will count towards the 2013 annual competition.

Event 5 2013 – 13 October 2013 will count towards the 2014 annual competition

* Events being conducted by the American Staffordshire Terrier Club of Victoria (ASTCV).

The ASTCV events on 9 June and 11 August are not included in the AMCV Annual Weight Pull Competition.

Registration, Weigh-in and Practice: Competitors are asked to arrive in plenty of time to register, weigh-in and hire equipment if necessary. Competitors are welcome to practise in the weight-pull chute prior to commencement of the event.

PLEASE NOTE THAT LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Eligibility: Any dog over 18 months of age (but not bitches in season) may compete in an AMCV weight-pull event, however please note that only purebred, ANKC-registered Alaskan Malamutes are eligible to compete for major prizes and annual awards, and the competing Malamute's registered name and registration number must be included on this entry form. Trophies or ribbons awarded to all class winners and placings (all breeds).

Entry Fees:

ENTRIES WILL BE TAKEN ON THE DAY
NO PRE-ENTRY REQUIRED.

AMCV / ASTCV Members:

First entry \$8.00, subsequent entries \$6.00.

Non-members:

First entry \$12.00, subsequent entries \$10.00

Harness Hire Fees:

\$5.00 per harness, plus \$15.00 bond
(bond is refundable upon return of harness)

Further Information:

AMCV Events: Phone: Mel Gray 0404 104 619 Email: amcv@bigpond.com.au

ASTCV Events: Phone Lincoln Hancock - 0409 135 800 Email amstaff@live.com.au

Extreme Weather Policy

Please note that a temperature restriction applies to this activity. In addition, events may be cancelled in extreme weather conditions. Please phone or email to confirm if you are unsure.

Weight Classes*:

- Up to 36 kg class
- 36 – 45 kg class
- 46 - 55 kg class
- Unlimited class

*Additional weight class will be available for Am Staffs only.

NB: Dog's weight is rounded down to nearest whole kilogram to determine weight class.

ALL BREEDS WELCOME

AMCV ANNUAL WEIGHTPULL COMPETITION RULES

Classes on offer will be:

< 36kg, 36kg – 45kg, 45kg - 55kg, Unlimited

The requirements of the AMCV Weight Pulling Rules apply – copies are available from the Weightpull Co-ordinator or website www.amcv.org.au.

Eligibility

For a dog to be eligible for the Annual Weightpull Class Titles and Top Weightpull Dog of the Year award, the following applies:

- the owner/handler of the dog must be a current financial member at the time of the event for that result to be eligible, and must be a member at the conclusion of the annual competition.
- the dog must be a purebred ANKC registered Alaskan Malamute;
- the owner/handler must provide the dog's registered name and registration number on the entry form.

In addition, to constitute an event in a class there must be a minimum of two (2) eligible competitors in that class. If, during the course of the year, there are less than two (2) eligible competitors in a weight category no award will be given, however that dog may still be eligible for the Top Weightpull Dog of the Year award.

*Subject to amendment in the event of changes to the event schedule

Class Awards

Class awards will be determined on the basis of a dog's highest three (3)* weights pulled in that weight class out of the maximum five (5) eligible events*. A dog that has competed in less than three (3) events is not excluded from eligibility for class awards. Annual awards will be provided for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each eligible weight class. In the event of a tie, a joint award will be provided.

Top Weightpull Dog of the Year Award

The Top Weightpull Dog of the Year title will be awarded to that dog that has achieved the highest combined weight/weight ratio calculated from that dog's best three (3) results* achieved in any of the weight classes from the five (5) eligible events*.

Results will be calculated to 2 (two) decimal places.

In the event of a tie a joint award will be provided.

Nominated Events

The events in which results are eligible towards the end of the year awards are listed in the Activities Calendar in the Malamute Mail and on the AMCV website www.amcv.org.au. Please note that the event schedule is subject to amendment at the discretion of the AMCV and that weather restrictions may apply.

Weightpull event results will be published in the Malamute Mail or can be obtained from the Weightpull Co-ordinator.

The Secret to a well socialised Dog

A good lasting bond between a dog and its owner is not necessarily a given. Dog owners who invest time and effort into positively shaping their dog's behaviour can expect to have a better relationship with their dogs than those who don't. Dogs that are untrained and unsocialised are often noisy, anxious and unpredictable. Socialising your dog from an early age will help it learn to know how to be comfortable in any situation, and it will eventually grow to be a well-behaved and confident dog.

Your dog's socialisation should have started between three and 12 weeks of age. Ideally, puppies should be fully vaccinated before they interact fully with other dogs, however, once their vaccination program has started, it's possible to introduce your puppy to other dogs of similar age that have also commenced a vaccination program. Seek advice from your vet before you begin socialising your puppy.

While the first few months is the most important socialisation period in a puppy's life, owners of puppies that have passed this milestone are strongly encouraged to continue to socialise their puppies with as many people, pets and locations as is practical. Expose it to new environments such as car rides, the sound of your vacuum cleaner, garbage trucks, crowds and other animals. Using food as a reward when your puppy displays relaxed behaviour in a new situation will help it to associate the experience with something positive. This will in turn make your puppy look forward to the experience. If your dog is showing signs of fear or nervousness, act as you would like your puppy to act – happy and cheerful. Make sure you don't force your dog into a situation, but rather expose it to such things gradually, making the experience as positive as possible.

Puppy Pre-School: A great way to socialise your puppy with other dogs and people is through puppy pre-school group classes. In addition to your pup making new friends, you can learn about puppy health, behavioural and obedience training methods as well as how to troubleshoot any existing problems.

Reprinted from the RSPCA News, Summer 2012.



Help Needed...

AMRAA are seeking a kind and loving person in NSW who will provide a long-term foster home and lots of TLC for our beautiful senior Malamute pair who were recently surrendered to us in an absolutely deplorable condition. They are far too emotionally and physically fragile to travel far. Kirra (top & bottom right) is 12, almost 13 yrs old and Gizmo (below left) is 9.5 yrs old.



They are currently in the care of Nelly, who runs the kennels where the AMRAA dogs are and sadly, Kirra's coat was in such a state of matting right down to the skin all over - it was actually as hard as glue, the result of being left tied up under a tree and neglected for obviously quite a long time. There was simply no other choice but to shave the poor girl and Nelly even found a clothes peg embedded in her fur and her skin was red raw and obviously very painful to the touch.

Gizmo has bad flea dermatitis and infections along his spine and tail from the fleas and what you see in the pictures is NOT of him having been shaved but a result of the seriousness of his allergy and sheer neglect. He is now being treated, so he heals. He is a real talker and has been starved of affection but with the TLC he is getting under Nelly's care, he is starting to settle down and both are extremely grateful to be untied from that tree they were forced to spend so much time stuck to! They are beautiful, beautiful dogs who deserve only the best and to be cherished for the rest of the short time they have left.

Unfortunately, Kirra is not good with other dogs except Gizmo and they are extremely bonded and would need to go to a home where they would be the only dogs. Kirra would just love to sit at your feet and keep you company but

Gizmo is quite active still and quite strong on lead.

If you can open up your heart and your home for these 2 beautiful deserving souls - they would continue to remain the responsibility of AMRAA so any costs would be ours for the remainder of their lives and if you could provide the love and care, AMRAA and they would be forever grateful.

Thank you
AMRAA



Committee Member Profile:

Antoinette Wagenwoort

Name: Antoinette Wagenwoort
Committee Position: President
Age: Not Telling!!!
Occupation: Medical Receptionist/Finance
AMCV Member since: 2002

About me: I am the proud owner of a 2 year old Alaskan Malamute, Charlie who is the pride and joy of my life.

I have owned and loved dogs all my life, however, I had only really known what owning a dog was all about when we were introduced to our first Alaskan Malamute, Benny back in September of 1990.

Benny was a rescue dog that changed our lives forever. He was huge and grossly overweight, and had a few health issues, but this never deterred us from adopting and loving this beautiful dog for 9 wonderful and eventful years. After we lost Benny to old age, we knew we had to get another Malamute immediately, so within a month we got BJ, our first 'show dog', who also became a severe epileptic.

BJ however, was not only the most incredible dog but also the smartest. (Contrary to what some so called dog trainers say, the Malamutes we have owned and loved have been very clever and easy to train). BJ was also a Delta Society Therapy Dog, this gave us the ability to take him into hospitals to visit sick patients. Sadly BJ succumbed to a grand mal seizure at the tender age of 6 years which he sadly didn't recover from. Saying goodbye to Benny then also to BJ was one of the hardest times in my life.

However, as a result of Benny and BJ, I have written and published a book in BJ's honour, called 'For the love of BJ' and also started my own business in organic dog food and treats, which is doing extremely well. We now have another gorgeous and very cheeky malamute called Charlie, who is one very spoilt puppy (you wouldn't know it though), and a great 'show dog'. My love is really in showing dogs, but I would like to also get involved in weight pull and hiking.

In the future: My husband and I plan to move to a larger property and build a new home which will accommodate more Malamutes. My love for this breed has by far outweighed anything else that I have achieved in my life thus far.



Benny on our bed



Benny Josiah and me



Antoinette with her 92 yo Mum & Charlie



Antoinette & Charlie

Postscript: Our sympathies to Antoinette and her family on the recent loss of her Mum.

Breeders' Directory

<i>Kennel Name</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Contact Name</i>	<i>Phone No.</i>	<i>Other Contact Information</i>
BELLTREES	Campbelltown, NSW	Cheryl Harrison	(02) 4631 1920	Email: belltree@ispdr.net.au
CHEKODY	Canberra ACT	Mark Titley & Melanie Saxinger	0448 389 970	Email: malamutes@chekody.com Website: www.chekody.com
HYKUP	Woodend, VIC	Ian Luke	0417 103 615	Email: gutternvac-cv@cirruscomms.com.au Website: www.hykup.vpweb.com.au
KATAKU	Pearcedale, VIC	Merv & Shelley Turner	(03) 5978 6001	Email: kataku@bigpond.net.au Website: www.dishlickers.com.au
TANOME	Clyde North, VIC	Sharen McPhan	0410 192 210	Email: sharen.mcphan@bigpond.com Website: www.tanome.com



Christmas Fun Day

2 December at
Days Picnic Ground,
Mt Macedon

The weather was coolish but otherwise good for our annual Christmas Fun Day at Mt Macedon, and it was great to see such a big turnout and many new faces and furkids joining in. The day started off with the barbecue followed by a visit from Mrs Claus (Santa was too busy elsewhere so he sent the wife!) who had lollies for all the kids, then some fun competitions including waggiest, noisiest, baldest, fluffiest (dogs that is), best fancy dress and best trick, plus a few more. This was followed by a fun "agility" competition with our improvised agility course of a grooming table, assorted chairs and a scooter, which our dogs had to weave in and out of, jump over and jump on. Everyone was a winner with lolly bags as prizes to all participants.

Fundraising included a raffle, an auction and the guess the number of lollies in the jar competition, and raised a total of \$???, so well done Shaz and thanks to those who donated items. Congratulations to Lys & Allan Nelson who won the Guess the Lolly Jar competition – we hope you didn't feel too sick after eating all those lollies!



Wuggy – winner of the best fancy dress



Mrs Clause and her lolly bags had a captive audience...



both 2- and 4-legged

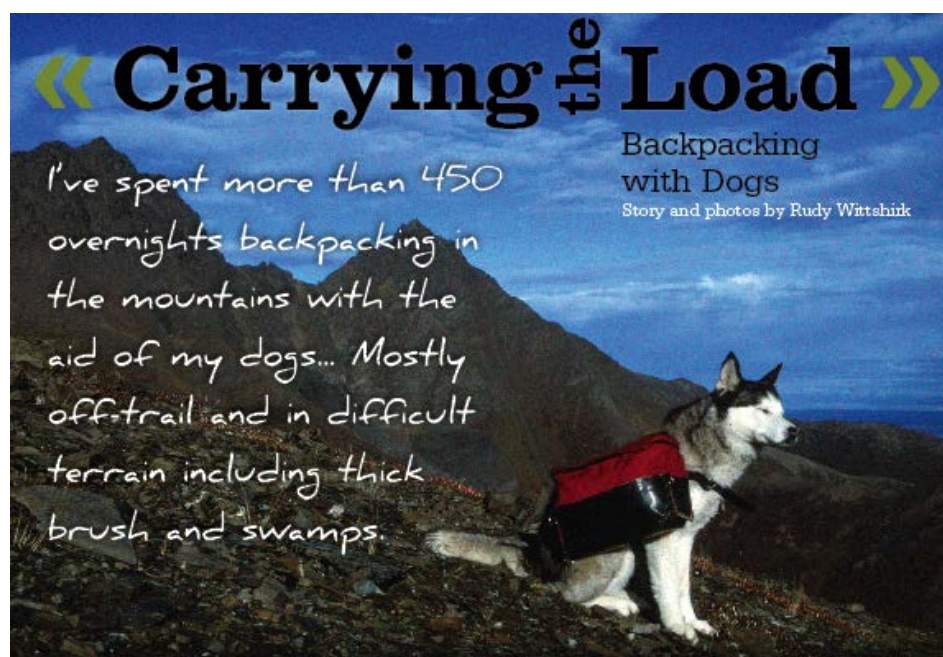


Cath & Heidi show how it's done in the agility competition



Andrea's Vada plays with Alan's Tacoma

The following article is reprinted from Mushing Magazine – September/October 2008



On all occasions, even 13-day trips, the dogs started out carrying not only their own food but some of my food and gear as well. I pack highly compact, mushing-type dog food but still keep the weight of the dog packs well under one-third the animal's body weight.

Toward the end of these trips some gear was transferred from my backpack to the dog packs to replace expended supplies. However, since these items are usually not as dense and compact as dog food, the dog packs become significantly lighter toward the end of a trip.

Not a Dog's Delight

It sounds like a great idea—let your dogs help carry the weight on backpacking trips. At least let them carry their own food.

If dogs don't work much in summer they might be happy to carry a light pack for an easy weekend trip on gentle trails. But when it comes to serious trips, getting a pack strapped onto their bodies takes a bit of encouragement.

Once, during the fitting of a homemade pack, my powerful Siberian husky, Wolfgang, staggered around and pretended that his legs were buckling from the weight of an empty pack.

Dogs that will jump up and down at the sight of their pulling harness will try to slink off when I approach with doggie pack in hand. Sometimes, with the more stubborn dogs, it's necessary to stand on their neck lines to get them to hold still to get the packs on. Even then they will squirm out from under the loaded pack and cease resistance only after the first buckle has been secured.

Dogs will deliberately bang their packs into my legs at every opportunity to show they don't like it. And they will, intentionally it seems, hang themselves up on brush or wedge themselves between boulders.

Dogs, understandably, don't like to be weighted down. It slows them, theoretically making them sitting ducks for marauding bears. Nevertheless, dogs can be quite agile wearing packs---some have caught small animals or birds while packing (with a great deal of gear flapping around).

CASUAL OR INTENSIVE?

Dog-packing for casual, weekend fun is a lot easier and less intensive. Buy a dog pack, don't overload it, balance the saddle bags, buckle it on and go. That advice is usually sufficient because few people pack dogs seriously for long periods in rough terrain. With limited use, faulty dog pack designs don't become apparent and dogs recover from any ill-effects because they are not pressed too hard.

WHY BOTHER?

If intensive dog packing is such a hassle, why bother? Because, once the packs are loaded and coaxed onto the dogs, every pound in their packs is a pound off your own back. And, once the dogs are loaded up, they still seem to have their fun, it's just slower and more cumbersome.

PURPOSE

Dogs have been used since time immemorial to haul gear and supplies for humans. Also to supply remote trapping cabins and mining camps.

My purpose is love of being in wilderness and photography. Dogs help to extend my range of travel and time in the wilderness.

I enter wilderness to remain there for a while—not simply to pass through. I like days off during wilderness trips. The supplies laboriously hauled in provide base camps for photography and exploration. I like to climb a mountain peak or visit special places, even in the rain. This gives both me and the dogs respite from heavy packs. Although my "day pack" is pretty heavy because I always carry survival gear, camera gear and the dogs' evening meals.

On day climbs, when I use my dogs to pull me up mountains, I don't bother with a dog pack. I'd rather have them help pull me up and descend without weight on their bodies. Thus, my dogs have plenty of time for fun on day trips and I don't have to bother with packing their packs.

CONTROLLING PACK DOGS

Dog-packing can be a clumsy affair, especially in heavy brush or steep, rocky terrain. Swamps are tedious to travel but I find them interesting. Quaking bogs are actually a spongy kind of fun as long as dogs and human don't poke through the floating layers of vegetation and sink too deep.

I keep my dogs tethered to each other for control. When working with just one dog I keep it on a line tied to me. The last thing I want is dogs running loose with some of my gear, especially since they have a way of divesting themselves of unwanted packs when out of my sight. More than once I've had to search for a dog pack that had come off accidentally or been deliberately dumped while I was busy trying to maneuver my own pack. I have carried up to 85 pounds and I don't expect the dogs to do anything I wouldn't do myself. I've spent some desperate times searching for dumped dog packs—and the dogs didn't help me find them either!

A short way into our daily treks, my dogs will sit down, look at me, and “select” a campsite right there, just hoping to get those darned packs off their backs. It never fails; however, once their packs are off, my dogs invariably bounce around with great exuberance. So, I conclude they are not exhausted. Once again, I always pack my dogs with less than one-third of their body weight and try to make them as comfortable as possible.

SHELTER

To shelter myself and the pack dogs, I use a sturdy tarp supported by adjustable trekking poles, guy lines and stakes. The tarp has more room than a tent, no floor to get torn up or dirtied, is lightweight, compact and fits well in a dog pack. Some dogs like to crawl inside before the shelter tarp is fully erected. Others prefer to sleep outside in all but the worst weather. You can imagine the fun under the shelter when a “tarp lout” wants the choice spot---or doesn’t want a certain other dog to be inside at all.

A shelter tarp is a bit of a hassle to erect but is a very flexible system in broken terrain. My dogs and I have slept in bear or coyote beds---sometimes the only dry or comfortable places available. The important thing is to have something to tie off the tarp and secure the dogs. I usually wind up tying them to the poles. Needless to say, I have had the shelter collapsed by dogs more than once. Once, on Willow Mountain, my falling tarp scared away a curious grizzly.

PACK DOG TYPES

Just about any dog can carry a pack. Heavier, stockier freight dogs might be more suitable than lean racing types, but I’ve used both. I use the same dogs for everything. For my main winter activity, off-trail ski-dogging, I have come to prefer slightly slower, heavier animals: power over speed.

SAFETY AND EXPERIENCE

My pack dogs are always under my protection, dependent on my attentiveness, alertness and care. Dogs are more helpless when burdened with packs—just as they are more vulnerable to such things as moose and snow machines when running in teams.

Stream crossings can be most dangerous. Dogs are powerful swimmers, even with packs on. Also, the packs are usually somewhat buoyant. But packs do get hung up on snags in the water. Depending on circumstances, at particularly dangerous river crossings I sometimes carry dogs’ packs across separately and then let them swim or lead them across with a rope. Sometimes, because only the weight of my heavy pack will keep my footing on the stream bottom, I take everybody across at one time.

Some dogs will jump right in. Others will need to be led. On particularly fast rivers the animal will wind up rather downstream from where you enter, so be aware of a suitable landing spot for them downstream on the far shore. Steep, hard snow chutes are also dangerous for man or beast because they are slippery. Uncontrolled descents can be nearly as blazing fast as free falls—invariably ending against rocks below.

I have had to lift my dogs (one at a time with their packs on) over particularly steep, treacherous snow formations while clinging to mountainsides. I should stress, at this time, that



Cassie (red pack) and Mindy let the weight of their packs rest on the ground on the high pass on the way to the Kaskawine River drainage, Talkeetna Mountains.

experienced working dogs do best in these situations. On “spring” snow chutes and gullies, pack dogs are very sure-footed and seem quite aware of the dangers.

Boulder fields and scree slopes are also dangerous. Pack dogs seem to have the most trouble there because of the loose footing and gaps between boulders. Steep, rocky terrain is hazardous to dogs’ feet. More than once I have kicked falling rocks away from my pack dogs. I’ve even nudged a sliding boulder or two on a course away from my dogs.

PREPARATION AND TRAINING

For serious use, pack dogs should be in excellent physical condition. Sled dogs in the off-season should be able to handle a heavy pack trip if they haven’t been lying around too much. My dogs and I work outdoors year-round on a daily basis (except when I go to town for supplies). Nevertheless, I always make the shift in activities—from winter ski-dogging to summer hiking and mountaineering seasons—slowly and with shorter, easier trips.

I use dogs in harness to help pull me uphill at all times possible when hiking, climbing or snowshoeing. Using my animals in harness to help haul me up mountains (mountain-dogging?) seems to provide adequate conditioning for dog-packing.

For those who do not regularly work their dogs, having the dogs carry light packs on short trips is probably the best physical pre-conditioning. When packing dogs intensively it would be foolish to jump right in with a long, hard trip.

Preferably, dogs should have some practice with packing. Also, the dog handler should become familiar with packing and the various buckles and straps to attach the packs for maximum stability—so the loads don't slip around or fall off. Working out these problems in the field is a real time-waster.

PACK SELECTION AND PACK DESIGN

Carrying a pack may not be very popular with dogs, but dog packing is not really a popular activity with humans, either. I've had great difficulty obtaining dog packs in the correct size, the correct configuration or, at times, finding any dog packs at all. Unfortunately, the one good thing about all the commercial dog packs I've ever owned is that the extremely fine quality of construction and material makes even poorly-designed packs last a long time. Thus, I have not owned a great variety of dog packs.

I have never found the ideal dog pack. Like many for-animal products, the advertising and design is often geared toward pleasing human vanities rather than the animal's well-being. One of the most glorious "failures" was a venerable harness shop design with a removable Velcro feature wherein the pack could be lifted off the yoke. Though well made of excellent materials, this pack was overly expensive and the Velcro added incorrectly-placed padding along the spine which held in heat and moisture. This was exacerbated by irritating gatherings of sewn loops, straps and bunched up material that also led to pack sores.

Pack sores are something to really watch out for. Rawness or chafing is more apparent in areas of less fur, but pack sores seem to occur on furry areas with little early warning. These pack sores seep, really stink and may require antibiotics if they are too advanced.

The removable Velcro feature does have the theoretical advantage that the dog can dump the pack if a bear or moose attacks, or if it gets hung up in a stream-crossing. Except that this feature was designed to be used with additional straps wrapped around the whole business.

The Velcro feature was designed for the convenience of the human handler and to give dogs relief on trail stops. I never used it much. The Velcro became clogged with grass, dog hairs, etc. and lost adhesion. And I could never get the packs back on straight. Plastic snap buckles with adjustable straps (like those on human back packs) are just as convenient. I generally leave the dog packs on during trail stops because they can lie down and take the weight off their bodies that way.

Finally, in frustration, I used a razor blade (in the field) to carefully remove all of the Velcro and attached the pack directly to its excellent three-strap harness-yoke setup. I also razored off the front and rear loops with their bunched up material right on the spine.

The huge brass rings on my Velcro packs were sturdy enough to tether ponies. I cut them all off with a bolt-cutter. Their removal added the equivalent of an extra day or two of dog food to the total loads of three or four dogs. The nylon loops holding the brass rings were



retained because they sufficed for tying stuff onto the outside of the packs.

I do not; however, attach any significant weight or bulk to the outside of a dog pack because it makes the load unstable and gets hung up on brush. I find that internal pack capacity is usually sufficient to carry the reduced loads I recommend in rough, mountainous terrain. I don't mind using outside loops for an extra dog rope or some minor incidentals forgotten during packing, but I try to keep everything inside the dog pack---just as I try to keep everything inside my own back pack. This keeps stuff dry, keeps it from hanging up on obstructions, keeps it from getting lost, and allows me (and the dogs) to slip through brush, fallen logs and overhangs more easily.

Chafing is a real problem with poorly-designed, poor-fitting or improperly-buckled dog packs. The forward chest strap should be padded behind the buckle and where it could contact the forelegs. The forward underbelly strap should be padded on both ends and positioned to avoid chafing the tender skin on the rear of the front legs.

Achieving a good individual fit is the reason why I cannot recommend any specific brand of dog pack, other than to point out certain desirable features for intensive use.

A popular pack, sold by a reputable outdoors store, seems designed more for polite use on gentle trails. In stock form, the top yoke material bunched up right away. And, because of the single underbelly strap design, this pack tumbled off the dogs (over their heads) on mountain descents. I had bought mine because nothing else was available in Anchorage during one of my rare visits to that supply hub.

Obviously, choosing the pack design is most important.

Unfortunately, I just don't have the time, resources or proximity to towns to research and test available dog pack designs.

Because I have not yet actually found the ideal dog pack for serious use does not mean that such a pack doesn't exist. Some on the internet look promising, but a personal examination and fitting is necessary to correctly evaluate dog packs.

Custom-made or custom-fitted dog packs are one solution. Some existing packs could be modified to be more suitable for hard use. I had my current pack design modified by a competent seamstress with the attachment of a second belly strap in the rear and two rigid pieces of linoleum type material (on either side of the spine to keep pressure off the spine) so that the top material would not bunch up. The pack is now somewhat adequate but neither I nor the dog like it very much. One feature I really like is that the tension of the pack on the dog's body can be adjusted from the top. This eliminates having to reach underneath the dog to make fine adjustments on the trail.

PACKING THE PACKS

Loading dog packs is a hassle and there are no short cuts: it must be done carefully and methodically. The biggest problem



I have, especially toward the end of a trip, is finding enough compact stuff to cram into the dog packs. Usually I can tell by hefting the inner plastic bag to determine when the loads are equally balanced in weight (before actually loading the pack bags). I keep small, heavy objects handy to slip into the packs for the final balancing of loads while on the trail.

When packing multiple dog packs I always try to pack so it's necessary to open (unpack) the least number of bags while on the trail. Thus, the dog food and human food, etc, required for the last few days of a trip are packed into saddlebags that are never unpacked until needed. That way, when breaking camp, I don't have to deal with repacking and re-balancing multiple dog packs in addition to my own. Packing and repacking in the field, especially during rain or snow, is a real hassle, especially with wet, dirty, hairy packs, straps and buckles.

PROTECTING THE LOAD

Waterproofing a dog pack itself is probably near impossible without adding the tremendous bulk of waterproof materials and waterproof closures. Besides, such a pack would soon become abraded and leak anyway.

I use a three-layer system: an outer plastic shopping bag over water-proof garbage bags to protect them from abrasion. I use an inner plastic shopping bag to keep the contents from violating the waterproof garbage bag from inside the load. By the way, those "holes" at the bottom of some packs are drain holes—the inside of the pack will get wet! Dogs will seek every stream and puddle to cool off and they will sit down in running streams with their packs on. Everything will get wet. But let them cool off! Same goes for snow banks.

Obviously, delicate gear should not be packed in a dog pack. The more vulnerable stuff should be well-wrapped and toward the rear of the dog pack. One can imagine the amount of scuffing and banging these packs and their contents must endure in rough terrain.

OVERHEATING AND FOOT CARE CONCERNS

Overheating is most dangerous both to the heat-regulating system of the animal and it's tendency to cause saddle sores. I don't buy the argument that dogs don't overheat from too much padding on a pack because they cool their systems through the mouth. Insulation is insulation, so I recommend a minimum of bulk and material in a pack yoke. There should be no pressure points and preferably a breathable mesh (such as we see in human backpacks) wherever possible. I would like a pack designed with padding on either side of the spine (with a groove for the spine).

Care of the dogs' feet is most

important because of the extra weight. I don't have many foot problems with my dogs. Because they work year-round on a near-daily basis, they are always in condition and their feet are always tough (I never cut their toenails because they are constantly being worn down). My dogs never wear booties, summer or winter, but I always carry them in case of injury and I do inspect their feet.

FEEDING

The most highly-concentrated, high-protein mushing brands of dog food make the best trail meals. I pack individual meals in sturdy quart, "storage" plastic bags (with extra vitamins and supplements like glucosamine ground up into powder). I pack generous amounts—pack dogs like to eat!

I don't carry dog bowls at all. The dogs are fed right from the plastic bag by rolling down the sides, forming an improvised "bowl" and adding enough water to cover the food. Meals can be pre-soaked in the recloseable bags if desired.

The dogs will find all the extra liquid they need in streams, lakes and puddles. This presumes they are used to drinking groundwater. Both my dogs and I drink from the same sources; we all carry giardia; and I do not medically treat my dogs when they test positive for giardia. Your situation may vary.

I bring extra dog biscuits and feed the dogs meat from my own food stocks. Leftovers from my meals flavor the dogs' meals. While I try to avoid stinky food that may attract bears, I now feed my dogs an extra-compact concentrated Alaska salmon, potato, barley and seaweed dog food that's made only in Palmer, Alaska. Just be aware that great wads of rich dog food do attract bears. And I have found that bears tend to visit during meal-cooking or dog-feeding time, in camp or along the trail.

I've "met" many bears and had one really close call, mainly because I didn't pay attention to my lead pack dog and walked right up onto a grizzly with two nearly-grown cubs.

Mindy, my leader, had repeatedly "disobeyed" my orders to climb in the direction where I knew a trail home was to be found, but I made her do it anyway. I had momentarily forgotten that Mindy was never, ever, wrong, about any

wilderness call she had ever made. I was certain where the trail was located, but Mindy knew there were bears up there!

Dogs may appear clumsy and awkward with their packs on, but are still capable of providing warning about dangers along the trail. I pay great attention to my dogs at all times. They are still the same, sensitive and alert animals underneath those clumsy-looking loads.



Growing up in New York City on the border between Brooklyn and Queens really prepared Rudy for the wilderness. Being a social worker in Watts also helped. His Hopi and Navajo friends in Arizona told him their knowledge came from plants and animals. They understood that Gretchen and Wolfgang, the purebred Siberian huskies who wandered the forests and deserts of Northern Arizona with him at that time, taught him more than anyone about wild lands and wild animals, if not about life itself.



2012 Conformation Point Score

Final Results



Most Successful Alaskan Malamute	
Niltaran Knls Ch Niltaran Ernace Tungulra	55
McPhan's Ch Tanome King Of The Mountain ET	55
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Shiiva (AI)	36
Niltaran Knls Ch Niltaran Ernace Sakari	31
Kataku Knls Ch Kataku Major League	25
Luke's Ch Kataku Hurricane Wilfred	25
Hewat/Cummings Ch Qannik Sno Luck	25
Ganson's Ch Siarnak Zelkie Aileana	21
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Layla (AI)	19
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Blazer (AI)	15
McPhan's Ch Asleda Limited Edition	15
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Ernace Kirabo	15
Ganson's Ch Niltaran Ernace Zuberi	9
Kataku Knls Ch Kataku Chill In The Air (AI)	6
Wagenvoort's Ch Southrnwolf Catch Me Ifu Can	3
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Troj Uniq Hektor (AI)	1
Top Alaskan Malamute Dog	
McPhan's Ch Tanome King Of The Mountain ET	30
Niltaran Knls Ch Niltaran Ernace Tungulra	29
Kataku Knls Ch Kataku Major League	14
Luke's Ch Kataku Hurricane Wilfred	13
Hewat/Cummings Ch Qannik Sno Luck	8
Wagenvoort's Ch Southrnwolf Catch Me Ifu Can	1
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Troj Uniq Hektor (AI)	1
Top Alaskan Malamute Bitch	
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Shiiva (AI)	33
Niltaran Knls Ch Niltaran Ernace Sakari	22
Ganson's Ch Siarnak Zelkie Aileana	20
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Layla (AI)	19
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Ernace Kirabo	15
McPhan's Ch Asleda Limited Edition	15
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Blazer (AI)	14
Kataku Knls Ch Kataku Chill In The Air (AI)	6
Ganson's Ch Niltaran Ernace Zuberi	6
Baby Puppy Dog	
McPhan's Tanome Legend Of The Knight (AI)	8
Turner/French-Davis Hamalek Cruze Control (AI)	3
Baby Puppy Bitch	
McPhan's Tanome Divine Intervention (AI)	2
Minor Puppy Dog	
Ganson's Siarnak Zelkie Naoghus	4
McPhan's Tanome Legend Of The Knight (AI)	3
Minor Puppy Bitch	
Ganson's Ch Siarnak Zelkie Aileana	11
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Shiiva (AI)	7
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Layla (AI)	2
McPhan's Tanome Divine Intervention (AI)	1

Puppy Dog	
Ganson's Siarnak Zelkie Naoghus	18
McPhan's Tanome Legend Of The Knight (AI)	6
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Troj Uniq Hektor (AI)	4
Puppy Bitch	
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Blazer (AI)	20
Ganson's Ch Siarnak Zelkie Aileana	18
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Layla (AI)	7
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Shiiva (AI)	1
Junior Dog	
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Troj Uniq Hektor (AI)	4
Ganson's Siarnak Zelkie Naoghus	4
McPhan's Tanome Legend Of The Knight (AI)	4
Junior Bitch	
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Shiiva (AI)	13
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Blazer (AI)	10
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Layla (AI)	9
Ganson's Ch Siarnak Zelkie Aileana	7
Intermediate Dog	
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Troj Uniq Hektor (AI)	2
Wagenvoort's Ch Southrnwolf Catch Me Ifu Can	2
Koch's Qannik Wind Chill Factor	1
Intermediate Bitch	
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Shiiva (AI)	17
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Blazer (AI)	4
Ganson's Ch Siarnak Zelkie Aileana	4
McCombe's Ch Kemulvak Red Red Wine (AI)	4
Kataku Knls Ch Kataku Chill In The Air (AI)	2
Australian Bred Dog	
Niltaran Knls Ch Niltaran Ernace Tungulra	27
McPhan's Ch Tanome King Of The Mountain ET	17
Hewat/Cummings' Ch Qannik Sno Luck	6
Australian Bred Bitch	
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Layla (AI)	14
McPhan's Ch Asleda Limited Edition	12
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Blazer (AI)	4
Luke's Thomla Sweet Oops A Daisy	4
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Karuzr Shiiva (AI)	2
Niltaran Knls Ch Niltaran Ernace Sakari	2
Open Dog	
McPhan's Ch Tanome King Of The Mountain ET	15
Luke's Ch Kataku Hurricane Wilfred	8
Kataku Knls Ch Kataku Major League	6
Hewat/Cummings Ch Qannik Sno Luck	6
Open Bitch	
Ganson's Ch Niltaran Ernace Zuberi	13
Niltaran Knls Ch Niltaran Ernace Sakari	11
Niltaran Knls Niltaran Ernace Kirabo	4
Kataku Knls Ch Kataku Diamonds R Foreva	3

Awards will be presented at the General Meeting on 20 March.

So You Want An Alaskan Malamute?



Courtesy of Texas Alaskan Malamute Rescue Association

So You Want An Alaskan Malamute?

Great! You've seen them on TV, in the movies, maybe you've been to a dog show or two. Maybe, you just met a pair in the park or a puppy in a pet store and said to yourself... "I want a Malamute!" Okay, so now that you know what you like, you need to ask yourself an important question: WHY? And please....be honest!!

Why do I want an Alaskan Malamute?

Do you just like a pretty dog? Do you want a big dog to impress the neighbours, scare the crooks or because you think it looks like a wolf? The kids talk you into it? Is that puppy in the window simply the cutest ball of fluff? If you said yes...then do yourself, the dog and us a favour: go to the nearest toy store and buy yourself a stuffed toy dog! The Alaskan Malamute is NOT the breed for you!

If you actually took the time to ask yourself "WHY" you are interested in Malamutes and/or "WHAT" attracted you to this breed, then you are off to a good start. It can be difficult to say what first attracts a person to a Malamute but if you are unwilling to ask yourself these questions – you are probably not willing to learn very much about this breed of dog. And you'll have a LOT to learn with Malamutes to have a happy relationship!

What do I know about Alaskan Malamutes?

There is a lot of history surrounding the Alaskan Malamute. To understand their history is a good start at understanding the breed itself and how to live with a Mal.

Malamutes were used by the native Alaskans to pull heavy loads in harsh arctic conditions and to hunt food. The arctic demands a "survival of the fittest" attitude, so Malamutes retain much of the pack order instinct. Intelligence and problem solving were needed for hunting and to make independent decisions about hazards on the trail, even to the point of disobeying orders from their human companions. Food being scarce, it was of high importance to eat whenever the opportunity arose and to get the most energy out of that food. Mals often supplemented their diet with prey caught in the wild. Simply put, they have been physically and mentally moulded by their arctic environment for centuries.

Okay, so what does that have to do with Alaskan Malamutes and you in these modern times? PLENTY! Malamutes have not changed their behaviour to suit suburbia or anything else, only modified it somewhat...

Personality:

The Alaskan Malamute is a very friendly dog with humans. Mals are not one-person or even one-family dogs. There are very few people they will not like, which make them completely unsuitable to being good watch or guard dogs. Mals mostly get along well with children, especially when raised with them (but caution and supervision is always advised due to their size). Although friendly and often sensitive to their owner's moods, Malamutes are also highly independent.

The adult Malamute may have a quiet reserved manner or may be the perpetual child always willing to play. Mals do love to be the centre of attention and will often *demand* it. They are alert to their surroundings and curious about the world around them. Mals have often been described as "cat-like" in the way they groom themselves, body posture when relaxing or in their attitudes.

Pack Order:

Although friendly to humans, Malamutes must establish a pack order within their family – human or canine. Remember – NO DOG should have a placement in the "family pack" that is higher than the lowest human member! Some Mals are content with their place in the pack, other more dominant Malamutes may challenge their humans and other pets for a higher pack placement.

With humans this challenge may take the form of the Mal consistently refusing commands, becoming physically rough or even

display dominance growling. A grown Malamute CANNOT be physically forced to obey or respect you, so don't bother using that method with a pup. Early training and good behaviour can go a long way in keeping a Malamute "in line". Mals will respond best to "positive reinforcement" and motivational training methods. Alaskan Malamutes are a dog dominant breed. This means that although a Mal may never challenge a human over pack order, they certainly will challenge another dog. Same sex challenges, (M/M, F/F) can lead to serious fights if the dogs are equally dominant or if one is a younger animal seeking to establish itself.

Intelligence:

The Alaskan Malamute is an intelligent breed. A smart dog will become bored and destructive long before a not-so-smart dog will! Never underestimate how much furniture, carpet, books and even walls that a bored Malamute can damage in a small amount of time. Malamutes tends to choose "living for the moment" and worry (but usually not!) about the consequences later.

Most Malamutes will learn commands very quickly. But...if they don't see the point of following the command, they can just as quickly disobey them. Remember that this is part of their heritage and you will need to learn to be creative when teaching them or practising commands. They may very well refuse to follow a command that is well known to them, resulting in a reputation for stubbornness or "selective hearing".

Mals can be clownish at times and many possess a sense of humour (dog humour of course!), sometimes resulting in the embarrassment of the owner. They can be quite creative at getting your attention or adding a little "twist" to things just to see your reaction. Malamutes can be very manipulative when they want something and will use their ability to easily charm you to their advantage... often not realised by their humans.

Malamutes are great problem solvers and can be quite inventive IF motivated. If there is something they want... they WILL find a way to go over, under, around, or through any obstacle. Don't be surprised if items disappear from shelves, counters, or the top of the refrigerator without a trace of a Malamute passing through. Many learn to open doors, use mirrors, hide their "misdeeds", and even "tattle" on each other.



Active & Working Dogs:

The Alaskan Malamute is the equivalent of a long distance runner and as such needs plenty of exercise. Many are great 'couch potatoes', which is certainly a holdover from conserving energy in the arctic. However, when they are active, they are very active!

A large, securely fenced yard is necessary for keeping a Malamute safe. Even so, they need be walked or given some form of exercise every day. Mals much prefer to be allowed inside and involved in daily family activities but those that are kept primarily outside the house or on larger property should be provided a sturdy run with a covered kennel or large doghouse. This can be effectively used to keep your dog safely in your yard especially when you are not at home.

Since they were bred to run, Mals also have a tendency to roam the neighbourhood or countryside. Some are very accomplished “escape artists”. NEVER let your Malamute “off-lead” as few will ever be *consistently* trustworthy to recall commands (unless they wish to be) and are not particularly mindful of road traffic. In rural areas, they may learn to chase, injure or even kill wildlife and livestock and end up being killed themselves by farmers or siezed by councils and destroyed.

Alaskan Malamutes are still used to pull people, sleds and heavy loads. Today, these activities are done as pleasure sledding and skjoring, as well as the sports of racing and weight-pulling. In warmer climates, many accompany their owners on hikes and backpacking, at carting, bike rides and skating or rollerblading. For the safety of you and your dog, care **MUST** be taken to have your Mal properly secured and under control when biking or skating. A very determined Mal can be hard enough to stop without having wheels underneath you! Malamutes have also been trained in search and rescue, agility and therapy work. They are quite adaptable to most activities that are presented to them, love to work and are good with most people.

Hunting and Prey Drive:

Alaskan Malamutes are known to possess a strong “prey-drive” which is part of the hunting instinct. If it moves, squeaks, or squeals, **MOST** Malamute's will chase it – sometimes with dangerous consequences. Malamutes have also been known to kill rabbits, rodents and birds, as well as neighbourhood cats or even small dogs. Mals usually only do well with cats when they have been raised with them and have also been taught by their owners to control their natural instincts. Some Mals can never be trusted around other small animals, even when raised with them.

Malamutes should be taught caution and control around children. Besides their love of humans, they are also attracted to children which is possibly because of the quick movements and high-pitched voices (similar to those of small hurt animals – a natural prey). **NO** small child should be left alone with a large dog of ANY breed. Mals also tend to play rough and due to their size and power, could easily injure a child without meaning to do so.

Denning and Digging:

Many animals will create a den for themselves to have their young and as a safe escape from the outside weather. Another reason to dig is to catch burrowing animals such as rodents and some insects. If you have pride in your garden and want a Malamute... one of those ideas has to go! Malamutes like to DIG. They dig to lay in the cooler dirt under the surface, to catch insects deep in the grass and sometimes they seem to dig for the sheer pleasure of it! Owners often compare Malamute “landscaping” to the lunar surface or a minefield. Malamutes can move large amounts of earth in a very small amount of time. Some Mals can be taught to dig only in “their” area of the yard but rarely can a Malamute be taught never to dig at all.

Because of their denning instinct, most Malamutes crate train readily, especially when taught as a young pup. Many often prefer sleeping in their crate to other locations. Although one exception may be that favourite spot in the middle of your bed!

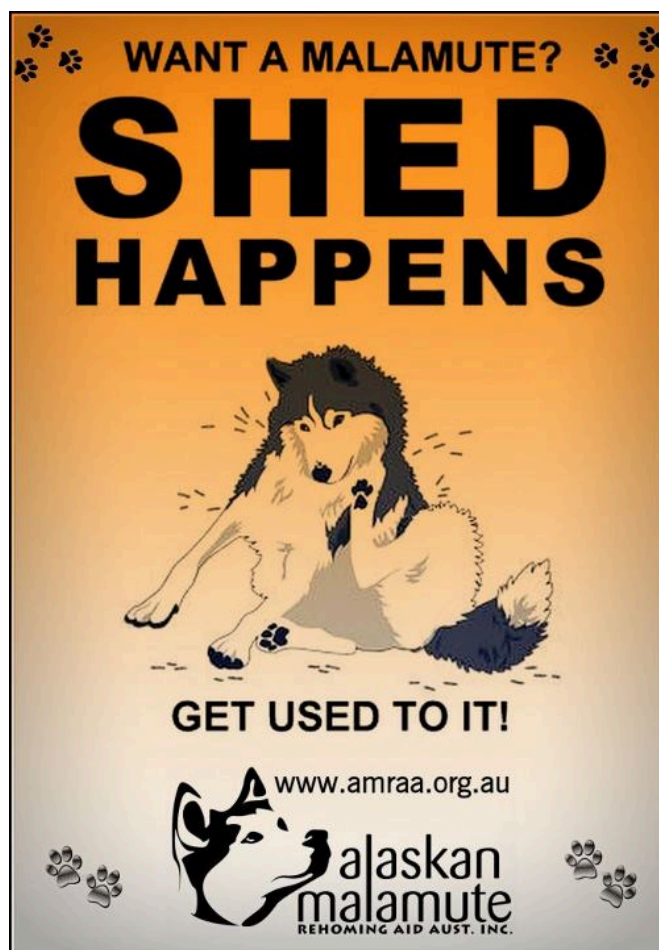
Food for Thought:

To survive in arctic conditions, a little food must fuel the body for a long distance or time. The Malamute metabolism is highly efficient in converting food to fuel. Typically and important to realise is that Mals need much less food to eat than most other breeds of similar weight for size. Unless heavily active, it is **VERY**, very easy to overfeed a Malamute to the point of being fat. Most Mals, if working, do best on an “active dog” formula of food unless they are old or inactive. They do especially well on natural raw meat or BARF type diets as many Malamutes do not do well on grain type dry foods with hot spots and other skin conditions being the outcome.

Alaskan Malamutes are highly food motivated. This is a holdover from the scarcity of food in the arctic. This also means that most Malamutes cannot be trusted around food, as they will steal it when the opportunity arises. Mals cannot be “free-fed”, as they will not stop eating until no more food will fit into their stomach, which can

lead to bloat. Mals are very good at begging food and some have developed quite advanced techniques of “mooching” food from their owners. Food is also a prime reason for a dogfight where Mals are involved as they are often very protective of their dinner or even treats!

One benefit of this fixation with food is that Mals do well with motivational training using food as the initial motivator. But.. there is a fine line between using food as 'motivation' and your Malamute teaching you to bribe him into obedience - so learn the difference!



Coat and Hair:

The Alaskan Malamutes' double coat of fur has evolved to insulate it from the surrounding environment. The outer guard coat is a coarse medium length, slightly oily to the touch and is the first layer of defence to repel dirt, snow or ice. The shorter undercoat is a thick dense wool which blocks out the wind or cold. “Woollies” are Malamutes that have a long (often soft), dense coat. The texture and excessive length of a woolly's coat does not provide good insulation from the weather but it does not hinder them from being good pets. Malamutes are adaptable to warm climates but their coat will not be as thick as dogs raised in the cold. In warmer areas it is not advised to exercise your Malamute during the heat of the day and to provide extra water at all times. Mals in very hot temperatures, or not used to the heat, should be kept indoors during the day to avoid problems such as heat stroke. It is **NEVER** recommended to shave a Mals' coat since it provides some insulation from heat as well as the cold. Very long coats (such as woollies) may be cut/trimmed *a little*...to a more moderate length for comfort and personal appearance. Shaving your Malamute is not recommended as a heat reduction method, as it can cause a LOT of adverse issues. This should only ever be done if a medical necessity!!!

Twice a year the Malamute will shed its undercoat. A more common term is “blowing” coat. The amount of hair lost in a few weeks is staggering and can fill several garbage bags. In a full “blow” the undercoat may actually come out in many large clumps of hair. In warm climate, Mals may shed all year long with a heavier shedding period twice a year. Warm water baths will help speed up the

process of a coat blow. If you like a very clean house or do not like dog hair, you should *definitely* consider another breed. Malamutes do not have the strong “doggie odour” which may be noticed in other breeds. A doggy odour is usually due to their dead undercoat not being regularly brushed out with the required frequent brushing advised. A few may develop a sour smell if the coat is not fully dried after being wet. This is due to water being trapped within the undercoat and allowing a breeding ground for bacteria and the like. Mals can take a long time to dry after a bath or swim even with a high powered dog dryer. Malamutes are clean dogs and will groom themselves much as a cat would. Dirt and water that does not make it into the undercoat will usually come out under your brushing or their own grooming.

If Dogs Could Talk:

One of the MOST endearing (and sometimes exasperating) characteristics of the Alaskan Malamute is the fact that they talk. Their “Mala-talk” is usually sounds such as “oowoo”, “roowuf”, etc. Be warned, if they talk... they will also “talk-back” to you, just as an arguing child would. Many owners have often found themselves in a full conversation with their Mals and both parties understanding what is being said... Malamutes will also howl (or sing, depending on your point of view). In a group of dogs this is a form of communication and pack unity. Singly, it may be a call for someone to communicate with or two answer a passing siren. Mals will howl when they are happy as easily as other breeds howl when they are lonely.

***Article reprinted with appreciation from Texas Alaskan Malamute Rescue Association (TAMR) - Modified slightly by AMRAA*

Most Malamutes are not prone to barking. If raised around other dogs that do bark, they may pick up this habit. Even so, their bark is more a combination of a bark/yip and rarely to the amount of excessive barking... except of course at feeding time.

What other information on Alaskan Malamutes do I need to know?

Now that you know a little more about the Alaskan Malamute, you will be better able to decide if a Malamute is a breed you can live with. But trust me.. there is still far much more to learn about the Alaskan Malamute and it is in yours and their best interest to learn all you can BEFORE even considering bringing a Malamute into your home.

Remember that this is a large, physically powerful breed with a strong will and independent nature. With proper care and good health, an Alaskan Malamute can live well into it's teens. This is not a breed that you can truly own in the normal sense of the word. It is a breed that you can form a lasting relationship with.. provided you are willing to adapt and compromise, be creative, learn as much as possible and work hard at that special relationship.

Other issues that you should consider before bringing a Malamute into your home are – rescue and adoption alternatives, understanding Pack Behaviour, how to choose a puppy from a registered, ethical breeder, how to evaluate a breeder, what to ask a breeder - ie; health issues (hereditary diseases), etc...

Melbourne Pet & Animal Expo

2 & 3 February 2013 – Melbourne Showgrounds



Simon & Kaya watched by Meeca



Luna & Kaya get plenty of pats



Ralph & Meeca



Marty's Luna







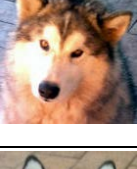


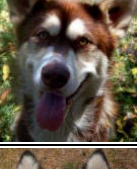





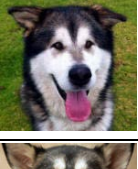
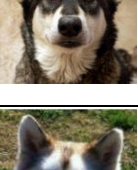








The AMCV's Breed display


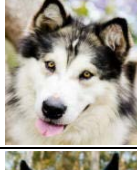
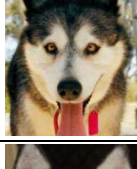
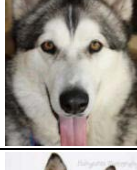
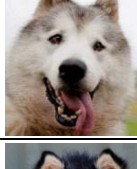
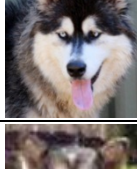
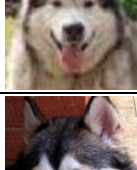

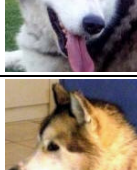

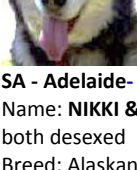


Kaya

Dogs for Adoption

	VIC - Melbourne Name: MISHA Sex: Female - desexed Breed: Malamute X Age: 1 year
	VIC - Melbourne Name: KYAH Sex: Female - desexed Breed: Malamute x Husky Age: 5 years
	VIC - Melbourne Name: ARNIE Sex: Male - desexed Breed: Alaskan Malamute Age: 9 months old
	VIC - Shepparton Name: LILLY - on trial in a new home Sex: Female - desexed Breed: Alaskan Malamute Age: 4 years old
	NSW - Sydney Name: MISHKA Sex: Female - desexed Breed: Alaskan Malamute Age: 9 years
	NSW - Sydney Name: PASQUALE Sex: Male - desexed Breed: Alaskan Malamute Age: 7 years
	NSW - Horseyey Name: MEADOW - prefer to rehome with Kobe Sex: Female - desexed Breed: Alaskan Malamute Age: 4 years (DOB 20/11/08)
	NSW - Horseyey Name: KOBE - prefer to rehome with Meadow Sex: Male - desexed Breed: Alaskan Malamute Age: 3 years
	NSW - Sydney Name: KRASH Sex: Female - desexed Breed: Malamute x Husky Age: 8 months
	NSW - Sydney Name: BT - on trial in a new home Sex: Female - desexed Breed: Alaskan Malamute Age: 1 year
	NSW - Queanbeyan Name: NAHLA Sex: Female - desexed Breed: Alaskan Malamute Age: 2 years

	NSW - Sydney Name: LUPA Sex: Male - desexed Breed: Malamute x Husky Age: 2 years
	NSW - Sydney Name: BUTCH Sex: Male - desexed Breed: Malamute x German Shepherd Age: 5 years
	NSW - Sydney Name: JIN Sex: Male - desexed Breed: Alaskan Malamute Age: 6 years
	NSW - Sydney Name: SHADOW Sex: Female - desexed Breed: Alaskan Malamute Age: 5 years
	NSW - Sydney Name: ZU - to be rehomed with Tyson Sex: Males - desexed Breed: Alaskan Malamute Age: 3 years
	NSW - Sydney Name: TYSON - to be rehomed with Zu Sex: Males - desexed Breed: Alaskan Malamute Age: 3 years
	NSW - Sydney Name: FIFI Sex: Female - desexed Breed: Malamute x Akita Age: 5 years
	QLD - Wacol RSPCA Name: MIKA Sex: Female - desexed Age: 1 year Breed: Alaskan Malamute
	QLD - Toowoomba Name: WOLFE Sex: Male - desexed Age: 1 year Breed: Alaskan Malamute
	QLD - Nerang Arctic Breeds Rescue (ABR) Name: MAPLE Sex: Female - desexed Age: 4 years Breed: Alaskan Malamute
	QLD - Slacks Creek Name: GUS Sex: Male - desexed Age: 18 months Breed: Alaskan Malamute
	QLD - Slacks Creek Name: SIMBA Sex: Male - desexed Age: 7 years Breed: Alaskan Malamute

	QLD - Holmview Name: DIAMOND Sex: Male - desexed Age: 2 years Breed: Alaskan Malamute
	QLD - Holmview Name: RUFUS Sex: Male - desexed Age: 1 year Breed: Alaskan Malamute
	QLD - Collingwood Park Name: JULIET Sex: Female - desexed Age: 10 years Breed: Alaskan Malamute
	QLD - Kallangur Name: DALLAS Sex: Male - desexed Age: 3 years Breed: Alaskan Malamute
	QLD - Holmview Name: KEISHA Sex: Female - desexed Age: 9 years Breed: Alaskan Malamute
	SA - Adelaide Name: TRUFFLE Sex: Female - desexed Age: 8 months Breed: Malamute X Husky
	WA - Perth Name: LUCY *Special needs Sex: Female - desexed Age: 5 years Breed: Alaskan Malamute
	WA - Perth Name: HONEY Sex: Female - desexed Age: 2 years Breed: Alaskan Malamute
	WA - Perth Name: GYPSY Sex: Female - desexed Age: 5 years Breed: Malamute x Husky
	WA - Perth Name: ZEUS Sex: Male - desexed Age: Not known (young) Breed: Alaskan Malamute
	SA - Adelaide- to be rehomed together Name: NIKKI & DIESEL Sex: Female & Male - both desexed Age: 4 years Breed: Alaskan Malamutes

Please visit the AMCV website www.amcv.org.au for more information on dogs for adoption, or visit AMRAA on Facebook.

2013 Show Point Score Competition Rules

The competition shall run from 1st January, 2013 to 31st December, 2013

1. All Championship shows held in Victoria shall count (**except the Melbourne Royal & AMCV Championship Show**) and the winners will be awarded from the ten (10) best results submitted.
To be eligible for an award in the Show Point Score Competition, all registered owners of the exhibit must be current AMCV Members. Points will only be allocated if all registered owners are financial members of the AMCV at the time of the show for which results are being submitted.
2. The onus is on exhibitors to send their results to the Show Secretary, no later than one (1) month after the event together with a marked catalogue, (front cover and Judge's page along with the Alaskan Malamutes fully marked) including the best of classes in breed marked with a circle or asterisk. The exhibitor submitting the results must also sign on the front of the catalogue.
3. One exhibitor may send in the results for all those at a show, but all exhibitors who wish their results to be submitted for the competition must sign the front of the catalogue as some people may not wish to be included in the Point Score Competition.
4. There is no limit to the number of results that can be submitted, however only a competitor's ten (10) best results submitted will be published as the year progresses. Once a competitor has reached the ten (10) shows the Show Secretary will automatically adjust the points accordingly.
5. A complete record of shows submitted together with catalogues will be kept by the Show Secretary in the event of any dispute arising.
6. Trophies will be awarded to the registered owner/s of the winners at the time of submitting their dog's last results.
7. The competition will consist of Most Successful Alaskan Malamute, Most Successful Dog, Most Successful Bitch and Class awards.

8.1 Most Successful Alaskan Malamute Dog and Bitch

Most Successful Dog and Bitch will be awarded to the dog and bitch which has the most points from the ten (10) best shows submitted.

Points will be awarded to Challenge winners on the basis of one (1) point for each dog or bitch beaten including one (1) for your dog or bitch, to a maximum of twenty-five (25) points per show

8.2 Most Successful Alaskan Malamute

Most Successful Alaskan Malamute will be awarded to the Dog or Bitch which has the highest number of points from their ten (10) best shows submitted.

Points will be awarded to Best of Breed and Challenge winners on the basis of one (1) point for every dog or bitch beaten including one (1) for your own dog, to a maximum of twenty-five (25) points per show.

8.3 Class awards

Awards will also be given for:

Best Baby Puppy - Dog and Bitch

Best Minor Puppy - Dog and Bitch

Best Puppy - Dog and Bitch

Best Junior - Dog and Bitch

Best Intermediate - Dog and Bitch

Best Australian Bred - Dog and Bitch

Best Open - Dog and Bitch

Class points will be allocated as follows: 1 point for every dog or bitch beaten in your class 1st, 2nd and 3rd placings including one (1) for your exhibit, also one (1) point for every exhibit of the opposite sex if you take your class of breed, to a maximum of twenty-five (25) points per show. Example: If there are 6 exhibits shown in a class, 1st wins six (6) points, 2nd five (5) points, 3rd four (4) points. If this 1st place winner then wins its class of breed and four (4) of the opposite sex were shown, it gains a total of ten (10) points.

The end of the financial year is June 30th. A good time to make donations, so they can be claimed as a tax deduction.

Please consider the Alaskan Malamutes rescued from death row by AMRAA as worthy recipients of your donation.

We are only a few volunteers in a few states, who do this simply for the love of this breed and the need to educate the public by helping to increase awareness on how to provide and care for the needs of this beautiful and unique breed.

The majority of costs are borne by a few of our team members but rescue is an extremely expensive venture with the high costs of kennelling in NSW, as well as all full vetwork required for each dog and those who regularly have health issues needing surgery or treatment.

Our costs FAR exceed our adoption fees and so we need to rely on donations as well to enable us to continue to rescue our beloved Malamutes and their crosses. We are at capacity in NSW at this time with our dogs in kennels and the costs of that alone, without including the vet work, is literally overwhelming.

Would you please help us to help them? We'd be TRULY GRATEFUL ❤️

AMRAA is a registered not-for-profit organisation with Charity & Deductible Gift Recipient status, endorsed by the Australian Tax Office.

Tax deductible donations over \$2 can be provided to:

ALASKAN MALAMUTE
REHOMING AID AUST Inc.
BSB : 083-451
ACCT: 122796078

~Please email alaskanmalaid@gmail.com with your contact details and request a receipt.
THANK YOU !! ☺️

AMCV Clothing

Jackets \$45.00 (+ \$12.00 P&H)

Long sleeve polar fleece jacket with full length zip, pockets and embroidered AMCV logo.

The following colours & sizes are in stock:

Medium: Red, Burgundy

Large: Royal blue

XL: Orange, Red

Vests –\$35.00 (+\$12.00 P&H)

Sleeveless polar fleece vest with full length zip and embroidered AMCV logo.

The following colours & sizes are in stock:

XL: Orange

Caps – \$15.00 (+ \$8.00 P&H)

Peaked cap, one size fits all, embroidered with AMCV logo.

Available in the following colours: Red, Black, Burgundy,

Royal blue

Beanies – \$15.00 (+ \$8.00 P&H)

One size fits all, embroidered with AMCV logo.

Available in the following colours: Black, Dark Grey

Limited stock – First in, first served!

Payments accepted by direct deposit (please email for account details) or by cheque/money order made out to "Alaskan Malamute Club, Victoria Inc."



Windchill Dog Gear

Heavy-duty dog gear for working breeds

PO Box 41, Hurstbridge, 3099

Phone: 03 9714 8540

Fax: 03 9714 8303

Email: windchill@bigpond.com.au



- Sledding, Weight-Pull & Puppy Harnesses
- Car / Walking Harnesses & Walking Belts
- Collars & Leads - range of styles and sizes
- Ganglines for all team sizes
- Canine backpacks & fold-up water bowls
- Dog Stakes, Stake-out Lines & Drop lines
- Embroidered name or phone number tags
and more!

*We make items to suit dogs of all sizes.
Personalised embroidery available.*

Visit our website for a full product list, photos, harness measuring instructions, price list & order form.

www.windchill.com.au

Credit Cards & Direct Deposit payments accepted
Mail Order Service

How to tell a Malamute from a Husky

by Doug L - For the ever-shedding pack

Shelters/Pounds often cannot tell the difference between a Malamute and a Husky. The general public is worse. Malamutes are generally larger but it may be a big Husky, a small Malamute or a mix of the two. If you see a Northern breed dog or have adopted one, this simple quiz can help you differentiate between these two very distinct breeds.

Note the position of the ears:

- A. The ears are almost vertical to hear mice under the snow.
- B. The ears point out like radar dishes to hear grocery bags.

The eye colour is:

- A. Blue. Or brown. Or both. Or yellow and blue in one eye. Sometimes I swear they switch places.
- B. Brown, always, definitely!! Maybe blue if crossed. What are you...a show judge or something?

The proper term for the dog is:

- A. Siberian Husky
- B. Alaskan Malamute
- C. My 'Snooky Wuggums'

Is that a squirrel?

- A. Squirrel? Come on guys, let's get it!
- B. Smmh mmb! *gulp* Uh...what squirrel?

Have you been digging?

- A. Yes, I am terraforming your planet.
- B. Yes, at the bottom of the steps is a pit deep enough you can't see out of it.

You introduce a new dog food and:

- A. Bleh. I'll hold out for chicken. For days.
- B. *Whoosh* More, please? And that chicken defrosting in the fridge? Gone!!

Intelligence test: cover kibble with a cloth and let the dog figure it out.

- A. Grab the cloth. Give it a kill shake. Vacuum up the kibble.
- B. Whine. Sniff. Whine. Ah, the heck with this. Pounce on the cloth with both paws. Tear a hole through it. Vacuum up the kibble.

How does the dog wake you up?

- A. Jumps on the bed and sits on your head.
- B. Jumps on the bed and sits on your gut, crushing the air out of you.

When people see the dog they say:

- A. Ooh, is that a wolf?
- B. Ooh, is that a wolf? (In Australia...it's more like - "Is that a Husky? !!")

The pack starts yodelling at 3 am and sounds like

- A. A-ooo. Yii-ooo!
- B. Rooo Wooo!

The dog is built:

- A. Like an eco-friendly pickup truck, very light on gas. Goes anywhere and can haul quite a bit.
- B. Like a Unimog truck and sucks up fuel like one. Goes anywhere, hauls huge loads and drags you through the brush.

When the dog sheds:

- A. You brush and vacuum for days and still have hairy tumbleweeds bigger than rabbits.
- B. See A.

You left her alone in the car for only a minute and she:

- A. Shredded the passenger seat, half the dash and chewed off the gear shift knob.
- B. Ate the passenger seat and threw it up on the driver seat.

When you feed the dogs, you:

- A. Put the bowls in one room and they scramble for their own bowl.
- B. Put the bowls in separate rooms and close the doors.

The dog flosses his teeth by:

- A. Shredding furniture.
- B. Shredding house siding.

When your dog meets other dogs, she thinks:

- A. They might be new playmates. I wonder if they like chicken?
- B. They might steal my dinner. I wonder what they taste like?

Is the dog trustworthy around human infants?

- A. Totally. They howl together.
- B. Absolutely. They sleep snuggled up to each other.

Northern dogs are escape artists. On several occasions the dog:

- A. Dug under the fence, jumped over the fence, or pried open a hole just large enough to slip through.
- B. Chewed through a fence post until he could push down the gate.



Of course your dog counter-surfs.

A. She jumps onto the counter and walks the length, sampling everything.

B. She puts her front paws on the counter, licks all the garbage from the sink and carries a 10 lb sack of potatoes back to her crate.

Every dog should go to obedience class. Your dog, however:

A. Ignored you through the whole thing, made you look like a fool by aceing the exam and promptly went back to ignoring you.

B. Gave the "hairy eyeball" to every Rottweiler and Doberman in the class but was nervous around the Chihuahuas.

You turn vegan and decide your dog should join you. You toss vegetables to the dog. He reacts:

A. Snap! Spit! That is *not* food.

B. Snap! OMD - What the hell did I just eat??

When a friend comes over, the dog reacts:

A. Hi there! Just one pat, thank you. You are dismissed.

B. Hi there! Got any food? Ooh, I love to slobber faces. Got any food?

Malamutes and Siberians are not the best at recall. The dog runs off and:

A. Two hours later you get a call from the local police. When you arrive, the dog is smiling from the back of the cruiser and the top of their white car is covered with muddy paw prints.

B. Two hours later she scares the hell out of you by sneaking up from behind and barking or wooing.

The proper number of Huskies or Malamutes is:

A. 2

B. 3 or 4

C. Every Christmas you send a bottle of bourbon to the local animal control officer.

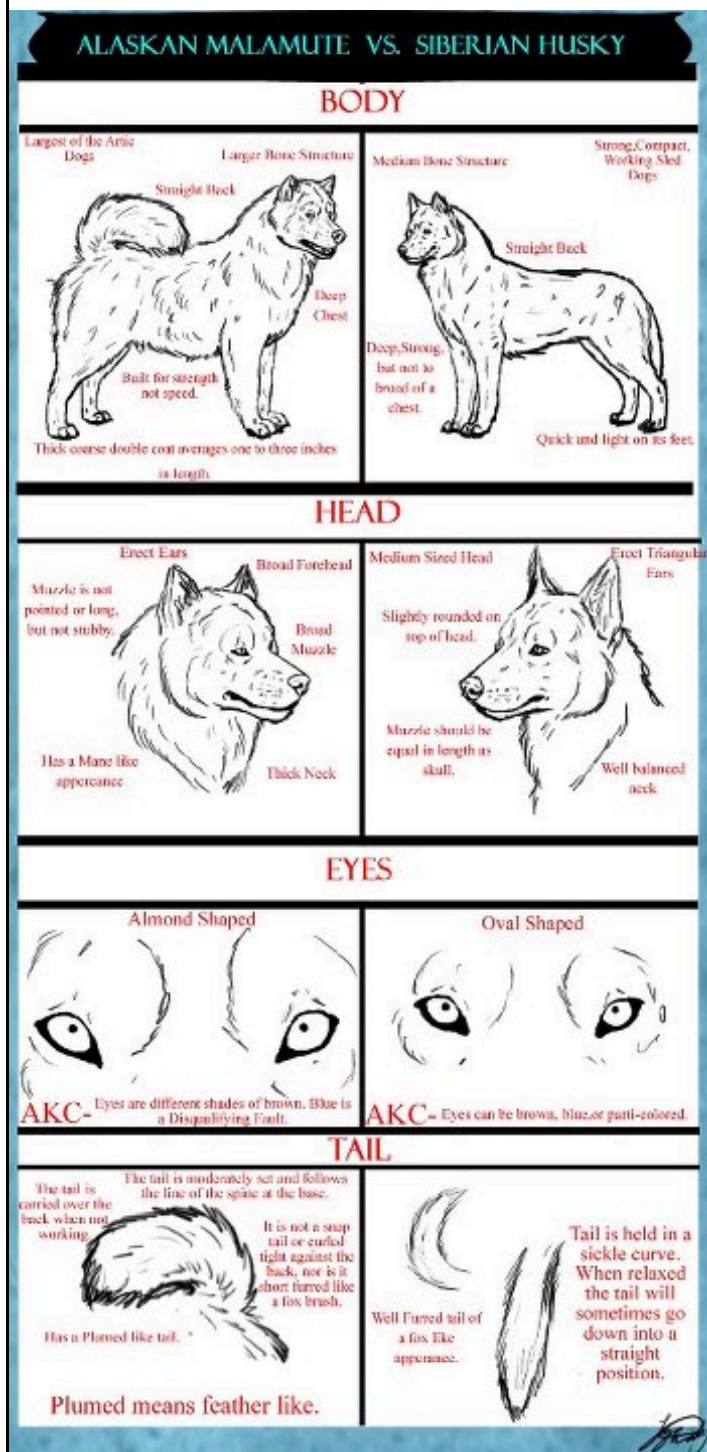
Answer key:

If you answered **A** to most questions, you probably have a Siberian Husky. You have been distracted for 10 minutes. Check to see your dog has not escaped with the car.

If you answered **B** to most questions, you probably have an Alaskan Malamute and your dinner was stolen while you were reading this quiz.

If you answered **C** to the last question, you are owned by Siberians or Malamutes. This is normal. You do not need professional help, regardless what your relatives say!!

Alaskan Malamute VS. Siberian Husky Tutorial by *InfernoWolfen



REGISTER OF ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to the following Alaskan Malamute on being accepted onto the AMCV Register of Achievement.

CH WINDCHILL TAMMBO TANANE

Buffy

Sire: Ch Windchill Kaos Arcticboy WTDX WPDx WLDx WWPd
ROA

Dam: Ch Windchill Loska Skye WTD WPDx ROA

Whelped: 20 March 2007

Owner & Breeder: Ralph & Sandy Koch

Achievements:

- Australian Champion
- Working Pack Dog Excellent



The Dog's Diary

- 8:00 am - Dog food! My favorite thing!
- 9:30 am - A car ride! My favorite thing!
- 9:40 am - A walk in the park! My favorite thing!
- 10:30 am - Got rubbed and petted! My favorite thing!
- 12:00 pm - Milk bones! My favorite thing!
- 1:00 pm - Played in the yard! My favorite thing!
- 3:00 pm - Wagged my tail! My favorite thing!
- 5:00 pm - Dinner! My favorite thing!
- 7:00 pm - Got to play ball! My favorite thing!
- 8:00 pm - Wow! Watched TV with the people! My favorite thing!
- 11:00 pm - Sleeping on the bed! My favorite thing!

The Cat's Diary

Day 983 of My Captivity:

My captors continue to taunt me with bizarre little dangling objects. They dine lavishly on fresh meat, while the other inmates and I are fed hash or some sort of dry nuggets. Although I make my contempt for the rations perfectly clear, I nevertheless must eat something in order to keep up my strength.

The only thing that keeps me going is my dream of escape. In an attempt to disgust them, I once again vomit on the carpet. Today I decapitated a mouse and dropped its headless body at their feet. I had hoped this would strike fear into their hearts, since it clearly demonstrates my capabilities. However, they merely made condescending comments about what a "good little hunter" I am. Bastards!

There was some sort of assembly of their accomplices tonight. I was placed in solitary confinement for the duration of the event. However, I could hear the noises and smell the food. I overheard that my confinement was due to the power of "allergies." I must learn what this means, and how to use it to my advantage.

Today I was almost successful in an attempt to assassinate one of my tormentors by weaving around his feet as he was walking. I must try this again tomorrow, but at the top of the stairs.

I am convinced that the other prisoners here are flunkies and snitches. The dog receives special privileges. He is regularly released, and seems to be more than willing to return. He is obviously retarded. The bird must be an informant. I observe him communicate with the guards regularly. I am certain that he reports my every move. My captors have arranged protective custody for him in an elevated cell, so he is safe. For now ...

Dogs and beach etiquette

Taking your dog to the beach on a hot summer's day is a great way to relax, socialise and cool off. Here's a few beach etiquette tips:



1. Remember that not all beaches are dog friendly. Check with your local council before you go. Find out if your dog is allowed off leash
2. Always make sure you are in control of your dog, never let your dog bound up to strangers or annoy others
3. Always pick up your dog's poo
4. Take care near the water, dogs that swim in the surf can easily drown if they are swept under by a wave; consider placing a life jacket on your dog
5. Keep dogs off dunes and native vegetation areas where possible. Shore birds such as oystercatchers, plovers and terns nest in the dried seaweed band along the high tide mark and will not breed if disturbed. Signs are often posted on beaches to warn you of sensitive nesting areas
6. Don't let your dog eat any dead fish or birds, these can be toxic if ingested

Visit <http://www.petnet.com.au/parks-beaches> to find a dog friendly beach near you.

Winterkeep

Winterkeep is a beautiful 4 bedroom rural holiday house set on 6 glorious acres in the Snowy Mountains. It is located at an altitude of 1200m and has superb views of the mountains. It is a short 20 minute drive to Jindabyne town centre and a 35 minute drive to the Ski Tube terminal. It is pet friendly and has a large fenced backyard as well as an enclosed and undercover wrap around balcony.

Whether it be a ski holiday in the winter or trout fishing, mountain biking, bushwalking in spring, summer or autumn, Winterkeep is a tranquil and beautiful place to stay to enjoy the majestic Snowy Mountains.



www.winterkeep.com.au

Dishlickers Resort



Pet Accommodation

40 indoor pens

Large exercise areas

Fully insulated kennel

Floor heating

Air-conditioned

Pick up & delivery service available

Eukanuba, Eagle & fresh food provided

Dishlickers is also a distributor for both Eagle Pack & Black Hawk pet foods.

Merv & Shelley Turner
3 Martin Street, Pearcedale 3912
Phone: 03 5978 6001 Mobile: 0438 381 772

Dishlickers is the home of Katakuru Alaskan Malamutes

If undeliverable please return to: The Newsletter Editor PO Box 41
Hurstbridge 3099 **The Malamute Mail**
Print Post Approved Publication No. 0031995100004

**SURFACE
MAIL**

POSTAGE PAID
AUSTRALIA

The Alaskan Malamute Club, Victoria (Inc.)
