

AMRONE

Tales

Volume 7, No. 1 Winter 2007

Uniting great dogs with great people

Happy New Year



What's inside

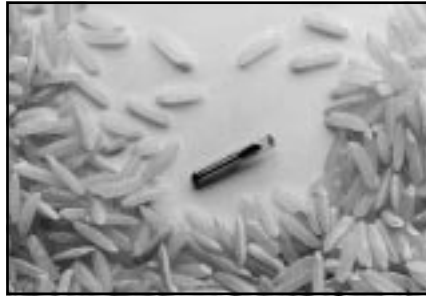
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Tiny microchip can be a lifesaver

By Roger Davies

Late one afternoon last autumn, AMRONE got a call from an animal control center. They had picked up a malamute, scanned it and discovered a microchip. They found that AMRONE was the contact listed and called us. As a result, dog and owner were happily reunited.



A microchip amid rice grains.

Alaskan Malamute Rescue of New England has been putting microchips in most of our dogs for a few years now. So what is a microchip? A microchip is a passive or inert Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) device. It is designed so that it does not act until acted upon, thus passive.

There are three parts to a microchip: a silicon chip, which stores the identification number and contains the electronics to pass the information to a scanner; a ferrite (iron) core, which serves as an antenna, and a capacitor, which serves as a tuner forming a circuit with the ferrite core.

This is all encapsulated in soda lime glass, which is biocompatible, and coated with a polypropylene tip, which bonds with living tissue, preventing it from moving. The whole thing is about the size of an uncooked grain of rice.

So what's the big deal? The big deal is that they are being used to identify and track all types of pets, livestock and wildlife worldwide. The big deal can be that it could reunite you with your runaway, lost or separated pet. It is a proven technology.

There have been problems with the various types of RFIDs being implanted. The problem is not in the RFID itself, but in the ability to read it. Digital Angel Corp.'s HomeAgain and the AVID chip were not readable by each other's scanner. The best they could do was read the presence of the other company's RFID, not the stored information. Both the RFIDs operated on a frequency of 125 kHz.

Petsmart, via the Banfield Pet Hospitals, implanted chips of foreign manufacturer that operate at a frequency of 134.2 kHz, an international standard. They could not be detected by either the HomeAgain or the AVID scanners.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has been directed by Congress to establish regulations for microchip identifica-

tion of animals covered under the federal Animal Welfare Act. AVID and HomeAgain have since developed readers that can at least detect the presence of international-standard RFIDs. They will be available this year. Both also have universal readers that can detect and read the other's RFID.

Another drawback is that some Animal Control people and some vets still do not have scanners. You can check with your local shelters. Most companies will give scanners to vets, animal control and rescues for no charge.

All dogs chipped by AMRONE are registered to AMRONE in the AKC Companion Animal Recovery (AKC/CAR) database.

The AKC/CAR maintains a database of identification numbers and corresponding contact information. Shelters, animal control officers or veterinarians can contact the AKC/CAR 24/7/365, which then will attempt to contact the primary or alternate from the contact information and arrange a recovery.

All animals are eligible for enrollment in AKC/CAR. It doesn't matter whether pets are identified with a microchip, tattoo or an AKC/CAR collar tag. The newly designed AKC/CAR database stores nearly 3 million enrollment records. Although dogs make up the majority of the database, cats, horses, birds and 31 other companion and exotic species are enrolled.

The AKC/CAR is just one major database being maintained. Others in the United States are the Digital Angel Corp.'s HomeAgain database and the AVID database.

This technology is proven and is definitely an asset in recovery of escaped, lost, separated or stolen pets. AKC/CAR claims nearly 300,000 recoveries. HomeAgain has registered about 3.8 million animals with claims of 329,192 recoveries. Chips are well worth the investment.

(Joanne Duval contributed to this report.)

For more information

CAR - www.akccar.org

AVID Microchips - www.avidmicrochip.com

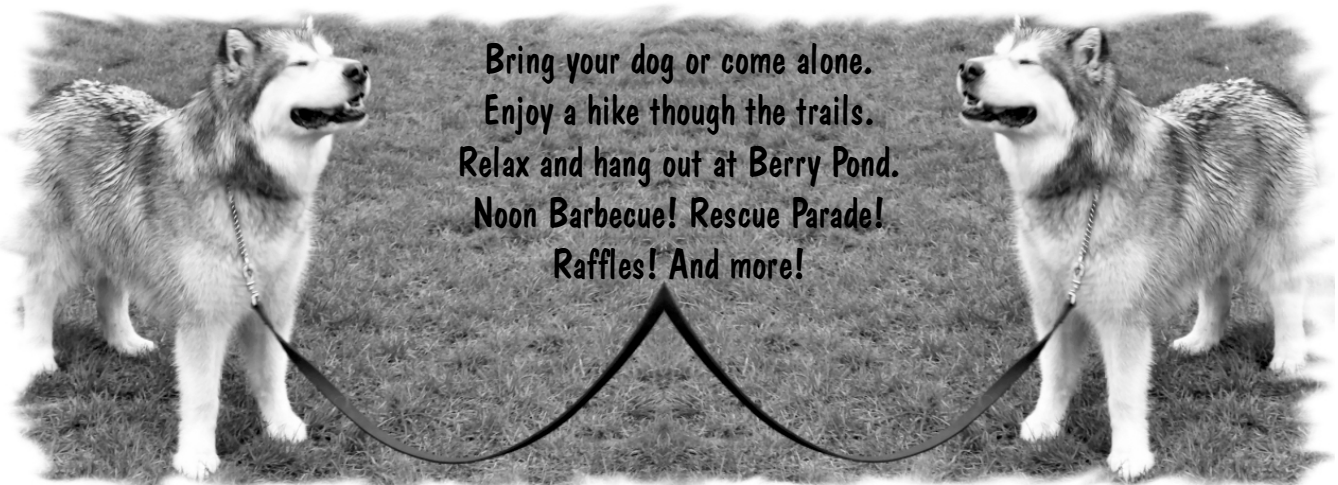
Home Again Microchips - www.homeagainid.com

Alaskan Malamute Rescue of New England, Inc. Presents Our 6th Annual



Sunday, May 6, 2007*
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**At beautiful Berry Pond
Harold Parker State Forest
North Andover, MA**



**Bring your dog or come alone.
Enjoy a hike though the trails.
Relax and hang out at Berry Pond.
Noon Barbecue! Rescue Parade!
Raffles! And more!**

Only dogs with proof of rabies vaccination are permitted to attend and all dogs must be on leashes.

For more information, please visit our web site at WWW.AMRONE.ORG.

***Tentative date at time of publication. Check our web site for any changes and watch for a mailing in the spring.**

Want a dog? Do your homework

By a rescue volunteer

After years and years of watching dogs that need a new home be given up, placed or euthanized, I think this is a list of what every new dog owner needs to think about. Read it, copy it and pass it to anyone you know who wants a new dog. Sometimes an exception might be made but overall I think the advice is sound.

1. Do some homework and find out about the breeds you are considering — good and bad. Do they fit *your* lifestyle and *your* situation for the next 15 years?

2. Spay/neuter your new pet ASAP.

3. Don't plan to breed unless you have had *years* of experience with showing, working, exhibiting in performance events and understand the genetics behind your dog and the health problems in your breed.

4. Don't buy your dog at the mall, in a pet store or over the internet. Be cautious of newspaper ads and classified publications?

5. Train your dog. Attend puppy kindergarten classes, then continue on with obedience classes until your dog can walk on a leash, sit, down, stay, focus on you and come when called. Take and pass a canine good citizenship test.

6. If you are young and in college don't get a dog.

7. If you are young and might have a family in the next 15 years, socialize your dog regularly with well-behaved children. Think hard



There are thousands of homeless dogs waiting to be adopted.

about what breed to buy now so you don't have to get rid of your dog when you have a baby on the way.

8. If you plan to move sometime during the next 15 years and would not move with the dog, don't buy a dog!

9. If you own a dog make a plan now for what happens to him if you are hurt, disabled or killed and couldn't take care of him. Put his records in order and keep them handy in case of an emergency. Someone else should know where those records are.

10. Take your dog to the vet yearly for a routine health checkup. Rabies shots are law; know what the law is in your area. Other vaccinations are a great idea and a necessity in certain areas of the country so you should always talk to your vet. Give your pet a heartworm test and use heartworm preventative. Provide your pet with flea/tick protection.

11. Have your dog be part of your family and live in the house. If you don't want a big dog in the house get a small breed, or don't get a dog.

12. Don't tie your dog up. This includes using a "runner." Don't use invisible fencing if you don't want other dogs, wildlife, children and other adults coming onto your property.

13. Buy a crate, teach the dog how to use it and use it properly.

14. Buy a kennel, teach your dog how to use it and use it properly.

15. Housetrain your dog. Nobody wants a dog that pees and poops in the house.

16. Teach your dog to ride well in a car. Don't ever put your dog loose in the back of a truck. This is illegal in many states. A dog crate is the safest place for a dog to ride.

17. Don't let your dog jump on people or mouth people. Remember that not everyone likes dogs or is stable enough to handle a big dog jumping on them. Squashed grandmothers and flat kids result...

18. Don't let a dog pull you around on a leash. These behaviors are no fun and who wants to be around a dog like this? This is *not* a

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Thank you AMRONE

I just wanted to say thank you for the second chance that you gave me — the toy, the food and water and my new owner Dave.

I am the happiest malamute in the country. I was given a second chance; someone like you rescued me, nobody ever even gave me a glance.

My hair was filthy, covered in fleas you still came and took me off my chain and you gave me a pat. The car ride home was the best, out of the rain!

At your home you gave me a bath; I hated the water but it was warm. And for the very first time, I got to stay indoors and watch the storm.

Up on the Internet my name soon spread; people were filling out applications for me! You told me all about it every day,



teaching my good-boy manners of where and when to pee!

I only lived with you a few weeks before I was found a loving home. Such a huge weight lifted off my chest, like how Balto must have felt when he reached Nome.

So once again I thank you from the bottom of my heart. Thank you for my second chance for a brand new start!

- Vicki Palinkas

If you get a dog, be a responsible owner

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breed characteristic — it is characteristic of a dog that has not been trained.

19. Do train and keep your dog with the idea that something could happen and someday your dog might need a new home. If your dog is untrained, aggressive or horrible to be around, that nice dog in the next run at the shelter that sits patiently, walks nicely and is friendly will be the one with the new home. Yours

might not be so lucky.

20. Make basic commands part of your daily routine for the life of your dog. Make practice fun and live by the tenet that "nothing in life is free. You want dinner then you need to sit."

21. Feed your dog a good food. Do not let them get aggressive or exhibit guarding behaviors over treats, toys or food. Work on this from the beginning.

22. Don't let your dog get overweight. It will shorten his life and make him an unhappy, unhealthy dog.

23. Don't let your dog run loose. Be a responsible pet owner, a considerate neighbor and a good member of the community. The whole reputation of your chosen breed falls to anyone who owns one. Pick up your messes, don't let your dog pee on things and make sure your dog is clean and well kept.

Living with multiple mals

4 dogs set dizzying pace

By Roger Davies

It's fun, hectic, time-consuming and some times expensive. It comes in a variety of settings and environments. It could mean a yard for working dogs. There could be indoor or outdoor pets. The number of dogs living with you could be from two to in the hundreds. Speaking from my own experience, I am going relay life with, at present, four dogs.

Now these four have arrived at different times. Some have left us and new ones have taken their place. Some rescues pass through from time to time. One rescue never left.

We have two Siberian huskys and two Alaskan malamutes. The Sibes are girls and the mals are boys. These dogs do minimal work and are indoors when not out at Harold Parker State Forest, on morning walks or for the call of nature. Several vacuum cleaners have met



Roger Davies and his brood at Camp N Pack.

their demise because of these denizens. I don't jump anymore when hairballs chase me down the hall.

The two girls and one of the mals are about 8 years

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Kennel owners work out of sight but not out of mind

By Anneliese Behrman

What many people don't realize about rescue is that it's not just the people who come to AMRONE events who are volunteers. There are a lot of behind-the-scenes volunteers who help a great deal to make AMRONE the organization it is.

Rick Skoglund and his wife Martha Kalina are two of these dedicated people. Rick became interested in malamutes in the early 1990s when he visited Wonalancet and the Seeley Chinook Kennels. Rick and Martha became involved with rescue after meeting Susan Conant when she attended a Chinook Winter Carnival. It was shortly thereafter that they offered space for a rescue malamute to stay at their kennels.

Most of the volunteer work that Rick and Martha do for AMRONE is

one of the most important aspects: fostering. They own a 22-run boarding kennel (Perry Greene Kennel) in Maine and it always seems as though they come to the rescue and step in to foster a dog at a time when no other foster care space is available. Any long-term foster mals get to run around in the exercise yards and go for rides in the pick-up truck.

Although they have never owned a malamute, Rick and Martha share their home with many four-legged friends, including three Leonbergers, three Chinooks and a rescued yellow lab.

They are very active in dog-related organizations. Perry Greene Kennel is a licensed shelter, and along with malamutes they foster Chinooks, beagles and Kuvasz. Rick is a past president of the Chinook Dog Club of America, and he volunteers at the

Humane Society of Knox County shelter, where Martha is the executive director.

Martha is also president of the Maine Federation of Humane Societies. They are recreational mushers and have a dog registered with Therapy Dogs International and volunteer at Miles Health Care.

Outside of dogs, Rick has other interests. He enjoys harness racing and he's a member of the United States Trotting Association. Also, though he's retired, he's still active with the International Association of Firefighters.

Rick and Martha definitely have received a lot of satisfaction from their work with AMRONE. "It has given us a great feeling to care for these dogs and see them go down the road to a good home." We hope that they will continue their great work in the future.

Dogs are four unique individuals

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old and the other male is 3 and still a juvenile delinquent (JD). All have unique personalities. Two have big mouths (take a guess) and two are mostly quiet, most of the time. Some of the neighbors are terrified of them: "Those people with the wolves." Quite frankly, in our neighborhood, we don't correct them.

Their dynamics of interaction depends if they are inside or outside. Inside the little red sibe, Storm, runs a reign of terror. Outside she is a big chicken, and our boy Zeus is the happy go lucky leader. Brittany could care who is in charge just as long as she is having a good time, and Imalik, the JD, keeps getting slapped down.

The two boys would rather spend their time outside wrestling, exploring or digging. Storm would rather stay inside and be waited on, an ex-show dog. My favorite, little Trishamar's Brittany Blue Eyes, prefers to be outside getting dirty as possible.

So with the dirt comes the bathing. Having no yard, and what little there is being mostly defoliated, that quickly becomes a quagmire when wet, they all bathe in our tub. This is quite an experience and if I am feeling energetic and do all four the same day, I don a bathing suit and goggles.

The two boys have to be dragged to the tub and tossed in but once there just bear it. Storm will prance in, get in the tub and give you the look that it has been too long since her last hair appointment. Brittany, little Brittany, the dog that runs through every puddle, wades every stream, jumps in every lake, and wallows in every little hint of mud, screams, groans, fights and nips every step of the way and every second she is in the tub. Go Figure.

Squabbles do come up and are usually short. A few have to be broken up, 95 percent of which involve some bit of food. So we watch what we do, and what they do, with food and treats. Basically they eat it or it is taken away. Nobody gets to squirrel food or treats away. The other 5 percent of fights have involved health problems. So when there seems to be no reason for a disagreement we look for a health-related cause.

That brings us to the vet. We all know this can get very expensive very fast. Just the basics — Frontline, Heart Guard, vaccinations, yearly vet checks — get expensive. Get to know your vet and get your vet to know you. The more you can learn to take care of at home the more you will save. Changing dressings, giving shots, knowing how to administer a bag of ringers can save you a lot.

If you don't know how and what to learn, have the vet or one of the vet techs teach you. Follow that adage, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." Taking a dog to the vet for two swallowed AA batteries can be a bit embarrassing, not to mention costly. We also do not revaccinate every year for everything. After age 9 or 10 the only thing they get is the required rabies vaccination.

Health and quality of life also are affected by what you feed, and how much exercise you give. Quality of both is important. We feed minimal amounts and try to maintain an optimal weight.

Only two at a time go for walks at home or at the park. Several months in physical therapy crushed my macho belief of being able to handle even three at once. They might even have contributed to my torn rotator

YIKES! How about 23?

By Tamara Young

Three? Three would be easy! I started with three. I now have 23 — a varied group of malamutes, malamutts, Siberian huskies and Alaskan huskies. All but 2 are rescued or rehomed dogs. Fifteen of them are part of my recreational dog team.

They are not kept like most sled dogs. I refuse to tether my dogs. They have free roam of four fenced acres. The yard is split into five pens. My dog-aggressive malamute girl has her own pen. There are three or four dogs in most of the other pens and up to 14 in the main yard.

They all have access to the house and can sleep inside if they want to (and if they don't bug the eight cats). My yard is more secure than the local jail. You can't get anywhere without going through at least two gates.

The dogs have become what I

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cuffs, I can't be certain.

Often they drag a tire or two when we go out. I have noticed that I enjoy this very much. The only time they all go is if they are getting hooked to a sled or a cart, and that is only after dark at the park. So with only two going at once I get twice the exercise.

They make us laugh, they make us cry. But I, for one, would not trade any moment I have spent with these furry family members.

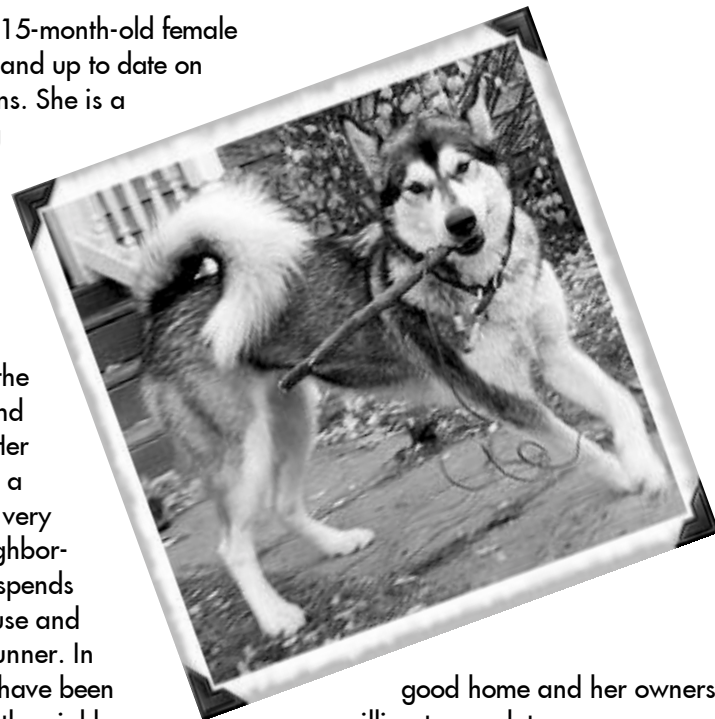
Seymour

A wonderful dog, Seymour is happy and funny and waiting for a home. He was found wandering and was picked up by a nice animal control officer who helped him find his way to AMRONE and into foster care. He seems to be just the sweetest thing. He walks nicely on a leash and has been good in the house. Seymour has had a history of getting hot spots and that is probably why his former owners never came forward to claim him. Since being in foster care his hot spots have been brought under control. Other than needing to lose weight Seymour is just a great guy.



Mocha

Mocha is a 15-month-old female that is spayed and up to date on her vaccinations. She is a wonderful dog but is too big for her current owners' living situation. She needs a home that will have the time to train and exercise her. Her current yard is a corner lot in a very populated neighborhood. Mocha spends time in the house and outside on a runner. In the past there have been some issues with neighborhood dogs. Mocha would do best in a yard that is fenced so other dogs can't bother her and she can move around freely.



She is wonderful with kids and people, has been trained to respect her cat and other cats, although they remain toys to chase. She needs a

good home and her owners are willing to speak to someone about her. She will stay with them until a home is found, as they love her but cannot give her the life she really deserves.

Mocha is a referral dog and is not owned by AMRONE. If you are interested please contact AMRONE for her owners' contact information.

Meet Our Fosters

The dogs on these pages were in foster care as of the middle of January. 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.

Kiana

Kiana is a very pretty black and white wooly female with a nice soft coat. At 1½ years old she is still a youngster with an abundance of energy. Her foster parents say she is an incredibly sweet and affectionate girl. She likes to snuggle with people and will lie on her back to get a tummy rub. She doesn't really enjoy being alone, so a home with a male dog who would be her new companion and playmate would be ideal.



Kiana is having fun and getting lots of exercise with the two malamute boys in her foster home. She knows basic commands and takes treats very gently, but does pull on a leash, so it would be nice if her new family would take her to obedience classes to work on this together. She sleeps quietly in her crate every night and enjoys the frozen treat-filled Kongs she gets in her foster home at dinnertime.



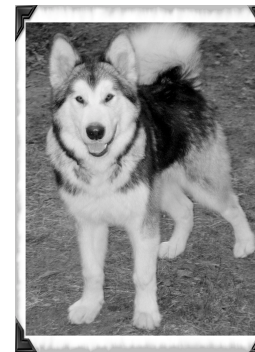
Sampson

Sampson came to AMRONE by way of a humane society that had taken in a huge amount of animals, including Sampson, as part of an animal-hoarding situation. He had been kept in horrible conditions and wasn't given any love. The humane society held him as evidence until he could be made available for adoption. Then the society helped find his way to AMRONE and into foster care.

He is very happy in his new foster home. He loves belly rubs and going for walks. He loves to play in the fenced yard and has been good with the other dogs through the fence. He has had a check-up and is the picture of health. He would benefit from taking some obedience classes to teach him some more commands and to get him out to see some of what life has to offer. Sampson deserves to have his own family and a person in his life who can shower him with the love and attention he deserves.

Bru

Bru, a young male malamute, came into rescue just as this newsletter was going to the printer. You should go to www.amrone.org to see if there is more information available. His foster family has been impressed how easily he settled into their home after friends at the MSPCA and some good Samaritans helped him find his way to rescue and into foster care.



He loves his new foster home with a yard and friends to run around and play with all day. The foster mom is getting to know him and will take him to the vet for a checkup and then to be neutered.

Moose

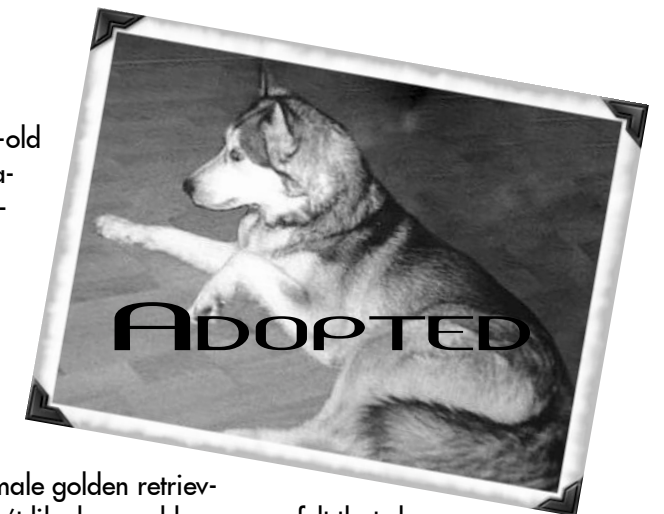
Something about Moose just makes people smile. Despite his advanced age, he is as curious as a puppy. You can count on him to wander around and sniff and explore any new environment. Moose is 12 years old and just waiting for a loving home to spoil him rotten, as all senior dogs should be. Before he came to his foster home a year ago, he was living on a short chain 24 hours a day. Now he has a harem of female malamutes to flirt with and a nice big yard to play in, but he has to share it all with a lot of other dogs. Wouldn't it be nice if Moose had full-time love and attention from his humans and maybe just one or two girl dogs to dote on him?



Although Moose has the tendency toward stubbornness of any malamute, at his age it is more amusing than annoying. His gentle nature makes him an exceptionally loveable dog. Moose does have one bad habit: eating rocks. His foster people have found that if they give him a bone to chew on after breakfast and dinner, it seems to reduce his urge to eat rocks. However, a new owner would need to be cautious about allowing him access to graveled or rocky areas. Moose takes an anti-inflammatory medicine for some arthritis, but is otherwise in good condition for an old guy.

Snowball

A 2-year-old female malamute, Snowball was turned into AMRONE right after Camp N Pack. She was living with two female golden retrievers that didn't like her and her owner felt that she would be better off in a different home. She is currently in foster care and has had her vaccinations updated and is being spayed. She also has been working on gaining weight since she had a litter of puppies last spring and never quite recovered. Her foster parents have fallen in love with her and have started proceeding to adopt her.



Behind the scenes: the dog intake process

By Joanne Duval, President

It seems that the phone rings only when I am making dinner, the kids all need something or I am about to walk out of the house. Murphy's law, I guess. The conversation usually starts with, "Hi, is this the dog place?" I reply, "Yes, this is Malamute Rescue of New England. How can I help you?" From that point on I grab a dog intake form and start writing.

Usually, I let the person giving up the dog run through their story first. I hear about the dog's personality, habits and the reason they want to give up the dog. This narrative gives me a good idea what is going on and what I might be able to do for them. It gives me a feeling about the current owner and their knowledge of dogs in general and their knowledge of the malamute they are trying to give up.

What they say (and what they don't say) can give us clues about the situation and what has worked and what hasn't. I tend to ask a lot of clarifying questions like, "So what does it look like when Fido is mad?" or, "So when you say he chews things when you go to work, do you mean the couch or a shoe?"

I hold my thoughts and tell them that I need to ask them some questions. I gather the caller and owner details. I get the owner's and dog's vital information. I try to confirm the dog's origin and that the dog is a purebred malamute. I write down as much history as the caller knows. I find out information on the dog's current living situation, medical status and the timeline we have to work with.

Before hanging up I ask if a volunteer could meet the dog and I make sure I ask the owner to call



their vet and release their dog's information to AMRONE. I then call the dog's vet to see if everything we have been told is accurate and try to set up a volunteer to visit the dog and take some pictures. I ask:

- Is this dog spayed/neutered?
- Is this dog up to date on shots?
- Any medical problems in the past?
- Any behavioral problems noted?

Shelters and towns call us when they have a malamute or many times we call them when we hear about a dog that might be a malamute. We check Pefinder.com and other web sites frequently to find new dogs. Once we see or hear about a dog, we make contact with the shelters to see if we can help them.

Shelters do a great job saving dogs and we look to provide assis-

tance to them by listing the dog on our web site, providing behavioral advice, helping new adopters, identifying mals vs. sibes and sometimes by providing foster care. We look at shelters as partners, doing the same work only at a higher volume and with multiple breeds.

The final step of intake is to make a plan for the dog. I gather the information from the dog intake form, my own impressions, the vet records and, if possible, the volunteer's visit. This is reviewed with the board members, and a decision is made to either list the dog as a referral dog, take the dog into foster care or reject the dog. Once a decision is made I call the owner back and discuss everything with them.

- If we are taking the dog in I review the paperwork we will need from them. We talk about the health certificate requirement for crossing state lines and AMRONE's release of ownership form. Then I give them a time frame in which we will be working and set about arranging foster care and transportation.

- If we are going to list the dog as a referral for the owner I ask them to send me pictures and a write-up for the web site. I edit the write-up and pictures if necessary and pass them to the web person.

- Finally, if we are rejecting the dog I call the people and discuss all of their options.. We try to stay involved with these dogs and help the owners find the resources they need and give them support.

So how does this work in real life? It is usually a juggling act. At any given time we can have a minimum of five dogs at different stages of the intake process. During heavy times

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Record numbers attend Camp N Pack

By Joanne Duval, President

The 9th Annual Camp N Pack weekend was a weekend to remember. It was great seeing our friends and meeting new ones this year. It turned out to be the highest attended Camp N Pack ever: We had more than 120 people and 100 plus dogs.

Activities started on Friday, Sept. 8, with a 10-mile hike in Barkhamsted, CT, at Peoples State Forest. This year we had 14 dogs hiking, seven that were packing the qualifying weight. As for malamutes who hiked for a "leg" we had Donald Borek, who hiked with his rescue girl Stormy, and Susan Gallagher, who hiked with her rescue boy Takani (who finished his WPD with this hike).

Friday night's campfire back at camp was a good time with smores and conversation. Everyone hit the hay to rest up for all the excitement on Saturday, which started with breakfast made to order by our chefs, Arnie and Eric. Somehow we persuade them to come back each year and give their services to our cause.

After breakfast our day started with agility, weight pulling and Rally O workshops and included Walking Nicely on a Leash and Canine Massage. A workshop on Letterboxing (see www.letterboxing.org) also was offered.

After the morning activities we met back at the dining hall for a guest speaker, Dr. Laurie Coger, DVM (see www.competitivecaninecare.com) who joined us for the second year in a row and gave a workshop titled, An Overview of Complementary and Alternative Veterinary.

After lunch we all went our separate ways again,

attending workshops, spending time on our own or just enjoying the company of other dog people. The afternoon workshops included a meeting of the Yankee Alaskan Malamute Club, weight-pulling try-its, Rally O and actually looking for letterboxes hidden around the camp.

Many of our campers took advantage of an activity we added this year and went boating in the camp's row-boats, canoes and kayaks. Catt Durkin from the Girl Scouts provided the life-guarding and boating expertise.

Dinner was a hit again with Yankee pot roast and all the trimmings, and while everyone made their own sundaes the raffle winners were announced. The annual auction started with Mark and Steve acting as the MC and the auctioneer. They kept us laughing all night.

This year's auction featured many items donated by Camp N Packer's past and present and many businesses and companies that support our organization with their donations. The auction had many things but ran very smoothly. By the time the last item was sold everyone was impressed by the generosity of the audience and the money that was raised to help the dogs.

Sunday morning started off with a bang with a full morning of things to do. We had Canine Good Citizenship testing, a carting workshop, dog and agility games for all and a workshop on Reiki. Lunch rounded out the weekend and everyone pitched in so the camp was cleaned up quickly and we could all go home knowing that our dogs were happy and tired.

Overall, Camp N Pack was a great time as always. If

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Keeping prospects straight can be a juggling act

[From Page 10]

that number has gone as high as 35. Just to give you an idea here is the call log that I put together for one week in October. Names have been changed to protect the innocent (dogs).

Monday

- 7:30a.m. Lilly called wanting to turn in a shepherd/malamute mix. Moving to Florida. Discussed listing the dog as a referral and gave her the email address to mail the information to.

- 9 a.m. Spoke to another rescue

that just took in a mal/sibe mix. They would like to cross post him on our web site. I got the information. Went on the computer and forwarded it to our web person.

- 9:30 a.m. Called shelter in Maine that has a dog listed on Petfinder.com. Left message.

- 9:32 a.m. Called and left message for Linda. She called two weeks ago and left a message about turning her dog in and has not been in contact since. Left three messages last week; will close intake this week if I don't hear from her.

- 9:36 a.m. Called a shelter that had a dog on Petfinder.com last week. They placed the dog during the weekend but took my information and said they would pass it on to the new owner.

- 2:30 p.m. Steve called wanting to turn in a 5-year-old male named Clue. He is neutered but not up to date. Steve is moving and new place will not take a dog. Must be out by

Jan. 1. Got Clue's info.

Tuesday

- Put out on the all-list (email list

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23 dogs and every one loved

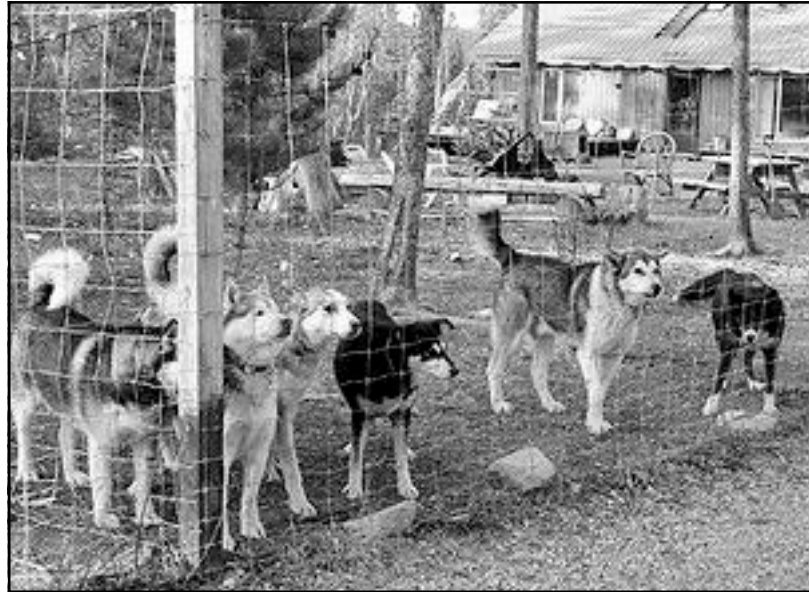
[From Page 7]

do. I do work full time, but finding time for much beyond work and the dogs is difficult. There is no traveling. My husband and I haven't been anywhere together since our honeymoon (which was long before this many dogs).

One of us always stays home with the fur-kids. I don't even really like leaving hubby alone with them. I do the vast majority of the dog care and he messes with my system. Even he gets a couple typed pages of instructions when I have to go away.

I'm on a first-name basis with my vet. I have three who need daily medication and two seniors who are in fragile health. I think he should have named his new clinic after my kennel. I'm pretty sure I make his mortgage payments regularly. I keep a credit card solely for those unexpected, huge vet bills and a savings account for the regular bills. But I do get great service.

I order dog food by the ton twice a year. I am very nice to the local



Some of the dogs at Wandering Spirits Kennels. They are almost all former shelter residents and currently are part-time working dogs and full-time spoiled pets.

wild game butcher who keeps us well supplied with free bones and scraps. I scoop poop twice a day, every day — four times if you want to count the litterboxes! There is fur everywhere — they are all blowing their coats now.

And they are worth all of it. I woke up this morning with a white husky mix using me as his pillow. Two years ago Pacer was so timid that he wouldn't let anyone even pet him. My lead dog was sprawled across the

futon.

They have taken me places I would have never gone alone. They have taught me about forgiveness, love, acceptance and giving people just one more chance. They are always happy to see me, even when I'm sick and cranky. I wouldn't trade a minute of it!

[Tamara Young owns Wandering Spirits Kennels in Canada's Yukon Territory. She also keeps a blog at www.wanderingspiritskennels.blogspot.com/]



Mail your donation to:

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57 Paige Hill Road
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Phone, Internet are indispensable tools for rescue

[From Page 11]

for active volunteers) that I needed a volunteer to visit Gunner to get an idea of what he will need for foster care and to get pictures.

- Sent a note to a volunteer about following up on a dog from last week that the owner needs help with the dog and the kids living together.

- 9 a.m. Returned a call about a dog that was nipping at kids, spoke with the owner who gave the dog to a friend. Made sure that she had my contact information in case she needed our help in the future.

- 9:30 a.m. Called an ad about malamute puppies that were in the paper. Found out that this is the third litter the bitch has had in a row. The pups are \$500; no hip checks on parents, no other health checks, etc. The bitch and dog were purchased from other backyard breeders but owner is convinced they are wonderful quality breeding dogs ... big sigh! Will mail a packet of breeding information to this person.

- 9:40 a.m. Called shelter in Maine that has a dog listed on Petfinder.com; left message.

Wednesday

- Noon. Nancy called about Frick. Frick is a 2-year-old male, neutered and up to date on shots. Was purchased from a backyard breeder. He bit the owner when he got in the trash and she tried to get him out. She went to the emergency room and according to the owner, "nearly took my hand off." He growls at her kids all the time. He also is not good near toys, objects he wants or his food bowl. He will growl and snap and has bitten other people. If you put him in a crate he will tear it apart, he howls when you tie him

and if you put him in the yard he digs out and will try to bite when you try to catch him. Owner also said he is very pretty ... sigh! We discussed Frick's options and I will call back next week to see what they decide.

- 3:50 p.m. Called vet to check on Clue's records.



Thursday

- Morning. Put out on the all-list that I needed a volunteer to visit Mocha to get an idea of what she will need for foster care and to get pictures.

- 1:30 p.m. Had a call about a dog in New Jersey that needs a new home due to food bowl aggression. I sent the people the contact information for the Alaskan Malamute Assistance League.

- 2 p.m. Called shelter in Maine that has a dog listed on Petfinder.com; left message.

Friday

- 8 a.m. Checked Petfinder.com and sent two emails to shelters that have new dogs listed.

- Put both of these shelters on my list to call in a few days.

- 8:30 a.m. Spoke with a volunteer who went to see a dog this week. The owners wanted to keep the dog

but were very worried about the size of their house and a new baby on the way. Our volunteers had been out last week to talk to the husband and wife and offer suggestions, and this week went back and helped the husband set up a chain link kennel run in the back yard.

- 4 p.m. Called Steve and spoke about listing Clue as a referral dog and looking for foster care. We can't do anything till he has a rabies shot. Spoke about rabies, health certificate, write-up and photos. Steve will get him to the vet asap and I will call him next week.

Saturday

- 11 a.m. Called shelter in Maine that has a dog listed on Petfinder.com; left message.

Sunday

- 3 p.m. Kim called about a neighbor's dog. The neighbor is being moved into assisted living after having medical problems. The neighbor has a 9-month-old intact male malamute purchased from a backyard breeder. Dog is not up to date on vaccinations and needs a new home by the end of the week or will go to the humane society.

- 3:30 p.m. Called neighbor; no answer.

- 5:30 p.m. Called neighbor; no answer, will try again tomorrow.



When adoption is done right, it's a happy result.

Mail Call

Letters and photos from adopters



Jacques will be remembered as a good sled dog.

Hi,

Danny and I have fostered dogs for AMRONE for many years. During those years we have seen many happy moments when great dogs find homes with great people. We have also been lucky enough to provide a safe and fun home over the years for some great dogs that due to their age and their health problems are not very adoptable. Jacques was one of those dogs. As a young dog he was a good sled dog; he ran on a recreational team and even did some racing. Eventually, due to some unfortunate circumstances he along with some other relatives found their way to AMRONE's doorstep.

Jacques was an older dog that was doing OK but did have some health issues. Danny and I took him on knowing that he would probably live out his days with us. That was fine with us, and our own older female mals just thought he was great! They loved and accepted him immediately and for the time we had him he had

two wonderful companions.

Unfortunately, we did not have Jacques for as long as we would have liked. I came home one afternoon to find that Jacques was not doing very well (he had been his normal self in the morning). He was totally unaware of his surroundings, could not stand and was having seizures. We took him to the emergency vet and after monitoring him and discussing all the options (none of which were positive) we helped him over the rainbow bridge.

Fostering or adopting an older dog is hard when you don't know how much time you will have with them. But he truly loved life here and I feel honored to have provided him with a place to live out his life in a happy way. He will be missed by "his girls" and us. I would say "rest in peace" Jacque, but I know how much he liked to pull a sled ... so instead I hope he is "runnin the trails!"

— Joanne Duval

What do you say about a dog who was half Jesuit, half James Mickael Curley? Half kooligan, mostly perfect? A walking talking Dyson endorsement?

Eleven years ago, Rave came from upstate New York, by way of two wonderful ladies, one named Joan, the other, Susan Conant. We picked him up one November afternoon in Burlington, Vt., stuffed this huge black and white skinny THING into the back deck of a small wagon and drove home.

He lay with his great head between the seats, looking at Howard, then me, sizing us up, but with the glint of humor in his big amber eyes. He was 27 inches at the shoulder and his front paws were as big as my hands and his teeth were at least 10 inches long. His black nose was the size of a coffee mug.

He quickly taught us that kibble should have just a touch of ragu (not ever green beans), that he loved riding with the top down, and that vanilla ice cream was his favorite, but Frosty Paws would do in a pinch, that little kids were the source for his all-time favorite food, peanut butter.

He would answer, when he chose to answer, to a variety of names: Elvis, RavyBaby, daRave, and thoroughly enjoyed hearing his name in a song. RavyBaby uuuubeeee truuuu, RavyBaby weeee luuuve youuuuu. Try as we could, we could not get him to howl, but he did have a cacophony of opinions on every subject.

His all-time favorite girlfriend in the whole world was Honey, a pound puppy herself, who, and he would be the first to admit this, was adopted because of his sterling example. He

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Mail Call

Letters and photos from adopters



Sami is well mannered and smart.

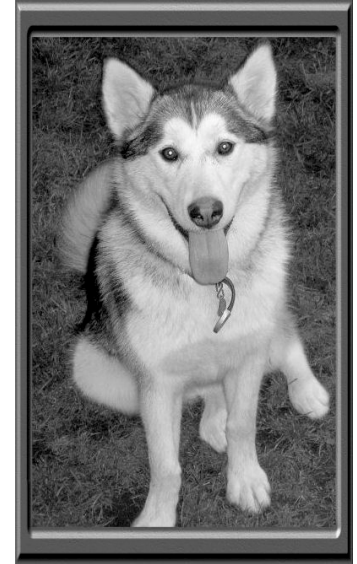
Sami was adopted in October and adjusted quickly to her new home. She likes to sleep in her bed next to ours every night. She is very well mannered in the house, very sweet and gentle. When she is outside she loves to play and run, and looks forward to her daily walks. We are working on her training. However, she is very smart and already knows many commands.

We are very happy that we adopted Sami; she is a wonderful addition to our family.

— Brian and Lisa

Juneau is one happy dog and Aaron and I could not be more thrilled with the newest addition to the family. Juneau is everything an owner could want in a K9 companion. In the beginning, she tested her boundaries frequently, but once the one-year mark hit, she seemed to calm down quite a bit.

Juneau cannot go to the park without meeting a new friend. She is gentle friendly, and always happy to frolic with anything from a pug to a Doberman. We taught her to retrieve sticks, a challenge in the beginning, but now a new favorite pastime. She is very gentle with our cat, and on occasion we can hear them playfully scurrying around the house. She is interested in people-food at dinner time, but loses interest with a simple command. She is an absolute joy and loyal friend who would not be a part of our lives without the existence of AMRONE.



Juneau: What more could you want?

Thank you again,
— Ananda & Aaron

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joined her at the bridge.

He coexisted peacefully with Rags, less so with FatCat, both elderly lady cats when he arrived. For years we blamed him for opening the sliders, giving the three of them the joy of a good sniff around the back yard. It was only recently that we caught FatCat pushing the door with her paw until Rave opened it with his mighty nose.

FatCat and Rags are waiting for him at the Bridge.

Stories, yak, we have stories. How about the time he ate the prune necklace from the little snowman, or about the time he was arrested at the local elementary school, only to join the littlest kids for cookies. Or the abrupt goose he would traditionally give my home-from-college son. Or the Thanksgiving turkey that was liberated to the living room floor. Or about the time he visited my neighbor and jumped in bed with her husband. Wish we could have seen his face.

He had a funny little habit of leaning into his friends

to be patted, his great head reaching their waist, and greeted everyone politely on his walks. We had workmen coming into the house over the years, and he graciously greeted them, but only once did he insist on putting his huge body between myself and a plumber's helper, and refused any friendly overtures.

About three years ago, he started showing signs of his age — trouble getting up, walking a little slower and a little sideways. He gave up his rides in the convertible. His magnificent black coat had a white skunk stripe down the back, and his head was salt and pepper. But a new puppy, LucyBug, Lucy-in-the-Sky-with Diamonds, Honey's replacement, quickly put some of the bounce back in his step. We celebrated when his tail curled over his back during his walks.

Finally, one day, the now short walks just became too much, his eyes had lost their devilment, and we knew it was time. Somehow, no one ever told us that we would fall in love with this big galloot, that home would be such an empty silent place when he was gone.

— Barbara Leonardi

Camp draws a record crowd

[From Page 11]

you have never checked out this event we welcome you to do so next year, our 10th anniversary of the event. I think you will find something for everyone and we are always looking for some "special" activities.

One of the best things about camp is the mixture of new owners, pet owners, working dog owners, rescue adopters and professional dog people. People learn from each other and enjoy their dogs in a non-competitive, friendly environment. When camp started we wanted to create a place where everyone was comfortable and could learn about their dogs. We seem to accomplish this goal each year.

**ALASKAN MALAMUTE
RESCUE**



OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

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2006: a productive year for AMRONE

In 2006 Alaskan Malamute Rescue of New England was contacted about 111 dogs. AMRONE took ownership of 23 of them. We placed 13 in new homes after updating their vaccination, providing needed vet care and neutering/spaying them.

We humanely euthanized two of them and returned one to his AMCA breeder. Of these 23 dogs, 10 came from backyard breeders, two came from pet stores, five came from AMCA breeders and six had an unknown origin.

AMRONE is currently fostering seven mals. Nine other dogs were placed by shelters, 12 were placed or kept by their owners, three were listed on our web site as a referral dogs, 22 were referred to another rescue due to being another breed or living out of our territory and 16 were refused by AMRONE because of a bite history.

We were also contacted by 26 owners who after initial contact did not let us know what they decided to do about their situation.

AMRONE again had a litter of puppies turned in when the owner could not find homes for them and received several calls from owners adding a baby of their own to their household.

Thank you to everyone who made working with these dogs, their families, the shelters, the vets and the adopters possible.

Have a new address? Notify us at info@amrone.org

A M R O N E T A L E S