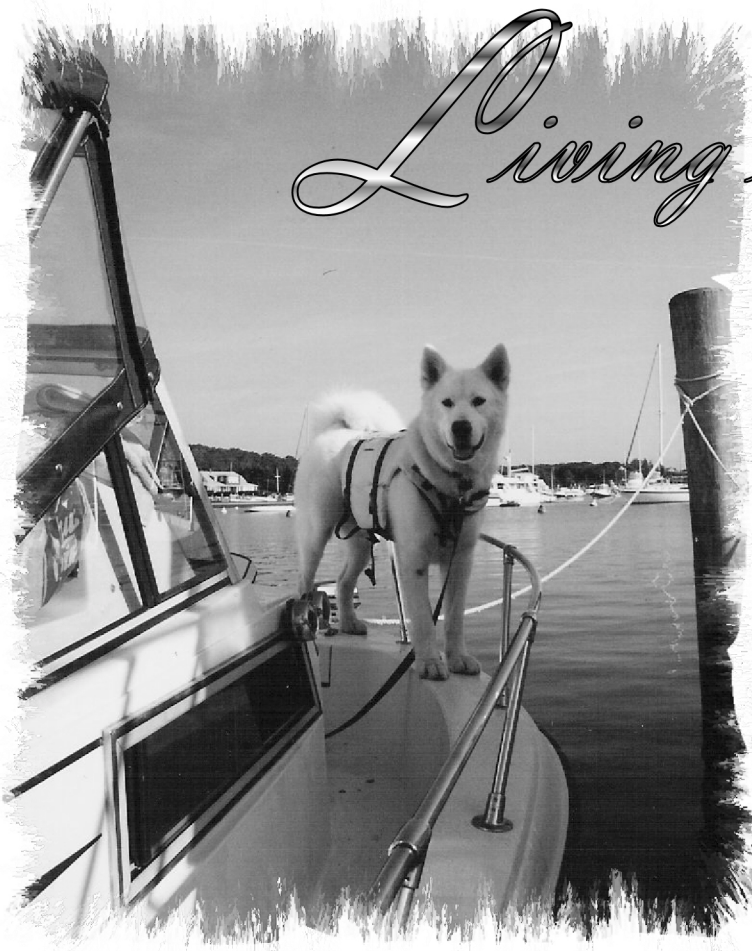


AMRONE Tales

Volume 5, No. 1 Spring 2005

Uniting great dogs with great people



Living the good life
Adopted mals
find grand homes



What's inside

- Danger in your yard p-3
- From cinders to royalty p-4
- These mals need homes p-10
- Mr. Mal, meet Miss Kitty p-14

Klondike, above, and Jazz, right, are two mals that AMRONE has helped find happy new homes. Klondike lives with Adrienne Billingham and Jeremy Bock; Jazz is with Renee and Ed Sheehan.



Camp N Pack Weekend

An Alaskan Malamute Rescue of New England Event

September 30-October 2, 2005
Camp Timber Trails
Tolland, MA

It's time for the EIGHTH Annual Camp N Pack Weekend. To keep our costs low, we will **not** be doing a mailing of the Camp N Pack flyer. The full flyer with registration form is available on our web site, WWW.AMRONE.ORG under Events.

Camp N Pack may include the following and more:

- Fun, interesting dogs
- Fun, interesting dog people
- Hot, tasty meals
- Fresh air
- Agility equipment
- Weight pulls, novice and open classes - AMCA regulations
- Live auction and silent auction
- 10-mile qualifying hike
- Dog videos
- Raffles
- Campfires
- Fenced doggie exercise areas
- Canine Good Citizen testing
- Short casual hikes
- Ice cream buffet
- Rescue parade
- Workshops on agility, obedience, sledding, backpacking and ski/bike-joring
- Group photos
- Dog games
- AMRONE sweatshirts and T-shirts, and dog goodies available for sale
- Stargazing
- "Gently used" donated dog items available for sale



Please review the flyer on our web site, WWW.AMRONE.ORG for detailed information about the weekend's schedule, registration form, location, maps and rules.

Newcomers are welcome - including dogs of every breed. Feel free to copy this page and give it to friends, or post anywhere accessible to fellow dog lovers.

Beware: Even some common plants are poison

By Jerry Ferragamo

Last spring I started an extensive project in our backyard, which happens to be the yard we share with our three malamutes, and the final stages would be landscaping. In trying to decide what to plant that would be safe for the dogs, I soon found myself researching web sites and getting quite an education. Through my research I was very surprised to learn that I already had toxic plants in the yard, which were quickly transplanted outside the fence.



There are many common plants we have, both inside and outside the home, that are toxic to our furry friends. I actually had to check a few different resources, as some lists weren't as complete as others. This was very important, as I knew my mals would soon be doing their own version of gardening with whatever I attempted to plant.

Much to my surprise, rhododendrons, some yews, azaleas and many other popular plants can be harmful to pets. Symptoms from eating toxic plants can be digestive upset, vomiting, diarrhea, difficulty breathing, weakness, drooling, just to name a few. Consequences can be devastating and can lead to shock, coma, organ failure or even death in some cases. Also, some plants that are generally considered to be nontoxic might cause symptoms in a dog with an allergy to the plant.



Among plants that can be toxic to your dog are nettles, above left, and jimson, above right. Also watch out for monkshood, far left, and delphinium, far left below.

Partial list of poisonous plants

Amaryllis	Elephant Ear	Mushrooms
Andromeda	English Ivy	Narcissus
Apple seeds	Elderberry	Nightshade
Arrowgrass	Foxglove	Oleander
Avocado	Hemlock	Peach
Azalea	Holly	Philodendron
Bittersweet	Hyacinth	Poinsettia
Boxwood	Hydrangea	Poison Ivy
Buttercup	Iris	Privet
Caladium	Japanese Yew	Rhododendron
Castor Bean	Jasmine	Rhubarb
Cherry Pits	Jimson Weed	Stinging Nettle
Chokecherry	Laburnum	Toadstool
Climbing Lily	Larkspur	Tobacco
Crown of Thorns	Laurel	Tulip
Daffodil	Locoweed	Walnut
Daphne	Marigold	Wisteria
Delphinium	Marijuana	Yew
Dieffenbachia	Mistletoe	
Dumb Cane	Monkshood	

AMRONE welcomes your photos of rescued mals

Do you have a picture of a current or former AMRONE rescue dog that you'd like to share with the readers of our newsletter or the visitors to our web site? We welcome all photos. They can feature your dog in any activity, or simply being a lovable pet. They will be used in the newsletter as space permits, and / or on the web site.

Please mail prints to:

Alaskan Malamute Rescue of New England, Inc.
 PMB #213
 430 Franklin Village Drive
 Franklin, MA 02038-4007

Be sure to write on the back of the photo the dog's name, the owner(s) name, and the dates the dog was adopted and the photo was taken. If you'd like the photo returned, please note that also.

Meet Onaway, the Princess Malamute

By Carol Peck

Onaway's tale reads like a Hollywood script or a fairy tale: A princess is abused and neglected by a family that doesn't deserve or appreciate her, gets taken in by kind people who protect her, and eventually is adopted by the perfect family in whose loving care she becomes — a diva!

For a long time, Ginny and John Rivielle had shared their home with wonderful canine companions. Gretchen the German shepherd had been followed by their beloved Malamute Trouble. Now Trouble was gone, and the house was too quiet. Their veterinarian suggested that they contact breed rescue to find a suitable dog for a couple who



liked big dogs but weren't prepared to deal with a rambunctious puppy again. After talking with Susan Conant, Ginny and John decided that an adult rescue Malamute would be just right for them; and so Susan referred them to foster mom Sally Botts in Maine.

When Sally told them about Onaway, a lovely dog who had been abused, starved, and left tied outside, Ginny and John immediately felt compelled to give her the loving care and attention that she had missed. However, another prospective adopter had expressed interest in Onaway and Sally was awaiting his decision. Ginny called Sally every day for a week, checking on the status of the other prospective adopter. Finally, on Friday, Sally told her that she and John could adopt Onaway if she didn't hear from the other person by Saturday. Saturday morning Ginny called again and was told that Onaway could be theirs!

They made plans to meet at a hotel in Massachusetts to complete the adoption. Despite a 20-inch snowstorm the previous night, Ginny and John drove 350 miles to the meeting place with a blanket on the back seat for Onaway to lie on. As Ginny recalls, "The next morning we could hardly wait for Sally to get to the hotel. We met Sally in the lobby and sat down to sign the papers. Sally said to us, 'Would you like to see her before you sign the papers, just to make sure you want to take her?' I just looked at Sally and said, 'We just drove 350 miles to get her. We don't care what she looks like. She's coming home with us.'

After that declaration, it was a surprise to discover that Onaway was not just good-looking, she was gorgeous!



Onaway, named for an Indian princess in the Song of Hiawatha, is no longer abused or hungry.

Ginny and John still remember that first glimpse vividly. "The first time we saw her, she was looking out the back of Sally's van, with her head lying on the back window, ears up, eyes wide open, and looking very alert. She jumped out of the van, and I knelt down, and she came right to me. She sat, and I scratched her ears. Sally's husband walked her around a bit, and then they said goodbye and we took her to our car and took her home. We've never regretted a moment."

Ginny and John researched her name and discovered that Onaway is the name of an Indian princess in the Song of Hiawatha. They found it "a puzzle that someone would go to the trouble of finding such a beautiful name for a dog and then abuse, mistreat, and starve her."

While the beginning of her new life was joyful, there were lingering reminders of Onaway's dark days. At 45 pounds, she was 30 pounds underweight. Her first meal with Ginny and John — meat from homemade soup — was eaten ravenously. In other aspects of life, she exhibited a lot of fear. She was afraid every time she went in the car; and although she would come when called, she always had her ears back as if fearful of being hit. Even now, she is uncomfortable around strangers; a quick movement of a hand near the left side of her face will make her flinch and pull back. She didn't seem to even know what a toy was.

There was a health concern, too. Onaway had digestive problems. After vet visits, various medications, and trying a range of dog foods, Onaway is now thriving on a perma-

[Continued on Page 5]



Lisa Denaro of Trumbull, CT, and Belle enjoy a moment this spring at Bark in the Park.

2005 AMRONE calendar



Saturday, June 4, 2005

Baypath Humane Society's Fifth Annual Dog Walk
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Split Rock area of Hopkinton State Park, Hopkinton, MA

Sunday, June 12,

Save A Dog's 5th Annual Paws in the Park

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Veterans Administration Hospital,
Bedford, MA

Come say hello at the AMRONE table

Sunday, Sept. 11

Pet Rock

Noon – 5 p.m.

Quinsigamond Community College

670 W. Boylston Street, Worcester,
MA

Come say hello at the AMRONE table

Friday, Sept. 30 – Sunday, Oct. 2

Camp N Pack

Camp Timber Trails, Tolland, MA

Established rituals keep Onaway happy and healthy

[From Page 4]

nent diet of rice and boiled beef or chicken.

Shortly after adopting Onaway in January 1996, John retired. With him home all the time, Onaway quickly began to change, becoming more confident and even beginning to like going for rides in the car, now a favorite pastime. Once she realized that she would not be beaten for not obeying immediately, she developed the common Malamute malady of selective hearing. She apparently decided, "Ha! When they call me, I think I'll just stare at them instead." She obeys when and if she chooses.

In fact, Ginny and John admit that "she has become a spoiled, pampered, stubborn, and very, very vocal malamute. She rho-rho's, woo-woo's, and arr-arr-arr's all day long, especially when it's time to go for walks or when she's hungry. When she gets mad at us, [usually when we've had to go out without her], she sits in the middle of the floor, turns her back on us, looks over her shoulder, and gives us dirty looks."

Onaway has established a morning ritual. She likes to sleep late. When she thinks it's time to get up, she'll jump on the bed to start the day with a group howl with her people. When the weather is cool, she loves to wander around her fenced-in backyard and go for long walks. The colder and snowier it gets, the farther she wants to walk. If John wants to go back to the house, Onaway will plant her feet and refuse to turn around, so on they walk.

Warmer weather brings an entirely different scene. "John literally has to go upstairs, get her head out from

underneath the bed, put her leash on, and drag her down the stairs and out of the air-conditioned house." It's a quick, businesslike trip with Onaway pulling him back into the cool house.

Although she still doesn't play much with toys, she keeps all her toys right next to the blanket that is her bed in Ginny and John's bedroom; and she knows each toy and where it belongs, and she doesn't like anyone to move them.

She also has developed a routine around the treats she gets for being good or going outside. She doesn't eat them right away. She saves them during the day, placing them together in the middle of the floor, and eats them all after dinner for dessert. If Ginny or John moves one of them, she'll pick it up and put it right back where she had placed it before. Occasionally, she will bury treats under her blanket and not eat them for days. Ginny thinks perhaps she is saving them in case there is a shortage some day.

There won't be any shortage, though. Onaway is happy, healthy, loving, and loved. She is still very beautiful and looks much younger than her 12 years. In fact, Onaway is known all over the neighborhood because she is so pretty. People even stop John in the grocery store and say, "I know you. You're the man who owns that beautiful dog."

John smiles; and Ginny says, "She is really something to see. But it's not what she looks like that counts; it's what's inside her that really matters. And what's inside her is everything a Malamute should be." And so the Malamute Princess and her people are living happily ever after. Woo-woo!

'A rainy day is the perfect time for a walk in the woods' ~ Rachel Carson

By Kathy Ferragamo

You just can't trust weathermen! Organizers of our Fourth Annual Bark in Park had been watching the forecast all week as it had been raining off and on. It was supposed to clear up for Sunday, May 1. But even a rainy day couldn't keep Malamute owners from having a good time.

The periods of rain didn't seem to bother the dogs at Berry Pond in Harold Parker State Forest, North Andover, MA, nor did it have any effect on our chefs. Jerry Ferragamo, David Ferragamo and Joe Badolato fired up the grills and had a delicious barbeque ready as the hikers, led once again this year by Roger Davies, returned from their morning hike. After lunch Jeff Kirchhoff gave a very informative talk about biking/skijoring with your dog. Jeff is an active outdoor person who enjoys these sports with Granite, his rescue Malamute.

Next on the agenda was our rescue parade. Stephanie Bayliss and Joanne Duval proudly introduced this year's 18 participants. It's always so wonderful to hear about the accomplishments that these dogs have achieved. It's not often that we get white Malamutes in the New England area. Last year we had two come into rescue, and both of them made it to our event. Brady was adopted by Bob and Mary Fallon. The Fallons had adopted a big red Malamute from us a number of years ago. Sadly, Koda passed away last year and they wanted another Malamute. Along came Brady and it was love at first sight. Our other white mal, Klondike — who has been quite the celebrity, was there with his new parents, Jeremy Bock and Adrienne Billingham.

Closing out the day was our raffle, which once again was a success thanks to the wonderful items made and/or donated by our volunteers and supporters. I also want to mention one other event that actually had its kickoff at our Camp N Pack last fall — the Malamute Spin. This was the idea of Ruth Ellis. People have been collecting the fur from their Malamutes, and Bark in the Park was the final cutoff date.

In addition to all the fur that has been sent to Ruth during the past seven months, owners showed up with even



A little rain couldn't keep these folks from enjoying themselves at Berry Pond. At left, Bob Fallon introduces Brady to Klondike, another unusual white mal adopted by Jeremy Bock and Adrienne Billingham.

more bags of fur. A company will spin it into an item such as an afghan, scarf, hat or pillow, and we will have the final product to auction off at this year's Camp N Pack. It was really wonderful to see so many people get into this, and it will be very exciting to see the end product.

This day also turned out to be a new beginning for one of our rescue dogs. Zoey, an adorable young female who came into foster care as a cautious little girl, had blossomed and found herself a forever home. Travis and Dawn Kauffman have been attending our events for the past few years. They have a young male Malamute and had been thinking of getting a young, easy going female. Zoey was everything they had been hoping for. They spent a lot of time with her, went home and thought about it, and then contacted us to go through our adoption process. We want to wish Zoey a wonderful life with her new family.

Thanks to all who made this day possible. Without you, we couldn't do it. Many thanks to our sponsor, Paul Ferragamo, Building Supplies Outlet. Mark your calendar and tentatively keep the first Sunday of May 2006 open for our Fifth Annual Bark in the Park.

Education is important to AMRONE's mission

By Stephanie Bayliss, Treasurer

[Part 1]

Everyone who knows AMRONE knows that we rescue Alaskan Malamutes and place them in loving, permanent homes. But not everyone is aware of other activities that AMRONE supports, and some background information may be helpful in understanding the reasons why these activities are also important.

One of the legal documents required to create a non-profit corporation in Massachusetts is the Articles of Organization. The Articles define the mission and purpose of an organization.

AMRONE was formed in 1997, and one of the purposes defined in its Articles is "to encourage responsible care of all dogs through public education, including materials relating to spay and neuter."

We fulfill this in a variety of ways. Some of our hardworking volunteers staff booths and demos at pet shows, pet walks and similar venues. This provides access to the public, a way to talk to people about commitment and responsibility to all breeds. We



provide information on care, training and health of dogs, as well as Malamute-specific information. This helps get our name out in the public and introduce people to Malamutes, but it is not primarily a marketing tool for AMRONE. In fact, we don't expect to find many potential adopters or potential volunteers at these events – if we do, it's a bonus.

Another way we meet this goal is through educating owners. Of course we do everything we can to support our adopters. In addition, we frequently get requests for help from non-adopters; new owners or owners who are having issues with their dog. Some of our volunteers work with these owners, via phone or email or both, to educate the owners and help resolve the problem(s). In many cases, this enables the owner to keep the dog, preventing the need to turn the dog into rescue.

Another significant way we provide

education is at Camp N Pack. People often think of Camp N Pack as a fund-raising event, but it was created as a social and educational event where people can come for the weekend, bring their dog, meet other dog owners and work with and learn about dogs. To encourage participation, the costs are kept as low as possible, and it is open to all owners and all breeds of dogs. All the volunteers and attendees contribute to, and benefit from, the educational purpose of the weekend. The fund-raising is an added bonus thanks to the generosity and caring of all the friends of AMRONE.

If you're interested in helping with education in any format, please send us a note. Volunteers are always welcome.

[Next: The Web site and newsletter.]

I WONDER IF OTHER DOGS THINK POODLES ARE MEMBERS OF A WEIRD RELIGIOUS CULT.
- RITA RUDNER



Mail your donation to:

Alaskan Malamute Rescue
of New England, Inc.
P.M.B #213
430 Franklin Village Dr.
Franklin, MA 02038

Give a gift from the heart

My donation of \$ _____ is enclosed.

I would like to make the donation • in honor of • in memory of:

My Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State & Zip: _____

I prefer that my donation not be publicized.

Please make checks payable to: Alaskan Malamute Rescue of New England, Inc.

Tom and Jane Gonska with Nicholas



My Life

I speak...
Because I am alive...
And breathe
And feel hunger
And know loneliness
And need love.
No matter what
The store says,
They are not marketing a product.
They sell a life.
My life.

I admit...
I was too much.
Too much fur
Too much noise
Too much responsibility
Too much life.
No matter what
The owner said,
They were not handing over a problem.
They surrendered a life.
My life.

I remember...
All the kind people who
opened
Their arms
Their homes
Their pockets
Their hearts.
No matter what,
They did not hesitate to intervene.
They rescued a life
My life

I know...
I am home.
Always safe
Always loved
Always cared for
Always wanted.
No matter what,
They accept me as I am.
Never
Too much fur
Too much noise
Too much responsibility
Too much life.
No matter what,
A member of a family.
My new life.

— Cyndi Smith

These are links of interest to Malamute owners. Listing here does not imply endorsement by AMRONE.

www.lowchensaustralia.com/ppplants.htm
A long (but incomplete) list of plants toxic to dogs. Includes other poisons.

www.workingdogs.com/doc0175.htm



What to do if your dog is poisoned.

www.malamutehealth.org
Sponsored by Alaskan Malamute Research Foundation. You can

participate in ongoing studies.

omalmamutes.com/omal/cats.asp
More advice on mixing Malamutes and cats.

www.northernterritories.com/Zoller_files.htm
Robert Zoller's story about malamute history.

Mail Call

Letters and photos from new adopters

Kavik is a very bright boy! He is also a lot fun to have around. He still body slams Itsa now and then when we are walking, but she doesn't seem to mind much. He has only growled at her twice and she pushes him quite a bit. The growling was a contentious issue over a rawhide end that I didn't know had gone under the couch. He tends to finish off her bone if she doesn't.

The vet says he is in fine shape, a little fat, so I am gradually tapering off his food and walking him farther (which is



Body-slammng, biscuit-loving Kavik.

good for me too). He sure does like biscuits! He is a real charmer and I can't believe how well he behaved at the vet.

I am really glad he chose me to come live with.

— Karen Barcal

Dear Joanne and Danny,

Thank you so much for letting us disrupt your life so much this past weekend. We absolutely adore Seamus. Once we got on the road he did well. Though he trembled like a leaf a couple of times he curled up and went to sleep for the most part. He drank a little water along the way. We were able to get back to Plattsburgh around 4 or 4:30. Seamus was a little shy once we got him out of the car, but he was eager to explore the yard on-leash with Clara and they played. He did not want to get anywhere near the car.

Once inside he carefully explored our different flooring surfaces — ceramic tile, carpet, and wood. He was afraid of his own reflection in the dishwasher and oven doors. We gave him plenty of attention and praise and he began to gain confidence.

It's now Tuesday and he is settling in nicely. He is beginning to learn our daily routine and more important, he trusts us. He is much better on leash than we had anticipated, given his initial reluctance. He is beginning to sit on command. He is testing out what he is allowed to chew on and what he is not. A simple, "Ek-ek," from us and he stops. He and Clara have great fun playing indoors and out. She has welcomed him into her territory and is happy to share her toys and water bowl. Of course he has his own water bowl, but we were happy to see that they are comfortable sharing one as well. They are both napping, glad to be part of the pack.

Randy and I cannot thank you enough for helping us find such a great match. It means a great deal to us to have a Malamute in our lives again. We will keep you up to date on how he is doing. I have not gotten the pictures uploaded yet; I will send them to you as soon as I do.

— Beth and Randy Robertson

Dear Alaskan Malamute Rescue Friends,

On the occasion of my 9th birthday next Monday, I have instructed my owner to send you a donation so that other Malamutes who need good homes can be as lucky as me.

My owner takes me on long walks every day, lets me run around and dig up all my buried tennis balls so that I can bury them again, go for long hikes in the mountains on weekends, get my coat brushed when I am blowing my undercoat big time, does not get mad when I leave huge clumps of undercoat all over the house, rubs my tummy when I roll over, catches the deer flies trying to bite in the summer, makes sure I have my anti-tick treatments during tick season, and best of all, takes me to Bank in the Park in the spring so that I can hang out with other Malamutes because there are not many around where I live.

I want all Malamutes that need a good home to have the kinds of things that I do, and I know that you friends will help them find good homes like I have.

— Kamick



Iris (nee Kasha) naps in "her" red chair at adopter Ted Hollidge's home. Ted says he'll never be able to get rid of that old chair because every Malamute he has ever had has adopted it. He reports Iris loves daily walks on the golf course, the beach and following critter tracks in the woods.

Delta: a mal to remember

By Diane Jones

Dogs are like angels that bring wonderful gifts of love. Malamutes came into my life in that wondrous way.

I had recently lost my beloved Blue, a Malamute-wolf hybrid. Her previous owners had given her up after their divorce. Blue and I had run together every week for years. I had a foot operation and couldn't run with her for six months. When I returned to the store where Blue lived, I saw that the store had been sold and Blue was gone. I called the owners to find out about Blue but they never called back.

A couple of months later I was on a run in the bog where Blue and I used to run together and I saw a big dog running toward me. It was Blue and we had a happy reunion. She would not leave my side and she followed me back to my car. I asked the neighbors where Blue's new home was and I returned her. She did not want to leave me so I asked the owners if she could live with me. They agreed and Blue came to live with me.

After her death, my friend, Ken, showed me the AMRONE "Malamute matchmaker" site. I decided to adopt an older Malamute that would suit my lifestyle. I chose five mals and I was contacted by AMRONE. After an extensive interview, Susan Conant informed me that Delta, who was fostered in Maine, was my perfect match.

Susan knows her Malamutes and Delta was indeed my perfect match. She settled in nicely and she enjoyed

[Continued on Page 16]



Dallas

Gray & white male

Dallas is a large handsome boy who is only 14 months old. He was neutered and given an update on all his vaccinations before leaving the shelter he had been turned into by his owners who could no longer keep him. He is friendly and easy going and seems to like everything. He just came into rescue a few days before press date so please check the web site for an update on his personality.

Samantha

Gray & white female

Samantha is a very large, lovable 4-year-old whose photos don't do her justice. With her soulful eyes, floppy ears, and sweet personality, she is very appealing. A 120-pound teddy bear, she enjoys being cuddled and patted.



Sammie is quite the athlete. Trained to pull a sled, she's also done some skijoring so she would be a fun outdoor companion.

Sammie has lived with children, cats, other dogs and even a parrot. Smart and adaptable, she has adjusted quickly to her foster home, where she has shown a loving nature and excellent behavior.

Even though she lived previously with other pets, Sammie probably would prefer a home where she would be the one getting all the love and attention. She would enjoy a home where she can sleep inside when it is cold and outside when it is warm.

Meet Our Fosters

The dogs on these pages were in foster care as of the middle of May 2005. To learn more about them, new dogs that AMRONE has taken in, or to fill out an adoption application, please visit our Web site at www.amrone.org.

Mick*

Gray & white male

Mick, a 6-year-old neutered male, is a Malamute/husky mix. He was rescued six years ago by a family in New Hampshire who has taken very good care of him. Unfortunately they will be moving and having less time to spend with him, so they would like to find him a good home. Currently he stays outdoors. He gets along with all people and youngsters too. He does well when visited by neighborhood dogs as well. If you are interested in learning more about Mick please contact Ernie or Donna Rousseau at 1-603-286-3311.

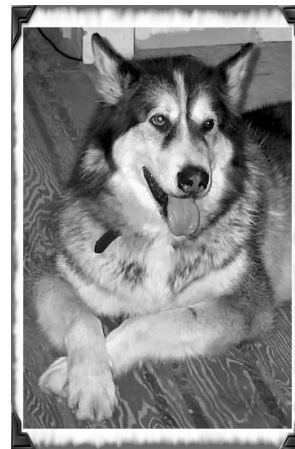


Shadow

Seal & white male

Shadow is a handsome, well-behaved gentleman who is a wonderful companion. Very friendly and affectionate, he loves to be patted and enjoys being brushed. When he howls, he has the most beautiful voice.

He's very enthusiastic when it's time for a walk, and he walks well on leash. Happy as a house dog, he will go right into his crate. He also has a nice big pet bed on the floor that he loves to lie on. In the past, he's been good around other dogs, and we think he'd still enjoy the company of a nice female mal.



Dakota

Gray & white female

Dakota is a cute, good-natured, well-behaved dynamo. Full of energy, she loves to run and romp. Dakota has a beautiful coat and classic Malamute good looks. A small mal at 58 pounds at 3 years old, Dakota is solidly built, stocky, and powerful.

She is learning sit, down, and to walk on a leash

without pulling. She is good in the kennel at her foster home, quiet until she thinks it is time to eat. She loves food. She likes to lean on her foster mom to tell her she's happy to have some attention.

Although Dakota has been in a house as a visitor, she has never actually lived in a house. However, she is crate trained and has the potential to be a happy indoor dog if she is in a household where an active family/person will provide a daily routine that includes plenty of activity - running, walking, pulling, etc.

Dakota would do best with no other dogs. No cats.

Star

Black & white female

With her dramatic good looks and winning personality, Star is well-named. Sweet and affectionate, she likes to give kisses and she will talk to her foster mom to get her attention.

A trim 59 pounds, this 2-year-old can be excitable sometimes, but she calms right down when given attention. She is learning to walk on leash and responds well to training. She is crate trained and travels well in a car when crated.

Star would prefer to be an only pet so she doesn't have to share the limelight. No cats.



* The dogs listed with an asterisk are not owned by AMRONE. We, as a rescue, have not evaluated any of these dogs. We are listing them as a courtesy to help owners, shelters, and animal control officers find homes for their dogs. For more details on each dog, contact the phone number listed for that dog.



Wish list for Camp N Pack

Every year, Camp N Pack organizers need certain items. You can help by donating the following:

New or collectible items for the auction. Items with a theme of Malamute, wolf, Alaska, dog sledding or other dog activities are always the most popular.

Dog treats and toys for prizes

Canned soft drinks / bottled water / juice boxes

Paper towels / paper napkins / toilet paper

Postage stamps

Gift certificates from WalMart, Stop & Shop, and Big Y

Dry weather

Donations should be sent to:
Alaskan Malamute Rescue of
New England, Inc.

PMB #213

430 Franklin Village Dr.

Franklin, MA 02038

Can your Malamute help others?

Malamutes can be stricken with various autoimmune diseases, including thyroiditis (hypothyroidism), diabetes, and hemolytic anemia. Dr. Wayne Potts at the University of Utah has received a grant from the AKC Canine Health Foundation to study how we can predict these diseases early enough to prevent them through treatment and judicious breeding.

He describes his research as follows: "Many autoimmune diseases occur only in individuals expressing one of a few predisposing histocompatibility alleles. For example, all cases of type I diabetes in humans are associated with only two of the many class II histocompatibility alleles. Consequently, if the frequencies of these few alleles were reduced by half, the incidence of diabetes would be reduced by half.

"Here we propose to characterize histocompatibility susceptibility alleles for three major, heritable canine autoimmune diseases - diabetes, immune-mediated thyroiditis and immune-mediated hemolytic anemia. If any of these three debilitating (or lethal) autoimmune diseases have a restricted number of susceptibility alleles it will allow: (1) development of diagnostic tests for identifying individuals at risk for prophylactic

therapy and research and (2) reducing the incidence of the disease by reducing the breeding of individuals carrying the predisposing histocompatibility alleles.

"For each of the three autoimmune diseases, we propose to collect DNA samples from approximately 100 purebred dogs diagnosed with the disease. Polymorphic class II (DRb, DQa and DQb) and class I (DLA-88) histocompatibility genes will be cloned and sequenced for the affected dogs. Histocompatibility alleles will be tested for significant associations with each of the autoimmune diseases."

If you have a dog with any of these three conditions — hypothyroidism, diabetes, or hemolytic anemia — please visit the Malamute Health web site for more information about how you can help:

(www.malamutehealth.org/grant305.htm)

From there, you can print the consent form and other information about the study and take it to your veterinarian. He or she can help you determine whether your dog is a good candidate for participation. The cost is minimal (probably just postage). The procedure is absolutely painless for your dog and only requires a moment of your time. You can help find ways to prevent these diseases in the future.



A real snow dog

So much snow fell on Massachusetts last winter that one artist, Ruth Bates of Mattapoisett, saw fit to sculpt a larger-than-life Malamute pulling a sled. Ruth, far left, found the sled a comfy if cool fit when it was finished.

Lyme victim develops surprising symptom

[Editor's Note: This was posted on the Internet by Betsy Sommers of Peppertree Rescue, Albany, NY.]

We recently had a very strange event that I think we should share around the rescue community:

A young (about 2 years) male, a Lab mix, came into our program with a questionable background. He might have been aggressive toward some children. We kept him for a good long while, months of fostering in our premier foster home, with no problem, and placed him carefully with a single mid-age man who absolutely adored him. We also, as we do with all our dogs, tested him for Lyme. He had it; we treated it; case closed — we thought.

Everything went very well after adoption. He was the star of his obedience classes and a frequent alumni visitor to our clinics for over a year.

Then Mojo became suddenly, erratically, and seriously aggressive, attacking visitors to the home, people at the vet's waiting room, etc. Very suddenly and totally inexplicable. He was returned to us with genuine heartbreak from a very loving adopter.

Mojo went to our regular vet and was a totally different dog: baring teeth and growling at anyone who approached his kennel, lunging at other dogs when being walked, etc. We figured that whatever was happening with him, he had become unplaceable and we started a TDC (Tough Decisions Committee, some-

thing we convene and is open to anyone with an interest in the dog when we think that euthanasia might be an option).

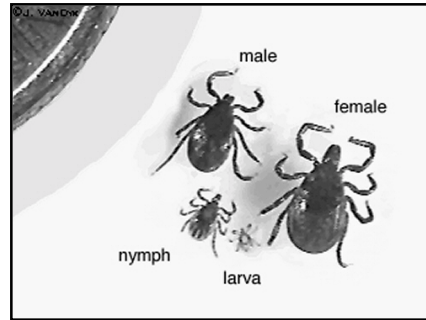
However, someone at the vet's office said that perhaps we should test him for Lyme. They had had a regular client of theirs recently with out-of-the-blue aggression, and it turned out that was the problem. It puzzled them, but that seemed to be the case.

So we had him tested. He was high positive. We started treatment while we continued to figure out what to do with him via the TDC.

Almost immediately, however, once the antibiotics were begun, the Mojo we knew came back. He was himself again — bouncy, happy, a bit neurotic, but not at all aggressive. The staff at the vet's was amazed, but all confirmed this change.

We didn't believe it and the veterinarians didn't believe it, but a thorough search of the Internet turned up studies and anecdotal observations indicating that in some dogs (and in some humans) the primary symptom of their Lyme disease can be sudden, irrational and serious aggression.

Well, we've known for a while to check the thyroid levels of dogs that show aggression that just "doesn't fit." Now we have added testing for Lyme as well. And we have another dog that we placed over a year ago who has



Deer ticks compared in size to a dime.

been returned because of out-of-the-blue aggression, and he has also tested high positive for Lyme. We've started treatment and will be monitoring his response.

We actually have additional insight into this because one of our volunteers has had Lyme disease. It took many months for her to be diagnosed, and once she was, she learned that it's a very nasty bug that really remains around permanently, waiting for a chance to crop up again.

When we place Mojo again (and our TDC unanimously agrees that we should do this), we're going to explain the background, these amazing events, and require that the adopters have him tested every six months, whether or not he's showing symptoms. We have no idea whether that will work or be sufficient — we're rather flying blind in this — but it seems a rational approach.

Based on what we know now, it is a real possibility: Lyme can, in a few rare cases, cause aggression, aggression that can be reversed. So plug this in to your protocols. It's worth checking out. I spent a day with Mojo, and he truly is just the same dog we placed over a year ago.

What your donation can do

If you send money to AMRONE, here is a list of average costs for some of the basic procedures for our dogs:
\$30 covers a vet exam

\$165 covers a spay
\$132 covers a neuter
\$41 covers a microchip implant and registration
\$50 covers a grooming

\$25 covers a heartworm test
\$75 covers an X-ray
\$20 covers a rabies vaccination
\$19 covers a bordatella

Mals and cats — a recipe for trouble?

But patience can make it work

By Glenn Conant

Animal lovers sometimes have different breeds and species living under the same roof but not all breeds and species get along with each other. When there is a size mismatch, such as with mals and cats, this can lead to injuries of both animals and even to fatalities with cats.

Mals are well known for their predatory drive and domineering tendencies so there are a few things to consider if you want to cohabitate mals and cats. You also might have to think of an alternate plan if the animals don't get along. I will share some of my observations and results when my wife and I introduced our first mal to our cat.

Since mals are a large and powerful breed it can be easy for

them to severely injure or kill a cat, even without teeth, just by playing rough. Some canine tick prevention medications can be toxic to cats. Some cats actually will groom dogs when they do get along so make sure you read the precautions with any medication.

Mals are at risk as well. Cats can effectively blind an adversary with their claws. Great care needs to be taken when introducing them and with every interaction. There are many instances where problems can occur. These can be around food, favorite sleeping spots, toys, etc. Also consider how they interact in the night where there is not a lot of light or when strong odors like carpet fresheners mask scent. Be extremely cautious until you have observed enough behavior, which may take several months.

We knew that we most likely would want a cat as well as a mal so we talked to both cat and mal breeders to



get their opinions and suggestions. We also knew that this could be a tough fit as the breeders pointed out, so we had to decide on a cat breed. We selected a male Norwegian Forest Cat because they are large.

One of the suggestions was to start with a kitten, and as it matured, introduce a puppy. That way the size difference would not be overwhelming at the start, we would have a better chance bonding the two if the mal interacted with the cat from day one and it would not give the mal the

[Continued on Page 15]

New Parsons book addresses aggressive dog behavior

Our very own Emma Parsons, who has done evaluations and provided advice to AMRONE, has published a book, "Click to Calm: Healing the Aggressive Dog."

According to AMRONE Past President Susan Conant, "This is a splendid book, and it is not just about dog aggression, even though that's her specialty."

Susan says, "Written with compassion and respect for dogs and owners, 'Click to Calm' is essential reading for anyone whose dog shows frightening or worrisome behavior. It is, however, far more than a first-rate guide to managing the dog that displays aggression to other dogs or to human beings. It is also a wise and practical guide for all of us about achieving peaceful, happy relationships with our dogs. It is simply superb.

"Inspired by Emma's book, Django and I are taking what I call 'Emma Parsons walks' — walks on which neither of us pulls the other!"

The publisher describes the book as containing "more

than 40 exercises in an easy-to-follow training recipe format, including how to desensitize your dog to approaching stranger dogs; have your dog perform canine calming signals, instead of aggressive displays, on cue; use your own body language when under stress as a cue for your dog to remain calm; and many more creative and effective uses of managing behavior through clicker training."

"I've only met Emma a couple of times," AMRONE participant Vicki Daitch said, "but I can enthusiastically second Susan's recommendation. No matter what your dog's problems are and no matter what your preferred training methods, I am certain that you will find something helpful in Emma's new book. She is completely genuine and 100 percent dedicated to helping other people avoid or repair problems that she herself has dealt with."

Published by Sunshine Books, "Click to Calm" is available from www.dogwise.com in paperback for \$24.95.

Slow and easy doesn't always work

[From Page 14]

chance to become territorial.

When we first introduced our female mal puppy to the cat, we locked the puppy in a crate in an open area of the house and let the cat get curious. We could observe the puppy's behavior to make sure it was friendly. This also gave the cat some reassurance that it was in control of the introduction and could leave if he got nervous.

Thankfully the first introduction went well. The cat would come and go and they would sniff each other each time the cat got close. This lasted for an afternoon. The next stage was to put the puppy on a short leash and let them sniff again. Again, this gave control over the introduction but provided a little more freedom.

At this point we were looking for signs of lunging or any aggressive behavior. There was cautious sniffing on both sides. To our surprise the cat made the first move. The cat gently tapped the mal on the head with his paw, without extending his claws, which produced a disquieting yelp. Of course the cat bolted and hid. We continued with the mal on the leash for a short time to see a pattern of behavior.

Once the initial interactions had taken place and there were no aggressive reactions, we let the mal off leash to see how they would deal with each other without restraint. They did play together quite well at first. The mal would actually lie on her back to coax the cat into playing. Of course the cat would leap onto the puppy and bite her ears. The puppy became exuberant at times, tending to get too rough, and we would have to separate them in different parts of the house.

We would try to stop the rough play with voice commands but that was ineffective. The puppy was just too focused on the cat to pay attention to anything else. Our breeder suggested a shaker can or a clicker as a distraction when she got too rough. Although both were somewhat effective initially, it did not prevent the mal from reverting to rough play after the initial distraction.

The clicker had a positive effect. It probably would work for some dogs so I would try that again in the future. The shaker can produced an undesirable effect by scaring the cat. This tended to make the cat bolt and spur the predatory instinct in the mal. Unfortunately the cat would not always flee to higher ground and would end up cornered.

After repeated instances of over-exuberance for a few months we resigned to the fact that our mal and cat could not cohabitate safely.



Sharon Conant, the author's wife, spends time with their cat and Timber, an adopted mal. Timber is blasé about cats.

We kept them separated indoors for a little while but that was tiresome for us and unfair to the animals. We also tried putting the mal outside in a large fenced area as an alternative. Even though I would spend a lot of time with her outside, she would become lonely and start howling. We would keep her in the crate at night but we knew we needed a better solution.

We finally opted to build a kennel outside and adopt a male mal to keep our female occupied. We also got another cat so our Norwegian Forest Cat would have someone to play with as well. As it turned out, the mal we adopted actually behaved very well with the cats, so you can, in some instances, have mals and cats together.

When we introduced our male mal to the cats we did not know if he had any previous interaction with cats so we started by keeping our male mal on a short leash and let the cats move freely. To our surprise he didn't even seem to acknowledge them. He reacted the same off-leash.

It all worked out very well but what started out as a two-animal situation turned into a bit of a zoo. We knew what we were trying to do was risky but at least we had the resources to be able to work around the situation and end up with a safe environment for all the animals. If you are considering cohabitating a mal and a cat, make sure you do your research ahead of time. AMRONE and mal breeders are a good source of information. Even if they don't have direct experience with that situation, they might be able to get you in touch with people who have.

Love, attention helped Delta become secure

[From Page 10]

being a house pet and did not like to stay outside without me. She was a beautiful seal girl with a black mask and bar with a white star on her forehead and big beautiful brown eyes. She was easy to love.

She also came to me with many insecurities, probably due to being given up by her family. When we went for a walk and something alarmed her, she would put on her brakes, howling and bucking in the air and shaking her head back and forth until her head slipped out of the collar. Then she would race home.

Taking her to conservation areas was even more traumatic. She seemed terrified of entering the woods. She refused to budge. I coaxed, cajoled and pulled to no avail. I called Susan for advice and she suggested that I take Delta to obedience class to develop her confidence.

When we arrived at our first obedience class at a local school, she started to howl and shiver nervously. I think she feared that I was going to give her away. The instructor suggested that we sit and observe the class for three weeks before joining the class so she could acclimate herself. During each class she would cry and howl and nothing seemed to calm her. One instructor walked by and said, "Well, isn't she a mouthy one!"

When we joined the class it was obvious that Delta had done obedience before. She performed well and seemed to enjoy herself. She received her Good Citizenship award and the instructor told me Delta had come a long way.

After the class and lots of attention, Delta settled down and most of her insecurity diminished. But there were lapses. We were hiking in New Hampshire and she was spooked by the big woods and the "boogey-coyotes." She sensed a loose grip on the leash and twirled around, broke free and raced down the trail. We raced after her and found her sitting calmly by the car, her security blanket.

Malamutes are often said to be the clowns of the dog world, and Delta was no exception. Delta had an engaging way of getting her way. On weekends when I would sleep later, Delta would decide that it was time to get moving. She would push open the bedroom door and come over and kiss my hand or face. The Delta Queen would allow me to pet her for a while but if I didn't get up soon, she would whip her head away and back up, woo-wooing to me, "Get up, let's go!" If this didn't work, she would spin around chasing her tail. Delta always won and we would go for our walk.



**Diane Jones with Delta at the October 2004
Camp N Pack.**

Delta loved children and was the hit of our neighborhood. When we went for our walk, the young kids would yell out, "Delta, there's Delta!" and they would run down to see her and she would give them little kisses. Once when I was visiting a friend, a group of young boys spotted her with her head out of the car window and they ran after the car shouting, "Snow Dog, there's Snow Dog!" When she got out of the car they surrounded her, much to her delight. They wanted her autograph so I put her wet paw on a piece of paper so they could have her "pawtograph."

Delta was a very flirtatious girl with certain male dogs. She had a number of boyfriends. One of her loves was a handsome white husky called Norm. She would prance and leap and woo-woo in an amusing mating dance. Then there was her best friend, Rocky, a very goofy boxer who was besotted by her feminine Malamute beauty. Every morning he would peer into my slider looking for Delta to come out and play. After we moved, my former neighbor said Rocky continued to come by looking in the slider for Delta.

Delta was a sweet girl and she was greatly loved. She crossed the rainbow bridge on Feb. 10, 2005, due to incapacitating osteo-arthritis. She was a gift of love and I thank all of the volunteers of AMRONE who give these incredible dogs a second chance.

Learn the signs of rat poisoning

Q. A dog seems weak and/or cold to the touch. His gums are pale and there is blood in his urine or stool. There is nose bleeding. What is going on?

A. Mankind and the rat have been at odds for thousands of years. Rats spread disease, eat our crops, leave droppings and make nests in our storage areas, and infest our homes. Rodent removal services are an important part of pest extermination even now in the 21st century. Rat poison can be obtained in most hardware stores, grocery stores, and even for free from city agencies in some areas.

While one may want to get rid of rats, one certainly does not want a hazard to the children or pets of the family. Research continues to create a product that fits this bill but in the meantime one should be aware of the signs of rat poisoning, particularly if your pet travels with you to places outside the home where bait may be left out.

There are several types of rodenticides available. The traditional products are called "anticoagulant rodenticides" and have readily available antidotes. Other rodenticides are more toxic and no antidote is available.

Typical active ingredients include brodifacoum, diphacinone, warfarin and bromadiolone. Most of these products include green dyes for a characteristic appearance; however, dogs and cats have poor color vision and to them these pellets may look like kibbled pet food.

Important things to note about rat poisoning:

- Anticoagulant rodenticides do not produce signs of poisoning for several days after the toxic dose has



will show weakness and pallor but bleeding likely will not be obvious externally.

How do they work?

To understand what these poisons do, it is necessary to have some understanding of how blood clots; a very complex process. A blood vessel is sort of like a pipe carrying rapidly flowing blood along its path. The "pipe" is lined with smooth flat cells called endothelial cells that facilitate the smooth flow of the blood. If the pipe breaks, the structure of the pipe below the lining is exposed to the flowing blood inside. From there the

been consumed.

- Anticoagulant rodenticides cause internal bleeding. A poisoning victim

sequence of events is as follows:

1. The blood vessel automatically constricts and spasms. This restricts the blood flowing to the damaged area and helps minimize blood loss.

2. The exposed vessel attracts circulating platelets, cloud-like cells that circulate ready to assist in clotting should the need arise. Platelets clump together over the tear in the blood vessel, forming a plug within the first five minutes of the injury. This is all a good thing but the platelets will not stay in place unless a substance called fibrin can be made to bind them.

3. Platelets have on their surface binding sites for coagulation proteins, which also circulate normally in inactive forms. These coagulation proteins must be activated in order to produce fibrin, which binds the

[Continued on Page 18]



On the money trail with AMRONE

(July - December 2004)

Income

Adopter	\$2550
Apparel Sold	\$14
Camp	\$11,460
Donor - General	\$2115
Owner Turn-in	\$500
Promotion	\$161
Interest	\$40
Total Income	\$16,840

Expenses

Advertising	\$160
Bank Service Charges	\$14
Boarding	\$116
Camp	\$5202
Grooming	\$40
Kenneling	\$117
Licenses & Permits	\$25
Microchips	\$62
Office Supplies	\$43
PayPal Service Charge	\$6
Pet Supplies	\$531
Postage & Delivery	\$654
Printing & Reproduction	\$1004
Promotions/Education	\$139
Rental	\$240
Telephone	\$409
Veterinary Costs	\$2483
Web cost	\$48
Total Expense	\$11,293
Net Income	\$5507

Ordinary Vitamin K is common antidote to rat poison

[From Page 17]

platelets and serves as a scaffolding for the permanent healing of the vessel tear.

Two separate pathways involving calcium and enzymes called proteases (enzymes that work with proteins) along with 12 different clotting factors lead to the production of fibrin and a clot. It is the proteases that are relevant to rat poisoning.

Clotting factors are identified by number and the proteases (also called K-dependent factors for reasons which are about to become clear) are factors II, VII, IX, and X. These factors are produced in an inactive state by the liver and go happily circulating through the bloodstream awaiting activation. When a vessel tears and it becomes necessary to form a clot, these factors are activated in a process that requires Vitamin K (a fat-soluble vitamin not as famous as its fat-soluble cousins Vitamins A, D and E). As the clotting factors are activated, Vitamin K is inactivated but later recycled by another set of enzymes to be ready to participate in clotting factor activation again later.

As long as there is plenty of Vitamin K, the proteases can be activated and clotting can proceed normally.

The anticoagulant rodenticides abolish Vitamin K recycling. This means that as soon as one's active Vitamin K reserves are depleted, there can be no meaningful blood clotting.

In cases of poisoning one would expect symptoms to be nearly immediate but in the case of anticoagulant rodenticide poisoning, it takes several days to deplete Vitamin K. After that, even the smallest of jostles and traumas can lead to life-threatening bleeds.

Most of the time external bleeding is not obvious and one only notices the pet is weak and/or cold. Pale gums, bloody urine or stool and nose bleeds might be seen. Signs of bleeding in more than one body location are a good hint that there is a problem with blood coagulation and appropriate testing and treatment can be started.

Blood clotting tests can be run to help determine course of treatment and severity of the problem

Another test called the "PIVKA" ("Proteins Induced by Vitamin K Antagonism") is more specific. The PIVKA test detects inactive serine proteases. If an unusually high amount of inactive proteases are circulating that would indicate something is wrong with Vitamin K recycling.

If the patient has only just ingested the poison, he or she may be made to vomit it up. Activated charcoal may be administered orally to prevent the poison from entering the patient's system. Still, it is prudent to use the antidote anyway. The antidote is simply Vitamin K.

Vitamin K is generally started as an injection and when the patient is stable tablets are prescribed. The veterinary strength is a 25mg tablet. Blood transfusions may be needed to stabilize a patient who has suffered significant blood loss.

Rat poisoning is a very serious and dangerous hazard and in my opinion no household with a pet should use it. If you even think there is a possibility of ingestion contact your vet immediately and have it treated. It is always better to be safe than sorry. Have a mouse or rat problem? Get a cat.

If you have questions about your dog's health, e-mail Dr. Steven Teisch, DVM, at drsteve@direcway.com.



AMRONE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS TO HELP OUR MALAMUTES

- If you know celebrities who would be willing to autograph an item for sale, let us know. Or if you know someone with season tickets to sports or cultural events who would allow one of the nights to be auctioned, let us know.
- If you can foster a Malamute, let us know.
- If you would be willing to handle publicity for AMRONE events, let us know. This could involve contacting news and advertising media or creating and distributing fliers.
- If you have any ideas for raising money that you haven't seen us try, let us know.

To let us know, just send an email to info@amrone.org, or send a note to:

Alaskan Malamute Rescue of New England, Inc.
PMB 213
430 Franklin Village Drive
Franklin, MA 02038

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Every dollar AMRONE receives goes directly to help the dogs. They are transported, fed, housed and given medical attention. In 2002, it cost AMRONE an average of \$280 per dog on all direct dog costs. We need your help to continue our lifesaving work. Alaskan Malamute Rescue of New England, Inc., is a non profit, 501(c)(3). Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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AMRONE extends sympathies for the loss of these adopted Malamutes:

Kobuk, August 2004
 Adopted by
 Jason Pamental

Delta, 12, Feb. 10, 2005
 Adopted in May 1999 by
 Diane Jones



Koda, August 27, 2004
 Adopted July 17, 1999, by
 Bob and Mary Fallon

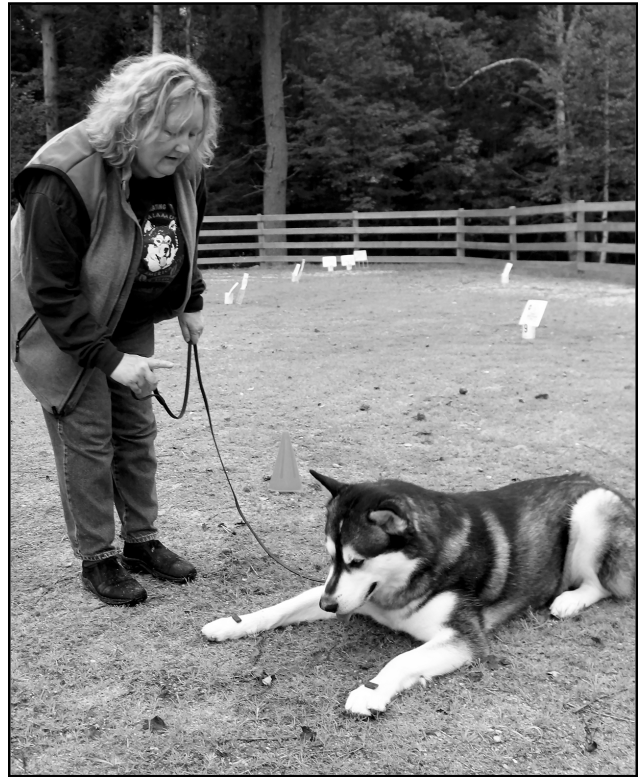
Frey, September 2004
 Adopted by
 Judi and Ron Harris

Nicholas, 13, Jan. 22, 2005
 Adopted in 1996 by
 Jane and Thomas Gonska

Who says Malamutes are poor students?



Ruth Ellis, right, has taught her dog to wait for the treats on his paws until she gives the word. Granite and friend, top left, have learned



skijoring from Jeff Kirchhoff. A young mal, lower left, really wants to cross that finish line while learning to pull weight.



**ALASKAN MALAMUTE
RESCUE**



OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

AMRONE
PMB 213
430 Franklin Village Drive
Franklin, MA 02038

Joanne Duval, President
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Find us on the Web at:

www.amrone.org

E-mail: info@amrone.org

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