

# Samoyed Association of Mpls/St. Paul



## CLUB NEWSLETTER

Volume 7/2003 August 15, 2003

Club Website: <http://www.samsmn.org/>

Next Newsletter Deadline: September 30<sup>th</sup>

Editor: Lori Sorenson

### S.A.M.S. 2003 Board of Directors:

Leny Wendel – President  
Jane Anderson – Vice President  
Roland Anderson – Treasurer  
Lynne Sparks – Secretary  
Jon Gauthier – Member at Large  
Cyndy McGrath – Member at Large  
Sharon Dobson – Member at Large

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The Next General meeting is scheduled for **September 15th** at Minneapolis Humane Society. It will begin at 7:30pm sharp as we must be finished with our meeting by 9:00pm.

## Upcoming Events

**August 16<sup>th</sup> Cleary Lake Park Dog Event** in Burnsville from 8:30am – 12:00pm. SAMS has a booth.

**August 30<sup>th</sup> Sammy Day at the MN State Fair** Presentations in the Pet Building at 9am, 11am, and 1pm. Please contact Betty Gerlach if you can help.

**Sept 13<sup>th</sup> Weight pull sponsored by the Saint Bernard Club in Andover.** Contact Barb Gage for more information.

**Sept 26-28<sup>th</sup> SAMS Annual Camping/Pack Hike at Gooseberry Falls** Details on separate page.

**Sept 27, 28 Total Recall Hugo, MN A Beginner Canine Freestyle Workshop** For information: Janey Shaddrick Seminars [www.jsseminars.com](http://www.jsseminars.com)

**Oct 4<sup>th</sup> A-Fair with Dogs at Anoka County Fairgrounds**

**October 12 – 19 SCA Education & Research Foundation** will again hold an e-Bay auction. The foundation is looking for donations from clubs and members. Items will be collected at the 2003 SCA National in Riverside or may be sent to: Sheila Herrmann, 85222 Hwy 437, Covington, LA 70435-8114. Please include a description of the item as well as an estimate of the value.

**Oct 19<sup>th</sup> Weight pull sponsored by the Working Dog Club in Rochester.** Contact Barb Gage for more information.

**Dog Works** located in Eden Prairie, now offers conformation classes and conformation run-throughs with instruction. Classes and run-throughs are offered on Sundays from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Please contact Dick Johnson at Dog Works' web site at [www.dogworksinc.com](http://www.dogworksinc.com).

The following is a listing of the scheduled general and board meetings for the remainder of 2003. All dates are subject to change due to facility availability and will be updated in subsequent newsletters.

### General Meetings to be held at Minneapolis Animal Humane Society

Monday, **September 15<sup>th</sup>**

Monday, **November 10<sup>th</sup>** - *location change*: United Methodist Church, 1524 W. Co. Rd C2 (corner of Snelling & Co. Rd. C2), Roseville

### Board Meetings with locations to be determined

Monday, August 25<sup>th</sup> - Lynne Sparks and Karen Palms' house

Monday, October 6<sup>th</sup>

Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>

## **Sammy Day at the Minnesota State Fair**

Betty Gerlach is once again sponsoring “Sammy Day” at the Minnesota State Fair. The date is **August 30<sup>th</sup>** with presentations scheduled at *9am, 11am, and 1pm*. This is a GREAT way to show off our dogs. Betty is asking for volunteers to present their dog(s) at the fair. I’ve personally done this event myself and it is well worth the time. You meet lots of people and the dogs catch their “limit” of hugs and pets. Plus it’s a good way to educate the public about our breed and local club. Please contact **Betty Gerlach** if you can help out at this year’s fair.

Requirements are:

- Rabies Vaccination

- Groomed

- 6 months and older

- Well socialized

Everyone should take the opportunity to attend this event at least once. If you and your dog(s) are available Labor Day weekend, please consider helping out with this event. Thanks!

**S.A.M.S. Annual Camping Trip and Pack Hike**  
**Gooseberry Falls**  
**September 26 – 28, 2003**

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Mark your calendars for this great camping trip. The Activities Committee secured a group site at Gooseberry Falls State Park on the North Shore again for this year. Fall colors will be close to peaking during that time of year! Gooseberry Falls is about 3 to 3 ½ hours north of the Twin Cities. It's easy to find: Take 35 to Duluth and continue on Hwy 61 until you see the sign for Gooseberry Falls after you've gone through Two Harbors.

Here are some specifics:

<b>Event</b>	<b>Day/Date</b>	<b>What's Included</b>	<b>What to Bring</b>
Arrive at park	Friday, 9/26	Dinner on own (if people get there early enough, we may go out to eat)	Food & water for your dog(s); beverages, dinner or snacks for yourself
Pack Hike Carting	Saturday, 9/27 Weigh-in 10:30 a.m. Starting time 11 a.m.	Breakfast Dinner (see meal expenses below)	Food & water for your dog(s) Backpacks for your dog(s) Snacks, lunch & beverages Dish to share for dinner
Carting Departure	Sunday, 9/28	Breakfast (see meal expenses below)	Food & water for your dog(s)

*Note: if you cannot make it by Friday evening, please join us on Saturday.*

**Carting:** Those of you with carts, please bring them along so that we can do some carting as well.

**Costs:**

- State Park permit: \$20 for annual sticker; \$4 per day
- Meal expenses: Approx. \$10 - 15 p.p.
- S.A.M.S. will pay for group site expense

**Sign up & Questions:**

Please contact Leny Wendel e-mail: [Leny\\_Wendel@msn.com](mailto:Leny_Wendel@msn.com)

Deadline for sign up is **Monday, September 22, 2003**

## President's Message By Leny Wendel

I hope you're all having a good summer and somehow manage to keep your Sammies cool. It's hard to believe we'll be well into August when you receive this newsletter. How time flies...

Although it feels like we were just done with our 2003 Specialty, we are already working hard on the one for next year. It will be a 2-day specialty again and, after a lot of confusion about dates, we've gone back to our original dates: May 15 and 16, 2004. Many shows, such as Cambridge, Anoka, and Minneapolis were in the process of changing their customary dates and/or set-ups—hence the confusion.

I'm pleased to inform you that we have all the basics in place for the May 15 – 16 dates:

- Foremost: we have approval from the AKC
- We have a place: Animal Inn in Lake Elmo
- We have a show chair: Jane Anderson (yeah, Jane!). She will be assisted by Ann Musker.
- We have all the judges in place. The line-up is as follows:
  - Saturday, May 15:
    - Sweeps (puppy and veteran): Blaire Elford
    - Conformation: Judi Elford
    - Obedience: Richard Wood
    - Agility: Jacque Hoye
  - Sunday, May 16:
    - Sweeps (puppy and veteran): Robin Barkhaus
    - Conformation: Shilon Bedford
    - Obedience: Sharon Wood
    - Agility: Earl Kyle

When you'll receive this newsletter, the Minnesota State Fair will be just days away, and you all know what that means (besides the end of summer): Sammy Day at the State Fair! The date is Saturday, August 30. Betty Gerlach is still looking for more volunteers! The only requirements for your Sammies are: rabies vaccination, groomed, 6 months and older, and well-socialized.

Another event that is approaching fast is our annual Camping Trip and Pack Hike at Gooseberry Falls on the North Shore. The dates are September 26 – 28. See additional details in this newsletter.

Because of the time constraints we experienced at all of our meetings this year at the Minneapolis Humane Society, I have been looking for an alternative space. Unfortunately, I have not been able to get a different space for the September 15 club meeting (so that one will still be held at the Minneapolis Humane Society). However, I do have a new space for the November 10 club meeting: a meeting room at the United Methodist Church, located on the corner of Snelling Ave and Co. Rd. C2 in Roseville. It's a pretty nice space and, if it works out for most of you, I will try to get us booked there for all of 2004.

I hope to see many of you at Sammy Day at the State Fair as well as at our next club meeting!

## WHAT'S NEW ABOUT BLOAT? By Pam Landers

Bloat is a very scary subject for most Sammy owners, so anything new we can learn is of vital importance to saving the lives of our furry family members. Bloat, and the often accompanying stomach torsion, is a very serious life-threatening disease that leaves us little time for guessing what to do. Jane Biggerstaff, DVM, from Texas, presented a large audience at the National Specialty with the basics of bloat, and the results of the new research she has been following. I think her information deserves an even larger audience because of the importance of the old knowledge, and the significance of the new. Her most vital message: bloat is extremely serious, so anyone even suspecting that their dog is suffering from it should get to their vet immediately if not sooner. DO NOT wait around trying to tube your dog yourself unless you are many miles from your veterinarian, because there is too much danger that the dog can be further injured rather than helped. Even of those dogs whose disease is detected and veterinarian help is given, some will die, because the surgery itself has more complications than most, and/or because the problem was detected too late. Though Dr. Biggerstaff said that males six to nine years old are the most common bloat victims, any dog any age can get it. I know this to be true because my 11 1/2 year old Sammy bitch came down with it in September of this year. Puppies are not exempt, either.

She reviewed the symptoms of bloat that a dog may present. She listed

- \* pacing
- \* dry heaves
- \* drool (it can be thin, thick and ropy, and quite extreme)
- \* tender stomach
- \* round, taught stomach
- \* a tympanic (drum like) sound when stomach is thumped
- \* laying down and rolling
- \* depression
- \* staggering
- \* increased heart rate
- \* intermittent panting

Another symptom I observed in my dog when she bloated was walking very slowly and painfully with a roached back. Dr. Biggerstaff also warned, however, that dogs can exhibit any, any combination, or none of these. Some of the most interesting new information she presented was in her list of causes or predisposing factors that can lead to bloat. She said that bloat occurs when dogs swallow air for any reason, and that anything that delays emptying from the stomach can contribute to bloat. Analysis of the gases in the stomachs of bloated dogs showed that the gases were just plain air, not fermented food as had previously been supposed.

Predisposing factors to air retention include:

- \* stress and fear
- \* eating only one meal a day
- \* wolfing down food
- \* nasal mites (which cause a dog to reverse sneeze and swallow air)
- \* a first degree relative that has bloated
- \* eating non digestible stuff
- \* a stomach tumor
- \* a narrowed pylorus
- \* anything that delays gastric emptying such as anesthetic manipulation of the abdominal organs

This last piece of information was quite startling and illuminating to me because none of the other predisposing factors had been present with my older bitch. However, the week before, she had had surgery for mammary tumors, and had had a drain installed. When I took her back to the veterinarian a week later for a check-up, he found that a small membrane had grown across the drain hole, and had dammed up serum behind it. He had to puncture the membrane, and then use his fingers to move the serum out of the drain. He spent several minutes running his fingers down her abdomen to eject the serum. I took her home, and less than two hours later she

bloated. The abdominal manipulation was the only redisposing factor she had. The procedures the veterinarian uses to treat bloat are, first to expell the gas from the stomach, and second to tack the stomach to the rib cage wall so it will not torse (twist) again. She said that there are at least eight different surgical procedures for stomach tacking from which your veterinarian can choose, though she did not describe them for lack of time.

So what can we do to prevent bloat? Dr. Biggerstaff recommended that:

- \* if a dog is predisposed and you are having it spayed or neutered, have the stomach tacked to the rib cage wall at the same time.
- \* add water to the food
- \* feed more than one type of food (e.g. dry plus canned)
- \* show down a fast-eating dog (one method she suggested to do this is to put a large rock or can in the food dish)
- \* reduce stressful situations
- \* don't feed free choice
- \* feed two meals equally spaced
- \* maintain a routine feeding schedule
- \* limit exercise for at least 30 minutes to 1 hour after a meal
- \* let dogs cool down after exercise before they are fed
- \* do not feed from a raised food bowl.

This last piece of information was new to my veterinarian, because in medical school they were taught to use raised food bowls to help with some conditions such as problems with the esophagus. However, he said it made sense to use the raised food bowls only if there was a problem, and not as a matter of routine.

May you never need this knowledge!

## **Airline Animal Transport Legislation** Submitted by Pam Landers

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Aviation regulators required U.S. airlines on Monday to report monthly on the number of pets they lose and how many of them die or are injured on commercial flights.

The Federal Aviation Administration received nearly 4,000 public comments on the regulation, which was ordered by Congress and prompted a threat by airlines earlier this year to stop carrying pets if it was approved.

Many of the comments favored some kind of reporting requirement, but the FAA rejected requests to include animal shipments beyond those being kept as household pets.

Under the rule, carriers are required to share information on incidents involving pets with the Transportation Department for inclusion in the agency's monthly consumer report on airline performance.

The rule will take effect once it is cleared by the White House budget office, which reviews all regulations.

Airlines must report details of any incident that occurs from the time a pet is checked-in for travel to the time the animal is returned.

Carriers say they fly millions of animals each year for a fee and pet deaths are rare.

But some animal advocacy groups have argued that reporting standards are necessary to give consumers information about an airline's record for handling animals.

Some airlines permit cats, some dogs and an assortment of small pets in the passenger cabin as carry-on items. Larger pets are flown as cargo in the belly of the aircraft.

## **In memorium**

American Champion Risuko's Silver Legend, TD  
"Legend"  
October 1990 - July 2003



After 12 years of faithful service, Legend has taken the Rainbow Bridge to a new life. He came to Greg Sorenson when he was just 9 months old and at that awkward "teenage" stage. Greg saw the potential in this gangly pup and pursued the Conformation ring with great success. Legend finished his conformation title at 18 months after winning the Denver Specialty in his class and back-to-back majors in Chicago. He went on to father several litters, most notably, "Hero" from Betty Gerlach and Susan Amundson, who has written several children's stories and created a line of plush toys in Hero's image.

Legend had a wonderful work ethic and enjoyed doing weight pulls, sledding, therapy and obedience. Being a stud dog brought it's challenges and Legend enjoyed that part of his "job" the most. He leaves behind his constant companion, Mira, who misses him terribly. She is trying to fit in as the premier house dog in his absence and is a comfort to her owners.

Legend's wonderful "wooo" is also missed although Greg swears he can still hear his barking somewhere in the neighborhood. Legend was always tolerant of the various rescue dogs that came into his home and even accepted both Jasper and Deiter that came as part of the package of Greg's marriage. He was protective of his family, including the children that always seem to follow a marriage, and was gentle and kind to everyone he met.

He will be greatly missed and forever treasured in our hearts and minds.

The Sorenson Family

# **Brag**

**Sandbeck Mr. Dillon R U Ready** TT, CGC, TDI, HIT, CD, WS

Dillon passed the second leg of his HCT (herding capability test) in Scandia, MN on August 10, 2003, so now has been awarded the title of HCT from the AHBA (American Herding Breed Association). He had to wait nearly 2 hours before his test and when he entered the ring, he became a wild dog, but still gathering sheep and moving them toward his master. The test only lasted 3 minutes and 28 seconds and he didn't want to quit. The judge was grinning from ear to ear and gave us some very nice compliments on Dillon's herding style.

Submitted by, Linda A. and Donaven Murray