

AMRONE Tales

Volume 3, No.1 Spring 2003

Uniting great dogs with great people

Mals at play



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Al Broggi, Carolyn Carson: 'The spirit of AMRONE'

By Ruth A. Ellis

In the last three years alone, 50 Malamutes have come under the care of Al Broggi and Carolyn Carson. The couple has provided foster homes to as many as 12 Malamutes at once, including two, Savoy and Shadow, that call Al and Carolyn's place their forever home.

Their ability to remember all of the dogs that have gone through their doors is amazing. They have pictures of many of the dogs and countless unique stories for many others. Each story is told with smiles on their faces. Many of the new owners keep them posted on the dogs' progress.

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Blizzard takes foster family by storm

By Carol Peck

Blizzard came to AMRONE at the end of 2001 when his owner's new landlord refused to allow dogs. With no other space available in rescue at that time, AMRONE rescue couple Stephanie Bayliss and Jerry Feldeisen, already at their limit of two foster dogs, agreed to take the dog for a week. The plan was to get him updated on vaccinations before going to a boarding kennel while awaiting a long-term foster home or adoption. The week soon turned into forever, with his adoption finalized on Feb. 5, 2002.

Steph and Jerry credit their mal Lightning with the adoption decision. Their dogs Lightning and Flame had been together for nine years and were tightly bonded. Then, in November 2001, Flame suddenly succumbed to cancer. Brokenhearted, Lightning was depressed and showed no interest in other dogs, including another male foster that she totally ignored.

Jerry and Steph knew that eventually they would adopt a male when they were ready and found the right



Jerry Feldeisen gives Blizzard encouragement on the agility course.



dog for themselves and Lightning. However, the minute Blizzard walked into the yard, Lightning was entranced. Despite the fact that Blizzard had had no socialization with other dogs, he hit it off with Lightning immediately, equally entranced with her. It became clear that this was the dog that Lightning wanted. Steph and Jerry joke that they had nothing to do with the adoption. It was strictly Lightning's decision!

Steph and Jerry had the choice of names, however, continuing the natural-disasters theme that had

started with their first two Malamutes. Thunder was very vocal and had a mask that only a thundercloud could appreciate, and Lightning was incredibly fast as a puppy.

The names continued with Flame, their flame-red Siberian husky, and foster dogs Cyclone and Tornado. [They only name foster dogs when they come into rescue without a name.] Blizzard got his name because of his pure black and white coloring, like the two extremes of color you see in a snowstorm.

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Canine center offers annual benefit for rescue groups

By Jane Palinkas

Can't wait till Camp N Pack? For an earlier fall activity, visit the Canine Sports Center in Goshen, CT, on Sept. 13 and 14.

The Canine Sports Center is a training facility for dogs. It has breed-handling classes, obedience classes, competition training, fly-ball, and agility training. On the weekend, you can do a "run-through" of obedience, agility, rally-o and many other games. You also can try the Canine

Good Citizen test, and there is a "breed" show of many breeds of dogs.

Each year the center sets aside an autumn weekend for the benefit of rescue groups. My husband and I have attended for the past four years and demonstrated sledding and, last year, weight pulling.

We got permission from the center's owner last year to put up an AMRONE booth, which gave us the opportunity to introduce many people to the world of Malamutes and to sell

a few things to raise money for the organization. We had some help from some AMRONE volunteers in Connecticut.

There is a nominal fee for each event, and at the end of the weekend the profits are split among the rescue groups.

So mark your calendar and plan a pleasant trip to Connecticut this September. Look for the Canine Sport Center on Rte. 63 in Goshen. The event runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days.

View from the top: specialty shows

Rescue plays an important role

By Stephanie Bayliss

Everywhere you look: Malamutes! Walking down the hotel halls, outside the lobby, in the parking lot, on the stairs, in the elevator.... Attending a national Malamute specialty show is an amazing experience. For a "non-show person," it's

quite incredible to see hundreds of Malamutes in one location.

Once a year, the Alaskan Malamute Club of America (AMCA), the national breed club, sponsors a "National Specialty" dog show. Specialty shows are limited to dogs of one breed, in this case, Alaskan Malamutes.

It's an education to see dogs from across the country and Canada. Seeing live the dogs you may hear about, have read about or heard of the kennel names, the lines, is fascinating. And seeing in person, and meeting, some of the people active in the breed is very interesting as well. It's also a chance to meet rescue volunteers and adopters from

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2003 specialties set in Sturbridge

By Joanne Duval

The 2003 National and Northeast Regional Specialty dog show will be held in Sturbridge, MA, just a few miles over the Connecticut border, in south central Massachusetts. A national specialty is not just a conformation dog show, it is a wonderful opportunity for anyone who loves this breed to see hundreds of Malamutes. Specialties are opportunities to learn more about the breed, see the dogs that are considered the closest to the breed standard this year and watch mals perform in obedience and weight pulling.

The 2003 National Specialty will also celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Alaskan Malamute Club of America, so the history of the club and its early members will be the theme. All the charter members of the Alaskan Malamute Club of America have been invited to the show and this represents an extraordinary opportunity to meet and talk with the early breeders and members and to thank them for their enormous contribution to this breed. The venue for the show will be the

2003 NATIONAL & REGIONAL SPECIALTIES PROPOSED SCHEDULE						
National				Regional		
Thur. 10/16	Fri. 10/17	Sat. 10/18	Sun. 10/19	Mon. 10/20	Tue. 10/21	Wed. 10/22
	Weight pull, Obedience WD showcase	Puppy Sweepstakes, Jr. show Annual meeting	Conformation: dogs	Conformation: conclude bitches	Obedience Sweepstakes, Jr. show	Conformation: conclude bitches
Welcome	Futurity, Veteran Showcase Opening of AM	Charter member event	Conformation: conclude dogs, start bitches	Conformation: BOB	Conformation: dogs, Start bitches	Conformation: BOB
Weight pull demo/rule seminar	Rescue parade, Evening with the stars	Top Twenty	Auction	Banquet		

Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center on Cedar Lake in Sturbridge. You can come for the day, a few days or the whole week. The area also offers many interesting places to visit, including Old Sturbridge Village, a 200-acre operating village of the 1830s. If you have never enjoyed a visit to this part of New England, this is the perfect opportunity. Reservations can be made anytime by calling the hotel.

The 2003 National Specialty will be followed by the Northeastern Regional Specialty show. The schedule below is tentative and subject to change. A Web site with up-to-date information should be up and

running by the time this newsletter goes to print. You can access it by going to the events section of the www.amrone.org website.

If you are interested in more information or would like to volunteer to help with some part of the show please contact Joanne Levy, the show chairperson (mulaferry@worldnet.att.net).

The Alaskan Malamute Assistance League also will be looking for volunteers to help at its booth. If you are interesting in helping e-mail Stephanie Bayliss (stephanie.bayliss@verizon.net).

The phone number of the hotel is 508-347-7393.

The importance of good grooming

By Joy M. Tetreault

There are two types of grooming: pet grooming and show grooming.

If you have a show Malamute, most likely your breeder or handler is grooming it regularly. These are not the people who need much advice on how to groom their dog. The people who need the most help are the people with mixed breeds, geriatric pets, abused dogs, and rescued dogs, and we can't forget first-time dog owners. These columns on grooming are for them, and if by chance I mention something that helps those already educated in the ways of grooming, great! I feel there is always something to learn for everyone.

Pet grooming is done to promote the health of a pet. Pet grooming



done to show Malamutes, Huskies and most of the northern breeds.

Just remember to groom your Malamute regularly, not once a year. This will make it easier on the animal when they do visit the groomer. It will also make it much less painful and a more positive experience.

When was the last time you actually ran your fingers through your Malamute's coat? Many people don't. This simple act is one of the

best ways to realize early on if there is something wrong with

your dog's health. You could find a lump or bump that may be nothing or could be the start of a health problem. Do you know every square inch of your dog's skin and coat? Do you know when a tick has jumped on your dog?

Daily brushing is a good way to get to know every inch of your dog and help you to easily determine when something is not right. This can help you find those ticks so you don't have to worry about Lyme disease. A little bit of brushing here and there will help avoid the painstaking process of brushing and raking out all the dog's undercoat in one shot. Ouch!

When was the last time you looked in your Malamute's ears? Do you know whether they are a nice pink color or are they red and very dark

and dirty inside? Do they smell? This could be the start of an ear infection.

When was the last time you clipped your Malamute's nails? Is he having a hard time walking on the kitchen floor? Many dogs end up with long-term problems with their paws, like arthritis, because of neglecting those nail trimmings. Did you know most dogs need their nails trimmed every three to four weeks?

Even the five minutes you take to brush your dog's teeth can prolong the time before your dog needs to have his teeth scaled by the vet. All aspects of grooming a pet can in the long run directly affect his good health.

Grooming a Malamute does require patience and perseverance. It is always good to do a little grooming on a regular basis vs. a lot of grooming once a year. The pet needs to learn how to be groomed and the owner needs to learn how to make it a positive experience. There is no better person to groom your dog than the person he trusts most — you!

Sometimes though it takes a strong hand to let the pet know who's the boss and that this process is going to be done, even if they try to tell you otherwise. Still other times the dog may be better with someone else. They know the difference between someone who knows what he is doing and someone who is not sure.

If you have any questions regarding the grooming of your Malamute, e-mail me (mulderbean@juno.com). If I don't know the answer I will do the research and find it for you.

Joy Tetreault has worked in the pet industry six years and went to the Nash Academy School of Pet Grooming in New Jersey. She is a PetsMart certified Petstylist and has been grooming for more than two years.

All aspects of grooming a pet can directly affect his good health.

involves anything and everything that will make the animal more comfortable and a pleasure to have in your home.

There are virtually no rules to pet grooming. For example, although it is not customary to trim or shave the pads or paws of a show Malamute, it can be done for people who want their dog to track less mess into the home. It is also done to prevent ice balls from getting stuck in the dog's pads if he is out a lot in the snow. This is particularly a problem with long-haired Malamutes.

Show grooming is done mostly to accentuate a dog's good qualities, to make him shine even more in the show ring. Show dogs are already the best representatives of their breed. They are shown natural. There is no trimming, shaving, or cutting,

Palinkas family pulls its own weight

By Anneliese Behrman

Jane Palinkas has found something unique about Malamutes: "They give me a sense of self-worth."

She feels this way after being involved with Malamutes for many years. Although Jane had been raised with cats and she and Steve Palinkas had purchased a parakeet right after they got married, Steve knew someone who had Malamutes and Siberians. He was very interested in acquiring a Malamute.

Their first Malamute, a 4-month-old seal and white pup that they named Sam, got them hooked on the breed for life. When Sam was about 4, Jane and Steve purchased a rig that they used to train Sam in pulling. Their daughter was born a year later, and there was never any strife between dog and baby. Sadly, when Sam was 11, he was helped over the rainbow bridge. Jane promised her daughter that Sam wouldn't be the last Malamute they ever knew.

Rescue is yet another story. Jane met Joanne Duval at a dog class. Joanne, already a volunteer herself, told Jane about AMRONE and how its



volunteers help to find new homes for unwanted Malamutes. Jane and Steve became increasingly interested in

helping their favorite breed. Since then, they have helped AMRONE in many ways, such as the evaluation of shelter dogs, fostering and transporting mals, having dogs surrendered to them, and on some dismal occasions, assisting dogs across the rainbow bridge. "I love my breed enough to want to protect it from bad things, and if that means doing rescue it's worth it to me," Jane said.

Jane and Steve also belong to other dog-related organizations including the Alaskan Malamute Club of America (both of them have put on weight pulls for AMCA) and the Northwestern Connecticut Dog Club, in which Jane has held every position except treasurer. She was also the show chair for the club's all-breed show for five years.

Not only have they helped AMRONE, but they also have helped bring personal accomplishments to their own Malamutes. All of their dogs currently have titles. You may have seen some of their dogs at the Camp N Pack weight pulls.

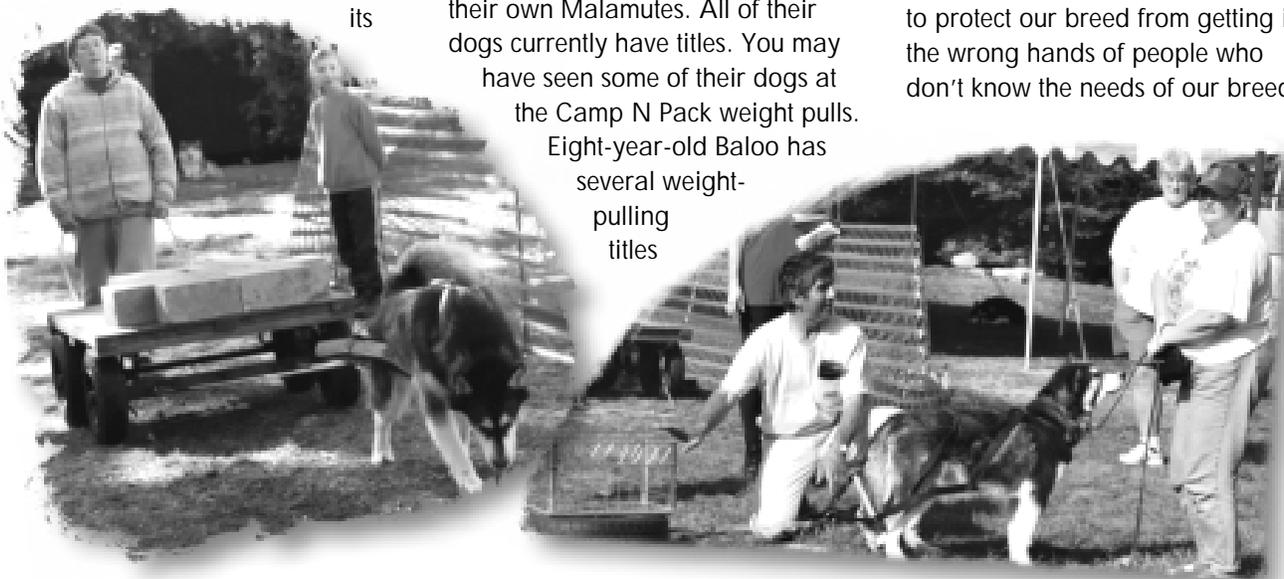
Eight-year-old Baloo has several weight-pulling titles

as well as a Companion Dog title. Seven-year-old Sabrina has made her mark in weight pulling and has her Championship, Companion Dog and Working Pack Dog titles. All their dogs also have their Canine Good Citizen certification.

When asked what she had learned from living with Malamutes, Jane replied, "They do something for me that no one else can. They give me a sense of self-worth. Anyone who has a [spouse] and kids knows you lose yourself in them. The mals have given that part of me back to me. I love working my dogs at what they were bred to do, and sometimes at what they were bred not to do."

Jane gives the following advice to people who are interested in bringing a dog, into their lives: "Research the breed! And more than just on line. Go out and do leg work. Talk to as many people who will talk to you about them, the good *and* bad.

"Make sure you know what you are getting into. Too many people get the 'cute puppy' and it grows, and so do it's needs.... I am so aware of the need to research the breed of dog you want, and the need to protect our breed from getting into the wrong hands of people who don't know the needs of our breed."



Jane Palinkas, far left, trails a weight wagon. Steve Palinkas, kneeling, explains a training point.

Foster mom finds she can lean on AMRONE

By Hannah Roberts McKinnon

"Do you think he's deaf?" Barbara asked me, concern clouding her warm expression. My husband and I looked doubtfully at the little black and white Malamute who cowered in the shadow between us, and I shrugged. "Hey boy," I called. He responded with little more than a flinch of his crooked left ear.

We were meeting his volunteer driver, Barbara, for the first time in a hotel parking lot off the highway. Her special delivery for us that morning weighed just under 85 pounds, and arrived befitted with an infected, misshapen ear, broken tooth and a prescription for whipworms. She said his name was Rush.

Thus was our introduction to fostering a rescue dog with AMRONE. While most of us are familiar with renown organizations like the ASPCA and Humane Society, less known are the breed-specific rescue groups that exist to provide immediate shelter, veterinary treatment and care as they attempt to place surrendered dogs in new homes. These regional organizations are often well oiled machines running on the unquenched vigor of volunteers who devote incalculable amounts of time, effort and energy to their passion.

Upon trading leashes, accepting prescription medications, and a case file lovingly assembled by previous foster care providers Bonnie and Roger Davies, we thanked Barbara as she cheerfully headed home. And we turned toward Rush's new foster home; our own. We already owned a female Alaskan Malamute, Rumour, purchased from a Connecti-

cut breeder four years earlier.

Our love of this spirited breed had led us to the AMRONE website. There we learned that many rescue groups rely heavily on foster care volunteerism for dogs waiting to be adopted into permanent homes. AMRONE would cover all costs, covering vet care, a crate and food as needed. As two teachers with the sweet promise of summer ahead of us, we wished to do more than send the traditional contribution.



Jason McKinnon hugs Rush, left, and Rumour.

Though we acknowledged that one large-breed hairy dog was more than sufficient in our home, we ignored the warnings of friends, invested in a high-suction vacuum cleaner, and contacted the organization. After a month of emails, a home visit and interview from Jane Palinkas, another AMRONE volunteer, we were headed home with our first foster dog. The back of the Jeep held precious cargo that day; chicken kibble, green dog bed, suspicious smelling medication, and one uncertain little dog, all compliments of AMRONE.

We were to find that fostering is

one of the greatest needs any rescue group faces. While donations of money and time are always needed, some volunteers don't have the facilities or time it requires to foster an animal in need. The immediacy of shelter, medical care, and attention provides obvious purpose. However, this short-term assignment plays an even more important long-term role: it allows the rescue group time to evaluate the dog, determine its needs, and make an informed decision

regarding the most appropriate permanent placement. The goal of these organizations is to place each dog in a suitable home that matches its needs and personality. Some dogs are young and in need of experienced owners, and some have medical or age considerations; but most are healthy homeless animals waiting for the right person to find them. The delight experienced by their new family is just a happy side effect of a sad story resolved.

Rush quickly established himself at our vet's as a regular customer. A stoic little guy, he readily followed us into the examining room visit after visit, paid in full by AMRONE. Despite receiving more than his share of poking and prodding, Rush never complained. Rather, he quietly accepted any attention directed his way, even when it caused discomfort.

As his previous AMRONE foster family put it in his case file, "He acts like a beating is nothing new to him." This unquestioning trust he extended us caused in me a swell of admiration that often brought on tears.

Rush's first weeks with our family involved immersing him in routine and exercise. Even though an

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Spring: Time to Bark in the Park



Could there be a prettier spot for a picnic with your dogs?

AMRONE's annual springtime event, Bark in the Park, offers fun things to enjoy with your dog along with some great food for our noontime barbecue. Also planned are obedience and agility demonstrations, free nail clipping and more.

Thanks to all of the hard work of the volunteers involved in the planning of last year's Bark in the Park, (which was our first springtime get-together) and to all the people who attended, it was a success. We're happy to be able to make this an annual event.

It will be held this year from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, May 4, at Berry Pond in Harold Parker State Forest, North Andover, MA.

So save the date and send in the registration form. If you didn't get a form in the mail you can visit us on-line at www.amrone.org and click on "Events." Of course you can always come and sign up the day of the event.

We look forward to seeing familiar faces both human and canine from last year, and hope to meet many more new ones this year. Remember, this isn't just a day for malamutes — all breeds are welcome!

If you can foster just one dog, AMRONE will help

By Susan Conant, President

First, I want to extend a warm welcome to newcomers to Alaskan Malamute Rescue of New England. New and old, please make a big effort to attend AMRONE's Second Annual Bark in the Park on Sunday, May, 4 at the Harold Parker State Forest in North Andover. In at least two respects, the human members of the AMRONE community resemble our malamutes: We have hearty appetites, and we are very friendly. Please join us for lots of good food and lots of fun!

Second, I need to beg for foster care. By comparison with other Malamute rescue groups throughout

the country, AMRONE is large and well supported. Even so, like all other groups, we are desperately short of foster care.

In considering whether you might be able to offer temporary shelter to a homeless Malamute, remember that foster care is a transitional situation. Foster dogs require decent, clean shelter, good food, and appropriate veterinary care. They need exercise and affection. But foster care need not be paradise!

Furthermore, in almost all cases, foster malamutes do not become members of the foster-care provider's own personal pack; to offer foster care, you need not integrate the

foster dog with your own dog or dogs.

AMRONE dogs are on their way from homelessness to good homes. If you can give a Malamute a safe place to stay during that transition, speak up! If you have questions about providing foster care, ask them! Experienced AMRONE volunteers are eager to help new foster-care providers in evaluating and managing these dogs.

AMRONE fully supports foster dogs by paying veterinary bills and, if needed, by supplying dog food and kennels. Please think about fostering *one* malamute! These dogs really need your help.

An open letter from Angel

(Transcribed by Catherine Oldham)

Hi there, fellow Mals,

My name is Angel, although my foster mom, Cath, calls me Angelic. We can get to that in a minute; she's a little weird.

It's Saturday afternoon on Feb. 22, 2003. Of course, it is snowing again in Vermont. Does it ever stop? But because I am a Malamute I don't mind it very much. I curl up in the corner of the fence and make myself a good place to sleep.

What I do mind is that I am sitting out here in this fenced yard all by myself. I have been out here in foster care for two years. It is not so bad, but I would really like to have a home of my own.

My foster mom is really good to me. She brings me treats in the morning and a great dinner at night. But I am really lonesome. All the

other dogs that were in foster care here got adopted, and Mom says that we can't have any more until the snow melts, because all of the runs are snowed in. So I sit here looking for a car or a fox to woo-woo at. No such luck.

I came from a sheep farm in eastern Massachusetts. Boy, did I smell! After a bath, a dental, and spay surgery, I was the new woman on the block. Then I got into a scuffle with a couple of other dogs in foster care and had to have some stitches. While I was under anesthesia for that, I gave half liter of blood to save another dog's life who was to have a different type of surgery. Hence, Mom calls me Angelic, because she says an angel saves lives. You could say that I am a lady who had been pretty active while in foster care. Whew!

My foster mom saw the movie, "My



Fair Lady," the other night. She came out to my kennel (carrying dinner, thank goodness) singing:

"All I want is a room some where with one enormous chair...oh wouldn't it be lovely?"

Foster Mom says that is my theme song. If you adopt me, you really could change my name to Eliza. I would not mind. Oh, wouldn't it be lovely!

Hugs awaiting,
Angel



How to make first contact with a potential rescue dog

You have just been asked to check out or transport a dog for rescue. As you head to the shelter (or home) you wonder what the dog will be like. Will it be friendly and outgoing? Will it want to ride in the car? Will it be quiet and in control? Meeting a new dog is exciting. It is also a time to be aware of your behavior and the dog's behavior so your first contact with the unknown dog is a safe one. Here is a list of suggestions that was made at an animal control conference:

- Don't make direct eye contact with the new dog.
- Don't put your face near the dog's face.
- Try to be neutral, not dominant or bossy with an animal you don't know yet.

- If the dog is fence-fighting with its neighbors be extra careful.
- Talk to the shelter staff/owners before approaching the dog. Discuss the dog's behavior; find out if the dog has an up-to-date rabies shot.
- If the dog is showing high levels of anxiety, fear, excitement or arousal, this can trigger aggression.
- Don't try to correct a dog you don't know with your voice or with the leash. Remember to be neutral.
- Wear comfortable clothes and non-slip shoes. Be prepared and move deliberately, confidently and slowly around a new dog.
- Let the dog make first contact with you. Talking calmly and make sure the dog can see your hands.

- If you are transporting a dog use a dog crate and get help loading the dog into your car. Make sure you don't try to lift a strange dog into a car without help or a muzzle. Bites can occur if the dog turns and snaps as you are lifting.

If you observe any of the following behaviors in a dog be very careful — the dog might need to be evaluated more closely before going to a foster home: seems suspicious of people or shows no sign of friendliness, lunges at people, dog barks and backs away from you and after a time still refuses to approach you, dog seems agitated, growls, stiffens or snaps when petted, dog gets nippy or mouthy, dog leaps up and grabs your clothes, dog won't calm down, the dog scares you.

Creating new Web site was a team effort

By Danny Duval

Have you visited AMRONE'S great new Web site yet?

The graphic design was done by a company called Explosivo, ITG (www.explosivo.com). We went through two iterations before deciding the original scheme they provided was the best look. They donated a bunch of time to help get everything set up correctly and even were involved in finding our new hosting company.

They continue to help with some programming as we move forward. Jason Pamental (who has two rescue dogs, I believe) also contributed the rotating dog image script that makes the pages look new each time you visit them.

Joanne Duval and Stephanie Bayliss wrote and gathered most of the educational Content, which included getting permission to link to sites. They also worked with Explosivo to design the site topics and their setup.

Paul Ganci and Matt Fienberg helped me move the existing dog applications (and the scripts to maintain them) over to the new hosting company.

I edited all the html and implemented the new site structure. This included taking the Word documents and putting them into html form, formatting them, and then organizing the site so that the layout made it easy to bounce around from page to page.

We also removed some old data and code from the



Danny Duval is the man behind AMRONE's new Web site.

old site so that we could have a fairly clean start to go forward with some new things we have planned.

I also had some programming help from a friend named Tom Chester who helped get the adoption application piece of the site running on the new hosting company (a different version of the programming language, perl, caused us some grief).

Tom is the guy who wrote the AMAL pedigree program to use Dan Anderson's huge database of Malamutes from the Malamute studbooks.

Be sure to look us up at www.AMRONE.org

These are Web and e-mail links of likely interest to Malamute owners. Listing here does not imply endorsement by AMRONE.

www.sturbridgehosthotel.com

Host hotel for the 2003 National and Northeast Regional Specialty dog shows in Sturbridge, MA.

www.malamuterescue.org

For more information about the Alaskan Malamute Assistance



The AKC page for more information on the basics of dog shows.

www.clickertraining.com

For more information concerning clicker training.

Emma@clickertraining.com

For specific information concerning dog aggression training classes you can email Emma Parson.

www.alaskanmalamute.org

For more information about the Alaskan Malamute Club of America

www.akc.org/dic/events/conform/begshws.cfm

Many dogs develop special needs as they grow older

Aging: growing old or mature. It happens to everything and unfortunately there is very little we can do to stop the process.

As our canine companions grow older there are certain changes in their well-being that become apparent. Many of these changes and problems are similar to people. They can develop heart disease, kidney disease, tumors, liver disease, digestive problems, difficulty hearing or vision loss.

Dogs are considered to be geriatric by the following basic guidelines: toy breeds at 7-10 years, medium breeds at 7-9 years, large breeds at 7-8 years and giant breeds (over 90 pounds) 5-7 years. As your dog becomes older it becomes increasingly more important to pay attention to the little things that may be troubling, for example, chronic ear infections, increased thirst and urination, changes in the pet's ability to tolerate warmth or cold, changes in the ability to hear and see, and behavior changes as well. These little changes may be indicative of something more serious.

As our medical knowledge and ability to diagnose medical problems increase we find that there is more that we are able to do for our friends as they get older. For starters, routine geriatric screening by a veterinarian is very important. This should include a complete physical exam, blood work, and a urinalysis. X-rays may be indicated for potential candidates of hip dysplasia or other musculoskeletal problems. Finding problems before they become disastrous is the best way to keep your pet happy, comfortable, and better its lifespan.

Other forms of geriatric care are



not necessarily medicinal. The most important thing you can do for your dog is something you do every day without fail. Feed it. As our dogs get older their nutritional needs change. Whether they have a medical condition that requires certain nutritional changes or if they simply are not properly utilizing the nutrients present in their current dog food diet, proper nutrition is of utmost importance.

Your veterinarian may have specific dietary recommendation for your pet and if not it may be necessary to contact a dietary specialist. Nutritional supplements in addition to diet have become increasingly popular and effective ways of keeping pets healthy.

Keep in mind also that on average human beings live 7 times longer than the average dog. So a pet over 7-9 years of age seeing the veterinarian once a year would be like a person over 55 seeing their doctor every 7 years.

Your veterinarian will play an important role in identifying problems associated with aging. Control of these problems will take place with medicine, nutrition, or both, and routine health monitoring. Many pets develop special needs in their golden years and it is important to keep tabs on them regularly to help them have the quality of life they deserve.

If you have questions about your dog's health, e-mail Dr. Steven Teisch, DVM, at drmoo@together.net.



MALS OF MERIT

Some dogs adopted through AMRONE



Camp N Pack 2002: wet but wonderful

By Joanne Duval

There was rain. Oh, was there rain! But it lasted only one night, and it didn't prevent 110 people, 102 dogs, one cat and one bird from having a wonderfully successful 5th Annual Camp N Pack.

It was an enjoyable weekend for all, and a productive weekend for many of the dogs. Ten dogs received their Canine Good Citizen certifications, 10 received a leg on their Working Pack Dog titles, one received a leg on a weight pull title and many dogs had a chance to try weight pulling and agility.

Friday started with an energetic group of dogs and their owners hiking out from People's State forest in Barkhamsted, CT. According to one of the hikers, "The hike was, well, kind of soak for lack of a better word.

"It started out OK, but within an hour of leaving civilization, we had a 'passing' shower. Or so we thought. The problem was it did not 'pass' anywhere but over our heads. It just kept coming, not a real downpour, but a constant drizzle. We kept trudging through, though. By the time we were done most of us, dogs and people were wet with a capital W.

Overall nine dogs earned qualifying legs in packing and 24 people and dogs hiked in the drizzle under the direction of volunteer hike leader

Mark Anderson.

After dinner Friday night the campers gathered to hear our volunteer, Dr. Steve, talk about hip dysplasia. Dr. Steve Teisch is a veterinarian in southern Vermont who treats many of our foster dogs. His talk was informative and very interesting. Dr. Steve stayed for the weekend as a camper and to his credit was great about answering questions all weekend.

By Saturday the weather cleared and the sun even showed up. We want to thank all those people who made the weekend a success by volunteering to run a workshop for us. We were able to offer backpacking, agility, obedience, short hikes, dog sledding, writing, canine communication, a children's craft table, pet first aid, grooming and Tellington Touch workshops. With the help of volunteers we were able to do CGC testing, a qualifying weight pull and doggie games for everyone. In

addition to Malamutes there were at least 12 other breeds represented.

After we were all treated to a fantastic New England pot roast dinner Saturday cooked by our chefs, Eric and Arnie, the auction, our main fundraiser, began. The success of our raffle and auction is due to some dedicated volunteers that gather items, get them to camp, display them and then run the actual auction.

It is also made possible by individuals and companies that donate items. Their combined efforts this year and the generosity of the Camp N Packers made the auction a huge success. The weekend netted a total of \$7100 in profits, which will go directly to saving Malamutes in New England.

We think Camp N Pack is a unique event since it is completely run by volunteers. Volunteers put on the workshops, work in the kitchen, cook the meals, clean the showers, set up

the agility equipment and every other activity it takes to put on this weekend. We thank all the people that have helped before, during and after this event and we want you to know that you make Camp N Pack the marvelous gathering it is.

The planning for Camp N Pack 2003 has already started. We hope to see you there so save the date: Oct. 3-5. If you have ideas for the camp, would like to help or can put on a workshop please contact Joanne Duval.

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

For large items please contact: sbayliss@amrone.org or hcmalamute@highcountrykennel.com



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Friends of AMRONE

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Donations to Camp N Pack 2002

Companies

Alaska Magazine
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 Animal Tracks
 Animalia Publishing
 ATX
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 Coastal Pet Products, Inc.
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Marye Arnold
 Georgianna Booth in honor of Carl Hartdegen
 Stephanie Bayliss & Jerry Feldeisen in memory of Lightning
 Bernard & Stevanie Demko and Terry Becker
 Peter & Susanne Donaldson
 Jerry Feldeisen
 Linda Feldeisen in memory of Lightning
 Matt Fienberg & Jill Hunter
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 Sabrina Noel and Shaun Feldeisen in memory of Flame
 Erminia Pascucci
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 Wayne Ubrich
 Martha & David Whyte in honor of Stephanie Bayliss & Jerry Feldeisen
 Yankee Alaskan Malamute Club
 Contrail Kennels
 Perry Greene Kennels

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.



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.

Mail your donation to:

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

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

They never met a mal they didn't like

[From Page 1]

Over the years they have had dogs that were climbers, escape artists, howlers, barkers and some that worked their aggressions out by eating 2x4s. Al and Carolyn have worked with them all and truly enjoy that moment when they know that they have reached the dog and turned him around to the point where he can live safely and happily in a forever home.

For all the dogs that have gone through their home, both agree they have never met a Malamute they didn't like. Some they absolutely adored and found it difficult to let move on to forever homes, but it is never long before the phone rings with news of another Malamute in urgent need of a new home.

Al and Carolyn have always been there to answer those calls — until recently. Last year Al had a stroke. It has left him with limited mobility and temporarily unable to provide foster homes. The misfortune was a serious blow to the couple, of course, but also to AMRONE. Suddenly there was a huge hole in AMRONE's services: Who could provide the care and facilities so selflessly given to so many dogs at one time?

Recovery has been a long tribulation but now Al is optimistic that he and Carolyn will be able to reopen their

home to rescues as soon as next year.

How did this dedicated couple come to enjoy the company of Malamutes so much that they decided to be such a vital friend of AMRONE?

In early 1993 Al and Carolyn decided they wanted to adopt an adult Alaskan Malamute. They had had several Malamutes over the years but this time they decided that they wanted to give a home to an older one. After contacting all of the local shelters they were unable to find any, but one shelter directed them to Susan Conant, president of AMRONE.

Shortly after that first conversation they were introduced to Alaska, an 8-year-old female that wasn't getting along with her basset hound sibling so her people decided to get rid of her. She was a beautiful pedigreed Malamute that had the loveliest fur around her neck that looked like a mane. Al and Carolyn fell in love with Alaska and she happily lived her remaining 4 years in their company, swimming, running and enjoying life,

before she crossed the rainbow bridge at 12.

Shortly after adopting Alaska, Al and Carolyn decided to volunteer for AMRONE and be a foster home as needed. That is how Savoy came to live with them. It

[Continued on Page 17]



Al Broggi and Carolyn Carson

Meet Emma Parson, dog aggression consultant

By Ruth A. Ellis

Anyone who has spent time with Alaskan Malamutes has witnessed some level of dog aggression, whether it was the normal every-day posturing where dogs are establishing pack order or just flexing muscles in a group for attention.

There are also those excessively aggressive dogs who initiate aggressive behavior without any obvious provocation and without any boundaries.

Emma Parson, an expert on dog aggression, has consulted with new owners of dogs that were adopted through AMRONE and she also has worked with mals that had not yet been given up. Susan Conant and Stephanie Bayliss have referred some owners to her.

A graphic designer by trade, Emma once had an interest in showing her Golden Retriever puppy, Ben.

Ben started presenting signs of

aggression – which quickly progressed to a concern for safety. Emma enlisted a professional trainer who specialized in dog aggression. But the trainer's approach was to dominate and punish Ben's aggressiveness. This approach not only left Emma cold but the encounter with the trainer appeared to exacerbate Ben's aggressive behavior.

Discouraged by the experience and lack of alternatives, Emma

[Continued on Page 16]

Affectionate Blizzard is a talkative Malamute

[From Page 2]

Blizzard's coloring is technically known as seal and white, which AMCA defines as having black or black-tipped guard hairs with a white or cream undercoat. The dog appears black at a distance but is not a true black because of the light undercoat.

His new family describes Blizzard as "wonderfully affectionate." The way he puts his entire head on someone's chest is particularly appealing. He is very people-oriented and loves to be with humans all the time, anywhere. Blizzard went to AMRONE's Bark in the Park and Camp N Pack with his best buddy Lightning. They were both fascinated by all the goings-on: the people, the dogs, the activities, and, of course, the food.

Other favorite activities are racing around the house, diving into snow banks, and riding in the van. His height enables him to surf kitchen counters easily, although he just sniffs rather than taking things. Blizzard has graduated from basic and advanced obedience courses. He also enjoyed a novice agility class. Known for being "extremely vocal," Blizzard's loud and clear verbal response to virtually every command in class never fails to amuse the instructor and the rest of the participants.

He vocalizes in an enormously wide range. He does it mainly when he's around people: when he's happy, when he's playing, when he wants attention. He howls, he whines, he woos, he talks, he barks, he yelps. He will carry on a conversation with Jerry, back and forth, and Blizzard always gets the last word!

While he's happily vocalizing and interacting with people, Blizzard looks pleased and tends to put his ears back in delight. This poses a challenge in photographing him well, since his happiest look makes his ears seem to disappear.

Blizzard is now a key member of a household active in rescue. An initial call to rescue inquiring about puppies and some free time got Steph and Jerry deeply involved in helping the breed. They stayed in touch with some of the rescue folks and started helping where they could. Now they



evaluate, transport, and foster dogs as well as donating money and items to rescue.

Steph did the legal and tax work to create AMRONE as a non-profit corporation and to be established by the IRS as a 501(c)(3). Steph currently serves as a director and treasurer for AMRONE and handles all the finances of the organization. She helps coordinate and staff Camp N Pack and handles the other functions involved in a rescue group.

A few years ago, she also got involved at the national level, helping

incorporate AMAL (Alaskan Malamute Assistance League) and getting it established as a 501(c)(3). She is now active as a director and treasurer of AMAL.

The couple's strong love of the breed extends into an interest in Alaska and the Iditarod. Steph and Jerry have visited Alaska four times, in both summer and winter, and have become "completely enthralled with the land and its people. Twenty minutes outside of Anchorage, and you're in a natural and untamed environment, pristine surroundings without smoke, pollution, or people.

"The huge, jagged Alaskan mountain peaks are in sharp contrast to the rounded New England mountains. To hear the scream of an eagle, feel the cold glacier water, look up and see the night sky clearly, see the northern lights – it's just incredible."

They have been to the Iditarod once, describing it as "the excitement of the Kentucky Derby or the Daytona 500, but focused on sled dogs and the sledding culture and history. It's an enormous event with fantastic local support, yet still incredibly personal. The mushers are all known by their first names and are considered local heroes in Alaska.

"Despite the size of the event, individuals can still get within three feet of the sled's passage while listening to the team's happy cries of anticipation for the journey ahead as they burst out of the starting line."

Blizzard's happy vocalizations and enthusiastic diving into snow banks bring that excitement home daily for his new family.

Aggression ‘can be shaped’

[From Page 14]

decided that a kinder, gentler approach was called for. She committed herself to a lengthy trial and error study. She researched everything she could find on dog aggression, traveling all over the United States to attend seminars and classes that might shed light on the problem.

Emma began working with Karen Pryor, who believes that aggressive behavior in dogs is just like any other dog behavior – it can be shaped. Karen uses clicker training, which is a science-based system for teaching behavior with positive reinforcement. A toy clicker is used as a signal to tell the dog that it is doing what you want and a reward is given to reinforce the behavior.

Emma worked with Karen for three years to learn clicker training and then fine-tune it for Ben’s specific aggressive behaviors. Emma quickly found that clicker training did the trick. At first she focused on cues – if Ben looked at another dog far away without presenting aggressive behavior she would click and treat. Then they moved on to hearing another dog without being aggressive, and lastly having contact with another.

During this training Emma found that she was unknowingly giving unwanted signals to Ben. When they would come across a situation that usually resulted in Ben’s initiating aggression, she would tighten up on the leash. Emma decided to use that trigger as a training tool. She trained Ben that a tight leash meant to look at her. This both taught Ben to look to Emma for leadership and distracted him from the point of his aggression.

This story has both a personal and professional happy ending:

Personally, the training was so successful that Emma and Ben have gotten his UKC title.

Professionally, Emma is taking what she has learned and is training other dogs and writing a book.

Emma started by teaching clicker training to Tufts University veterinary students and then she developed a dog aggression class. She stressed that the training was not going to cure a dog’s aggressive behavior but it would teach it to look to and trust its owner to take charge, hence avoiding aggressive encounters. She



Emma Parson and Ben

explained that dogs already know that their owners are the keys to what they need to live – food, going out, etc.

The class was six weeks long for five participants only and was geared toward aggression issues. Participants were encouraged to keep a journal and great care was taken to keep dogs separated the first few weeks. By the sixth week all of the dogs were able to be in the same class at the same time without incident.

In an effort to get her message out to a larger audience, Emma is writing a book, “Clicking for Calm” to be published this spring (2003) by Sunshine Books, Inc.

Rescue benefits from attention at national shows

[From Page 3]

various geographic areas.

Alaskan Malamute Assistance League (AMAL) is the national Alaskan Malamute rescue network. AMAL is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization that serves multiple roles: It provides support and emergency funding as needed to affiliated rescue groups across the country, and also coordinates direct rescue in geographic areas not covered by a regional rescue group.

AMRONE is an AMAL-affiliated rescue group, which requires following the AMAL Code of Ethics, and working

with other regional groups. Being an affiliated rescue provides AMRONE with support and communication with other groups, as well as additional exposure through AMAL’s web site, adoption referrals, the benefit of AMAL’s advertisements for rescue in national magazines, and potential financial support from AMAL if necessary.

AMAL is the national rescue group recognized by AMCA as the breed rescue organization, and each year, AMCA provides AMAL with a booth at the national for fundraising and education. The national is a large part of AMAL’s fundraising for the year.

[Continued on Page 17]

Al, Carolyn make a commitment of love

[From Page 14]

became clear early on that Savoy might not make a good candidate for adoption. Al saw the potential in him so they decided to adopt Savoy themselves.

Next they rescued Harmony and helped her find a good “forever” home. This was the beginning of a long commitment to Alaskan Malamutes and AMRONE.

They agree that doing Malamute rescue work is not as much of a time commitment as it is a commitment of love, love of dogs in general and of the breed specifically. They note how intelligent the Malamute is, as well as how much they like that the breed is physically substantial, doesn't need to be pampered and so much more.

Their property includes a half-acre fenced yard with a couple of subsections in it so dogs can be separated if necessary. Each dog has his own house stocked with hay or leaves in the winter for added warmth.

Many of the rescues come from homes where they weren't getting enough exercise – quite often they were tied up outside with no room to run. Having a safe yard to play in with enough room for daily exercise is just what most of these dogs need – they quickly acclimate themselves to the new surrounding and start running around playing with the other dogs. Al and Carolyn enjoy providing additional daily exercise in the form of runs, long walks in the local park and swimming when appropriate.

No two Malamutes are exactly alike but some of the

underlying breed tendencies are seen in all of them. This can include aggression toward other dogs as well as people. It is important to establish a leadership role from the start and keep it.

The couple has lots of helpful hints for anyone thinking about opening up their home to foster Malamutes – everything from how to install a fence the easy way to how to teach a howling/barking Malamute to be quiet. They would be happy to share their knowledge with anyone interested in helping out.

Al and Carolyn are looking forward to a time when AMRONE has enough volunteers to support follow-up visits to all of the adopted dogs' homes as a long-term support service for the families.

They both credit all of the AMRONE volunteers for their contributions. “You don't need to be able to foster a dog in your home to help out – help can come in the form of transportation, staffing shows, home interviews, etc.” But if someone wants to provide foster homes for Malamutes, they have one important piece of advice: It is critical to do research first and understand the breed.

In the words of Susan Conant, Al and Carolyn's specialty “has always been old dogs. As Carolyn once said to me, ‘Age doesn't matter to us at all.’ Indeed, Al's typical comment about any malamute of any age is, ‘Oh, he's just a big puppy!’

“In their love for this breed and their generous willingness to care for homeless malamutes, they represent the spirit of AMRONE.”

Rescue Showcase is a highlight of National Specialty

[From Page 16]

For the last few years, I have attended the national as a volunteer in my role as treasurer and director of AMAL, and helped staff AMAL's booth. We sell memberships, rescue screensavers and many wonderful donated items. We educate about rescue, demonstrate the pedigree database, hand out newsletters and display photo albums of rescue dogs from all the regional groups. We participate in the AMCA auction by providing 10 items, the proceeds of which go to AMAL. We also have silent auction items at the booth; it's fun to watch the competitive bidding

The location for the national rotates around the country in the following schedule:

- 2002 Region 6 (West Coast)
- 2003 Region 1 (Northeast)
- 2004 Region 5 (Rocky Mountain)
- 2005 Region 3 (Great Lakes)
- 2006 Region 2 (South)
- 2007 Region 4 (Central)

that sometimes ensues.

A highlight of the week is the Rescue Showcase. One evening, at the beginning of other show events, AMAL is invited to have a group of rescue dogs and their owners parade

around the ring. This is a formal event, owners dress up, and the dogs are beautifully groomed. A brief description of the dog, the dog's circumstances in rescue and adoption is read as the owner and dog walk around the ring. It's a touching acknowledgement of rescue.

This fall, the national will be in our neck of the woods, in Sturbridge, MA, Oct. 17-20. If you have a chance to go to any part of the show, I highly recommend it. As you can see from the rotation schedule, it won't be in New England again for years.

How AMRONE spends its money

By Stephanie Bayliss, Treasurer

This is the second part of an article explaining AMRONE's finances. The last issue of the newsletter covered income sources, and this article will define expenses.

The first group of expenses includes all the direct costs of dog care:

- **Boarding:** We pay boarding kennels to board dogs for us when we don't have space available in foster homes.
- **Grooming:** Having a rescue dog groomed.
- **Kenneling:** When necessary, AMRONE purchases non-permanent kennel panels and dog houses and provides them to foster homes for the use of rescue dogs.
- **Microchips:** The registration fees we pay to AKC Companion Animal Recovery. This is a lifetime registration for the dog, and rescue groups get a 50% discount. (\$6.50 rather than \$13.00)
- **Pet Supplies:** Dog food, collars, flea and tick repellents and other supplies that foster homes may require for care of a rescue dog.
- **Veterinary Costs:** All the standard costs of exams, spay/neuter, vaccinations and microchips, as well as occasional testing or X-rays for

 On the money trail with AMRONE (July - December 2002)		EXPENSES	
INCOME		Bank Service Charges	\$14
Adopter	\$2260	Boarding	\$841
Camp	\$12,389	Camp	\$4638
Donor - General	\$2125	Microchips	\$13
Promotion	\$692	Miscellaneous	\$191
Total Income	\$17,466	Office Supplies	\$40
		Pet Supplies	\$879
		Postage/Delivery	\$488
		Printing/Reproduction	\$459
		Mailbox rental	\$204
		Telephone	\$200
		Veterinary Costs	\$4105
		Total Expense	\$12,072
		Net Income	\$5394

specific health issues.

The second group of expenses includes the administrative costs of running an organization.

- **Bank Service Charges:** Occasional bank charges
- **Insurance:** General liability insurance, to protect the organization and all its volunteers.
- **Licenses and Permits:** There are various state and federal fees for non-profit corporations.
- **Office Supplies:** Paper, envelopes, file folders to keep records on dogs and adopters.
- **Postage, Printing:** Newsletters, and Camp N Pack and Bark in the Park flyers.
- **Mailbox rental:** Our postal box, which is the mailing address for most mail for AMRONE, and where

packages of donations for Camp N Pack are received.

- **Telephone:** Calling cards used by volunteers doing applicant screening and dog turn-in calls.

The third group of expenses include the fundraising activities of AMRONE:

- **Apparel:** We pay to purchase clothing printed with the AMRONE logo, which we then sell at a profit at AMRONE functions.
- **Bark in the Park:** The costs associated with running this fundraising activity.
- **Camp:** A group of costs associated with running Camp N Pack. This includes the rental of Camp Timber Trails, and the food and supplies purchased for the weekend. These costs are all paid in full by the charges for camp attendees.

Mals and other dogs line up with their owners for a Camp N Pack photo op.



Rush is happy and grateful to be safe at home

[From Page 6]

outdoor kennel was offered by AMRONE, Rush clearly preferred sleeping close by, and ended up alongside our bed each night. Proximity to both of us became his personal mission. Any uncertain sound caused him to hurtle himself against my ever buckling knees. Hot dinners en route from the stove to the table quickly found themselves on the floor, as I stumbled over Rush. As one AMRONE volunteer quipped in a nightly email, "He's like VISA: everywhere you want to be!"

While the family settled in with Rush, there was one dissenting opinion. Less than impressed, our female Malamute, Rumour, made no attempt to veil her feelings. Hovering in doorways, she guarded favorite pieces of furniture with the same fervor she saved for toys and food.

Luckily, Rush proved a fast learner. Supervised socializations that took place over baby gates or on leashes slowly grew more amicable, and soon they were starting to play in the yard. We all began to relax. Then one July night, we decided to barbecue on the back porch.

No sooner had I lit a match, than Rush hit the floor in a puddle. Something about striking a match and the smell of smoke had sent him into a panic. Cowering, he scampered from the house. We finally caught up to him trembling in a clump of peony beds. He wouldn't look at me when I said his name, so I just rubbed his back and spoke soothingly in his ear until he settled. Jason and I were mystified.

When I emailed my AMRONE support team that night we commiserated over the unknown ghosts that haunt some dogs. Sadly, I was to discover other fears that Rush harbored. I sometimes still forget that I cannot hold a broom in his presence, and that garden tools must be carried unseen when he joins me in the yard. While these discoveries rendered in me anger and despair over sufferings he must have endured, it was his unabashed faith in my kindness that kept me hopeful.

Throughout our foster experience I was never alone with my concerns or questions: AMRONE volunteers were just a call or email away. Daily, sometimes more, I emailed others who patiently answered my every question. I soon realized the value of the internet to the cause of these dogs. Just entering a breed name and the word "rescue" on a search engine immediately connects a person to organizations affiliated with that breed world-

wide. The internet connects us with owners surrendering dogs, helps us reach new volunteers, and communicate daily with each other. It allows us to post new dogs, to arrange rescue transportation, and answer questions from the public or each other. It's especially encouraging to know that potential adopters can easily locate rescue groups, view available dogs, and file applications all through email. For people seeking a pure breed dog, this is a truly wonderful alternative to buying directly from a private breeder. On late summer nights even I sometimes logged on to our organization's website to view Rush's old photos, just to remind myself of how far he'd come.

Our summer with Rush eventually came to an end and our joint commitment to each other never wavered. In exchange for his endearing crooked dog-smile, we offered him our home. To the lesser animal enthusiasts among us, this kind relationship is not easily understood. Our season of lengthy veterinary visits and gentle training was sometimes met with bemusement by our friends. I won't elaborate on their response to our vigorous vacuuming schedule. But it has not been without great reward.

I can't forget the trembling dog who first hovered in the backseat for the car ride home, unresponsive to our voices. Three months later, in October, there was little trace of that traumatic expression Rush had worn home. Instead, we enjoyed every day with a dog so grateful that he still leaped up each time we stood. Mornings I rolled over to a wet nose pressed inquisitively against my pillow. When he was most happy, Rush smiled and wagged with such fervor it sent him into fits of sneezing. And we learned that Rush was certainly not deaf- his initial stoic indifference to our voices stemmed only from fear. Later, just whispering his name sent shivers of excitement from his crooked ear to his plummy tail.

In the end, our particular case differs from most foster volunteers. Although we prepared Rush to settle into almost any home quite well, the truth was that he already had. Although we had promised ourselves this would be the temporary arrangement foster care intends, our home had inevitably become Rush's. With the help of AMRONE Treasurer Stephanie Bayliss, we decided to adopt him.

As other AMRONE friends happily pointed out, we had joined the ranks of the "foster flunkies." But yes, we still look forward to offering foster care to future dogs. Because as so many volunteers happily warned me, I have found that there is no love like that of a rescue dog.



AMRONE calendar for 2003

Saturday, May 3

North Attleboro Shelter Pet Walk
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
North Attleboro, MA

Sunday, May 4

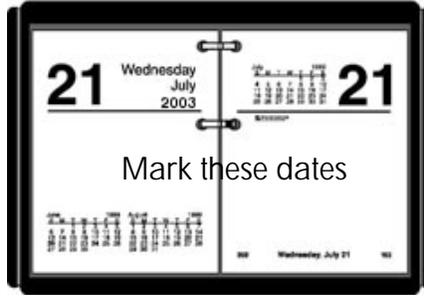
Bark in the Park
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Harold Parker State Forest
N. Andover, MA

Saturday, Sept. 13 - Sunday, Sept. 14

Canine Rescue Weekend
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Canine Sports Center
Rte.63
Goshen, CT

Friday, Oct. 3 - Sunday, Oct. 5

Camp N Pack
Camp Timber Trails
Tolland, MA



Friday, Oct. 17 - Monday, Oct. 20

Alaskan Malamute National
Specialty
Sturbridge Hotel & Conference
Center
Sturbridge, MA

Tuesday, Oct. 21 - Wednesday, Oct. 22

Alaskan Malamute Regional
Specialty
Sturbridge Hotel & Conference
Center
Sturbridge, MA



It's hard to forget some images from Camp N Pack, no matter how hard we try. Roger, over and out.

**ALASKAN MALAMUTE
RESCUE**



OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

AMRONE
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430 Franklin Village Drive
Franklin, MA 02038

Susan Conant, President
Stephanie Bayliss, Treasurer
Joanne Duval, Secretary
Robert Mellen, Editor

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