

Samoyed Association of Mpls/St. Paul



CLUB NEWSLETTER

Volume 4/2005 September 2, 2005

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

Next Newsletter Deadline: October 31st

Editor: Lori Sorenson

S.A.M.S. 2005 Board of Directors:

Ann Musker – President
Laura Wolfe – Vice President
Kathy Mackai – Treasurer
Ricq Pattay – Secretary
Cyndy McGrath – Member at Large
Scott Katzman – Member at Large
Jon Gauthier – Member at Large

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The next general meeting is scheduled for 7:30pm on Monday, September 19th at United Methodist Church. Address: 1524 W. Co Rd. C2 and Snelling in Roseville. The church is at the SE corner. Use the east (main) entrance. Signs will be posted to direct you to the meeting room. **Directions:** from hwy 36, take Snelling north and turn right (east) on Co. Rd C2. The parking lot is east of the church. From I694, go south on Snelling and turn left (east) on Co. Rd. C2.

Scheduled General/Board Meetings for 2005

Board: Monday at 7:30pm:
10/17/05
12/12/05

General: Monday at 7:30pm:
11/14/05

Upcoming Events:

Sept 8th - Weight Pull Classes at A-1 Dog Training Center
88 57 Xylon Ave
Brooklyn Park, MN 55398
763-424-5811
website: <http://www.geocities.com/a1dct/>
5 weeks starting 9/8 at 7 pm
\$40. first dog, \$30 second dog

Sept 10-11th – Doggie Camp at Baker Park reserve. (See attached flyer for details)

Member Updates:

Dawn Sawdey's new email address: sawdey@earthlink.net

Ann Musker's new email address: sammyzool@earthlink.net

Ann is also the proud new mommy to Nathan, weighing in at 9 lb 13 oz earlier this month. Both Mom and Nathan are doing well. Congratulations to the Musker family on their new "human" addition!

Thyroid Research at U of M

WANTED

Healthy, purebred English Setter, Golden Retriever, American Collie, Keeshond, Alaskan Malamute, **Samoyed**, or Siberian Husky dogs to participate in a study to establish breed-specific reference ranges for thyroid hormone levels.

Criteria:

Healthy

Between one and eight years of age

Non-pregnant

Not taking medication (except for heartworm) or supplements

AKC registered (or able to provide evidence of purebred status)

What We Need:

To examine your dog and take blood and urine samples. If accepted, participants will receive all general and thyroid laboratory data at no charge and there are no costs to participate.

Contact:

For more information or to enroll your pet in this study, please contact Dr. Rebecca Davies at rdavies@umn.edu, or www.cvm.umn.edu/cic.

S.A.M.S. Member Survey Results

20 completed surveys received, June 2005. Compiled by Ricq Pattay.

The focus of the club should be:

- 12 opportunities for social meetings among club members
- 17 a chance to learn about Samoyed-related activities (sledding, showing, herding, etc.)
- 8 putting on our Specialty show
- 3 Other: _____

Mixture of education on breed, activities, meetings, and Specialty.

The club should be a way to draw together the Samoyed community in Minnesota, and find issues that we can support and work on together. This includes maintaining communications among all the members.

Prefer activity oriented meetings – fun is the key.

Guest speakers at meetings -- education.

I would love to see a potluck at one of the outside shows.

Need to focus on getting new people interested/active in the Samoyed.

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Are you a voting member or a non-voting member?

- 13 Voting
- 6 Non-voting

If you are currently non-voting, why are you not a voting member?

- 0 I just want to be able to vote on Specialty judges without worrying about other club affairs/activities
- 1 Costs less
- 5 I can't attend club meetings but still want to be involved in the club
- 1 Other: _____

Don't want to be part of club politics.

Out of state.

I think this depends on the answers to other questions - what is the purpose of the club and how do we carry that out?

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The number of club meetings held per year is:

- 1 too many
- 15 just right
- 0 too few

Monthly business meetings are probably necessary for club business. Other kinds of club meetings such as the pack hike, Christmas Party, Sled Race/Weight Pull etc. could be offered more often but since we are all volunteers and I have not much free time myself, I enjoy them when I can attend and appreciate the time it takes to pull them together.

This was revised and is part of our constitution...

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If you do not regularly attend club meetings, why not?

- 7 Meetings are held on a bad day or time for me to attend
- 2 Meetings last too long
- 1 Meetings are boring and/or meetings are not relevant to my Samoyed interests
- 7 Other: _____

Have to be gone/traveling for business many times.

Bad location for meetings.

Location. (2)

I live too far away.

Would like them to be more informative and fun.

I am three hours away. If I attend, I don't get home until midnight or later.

The meeting site and by the time I get home it's quite late. It takes 45 minutes to 1 hour to get to the meetings.

The fighting that has occurred is quite disruptive and takes away from the club. The pettiness is not becoming and detracts from the reason we're there.

Club members that have outbursts of anger at our Specialty are embarrassing to the rest of us!

I stay home to dog-sit.

Extremely busy.

Too busy – long work days – long drive to meeting.

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What ideas do you have for possible events and programs that the club might offer to club members and/or the public?

Would like more informal activity get-togethers.

The Samoyed Day at the State Fair is a good event for people to see the breed.

Speaker from K-9 Unit Mpls/St. Paul

Canine Good Citizen/Therapy Dog Intl (2)

Fund Raiser Canine Walk (Breast Cancer, AIDS, March of Dimes, etc.)

First-Aid

Working events

Show grooming

Canine massage

Fun Matches

All events require volunteers (we have few).

More chances for agility and therapy, not always focusing on "shows".

Sledding or carting get-togethers.

Samoyed agility day like we used to do at CHCM in St. Cloud.

Email newsletters would be nice announcing events and schedules.

I just obtained a Therapy Dog title on my female and I would like some meetings or events that focus on that topic as I don't have any idea what to expect.

I like the herding and weight pull functions. Unfortunately, the timing hasn't worked for the most recent events but these are the things that the club needs to continue. These dogs are working breeds and events focused on those types of activities are not only fun for the dogs but it gives members a chance to get to know one another.

I would also like to request to bring back the annual pack hike at Gooseberry Falls. I know that finding a weekend is hard for all of us but my dogs love camping and it gives us all a good excuse to get away from the weekend. There's nothing better than a campfire with good conversation.

Skijoring event would be nice too.

I would also like to have a topic on the history of the breed, breeders who have played key roles, concerns, issues and developments that we all should know about.

Health, wellness and nutrition issues that affect the breed. Allergies and experiences in helping to solve them.

Training tips.

The Sammy psychic and communicating with your dog.

I think that there are both differences and similarities in what breeders in Minnesota are striving to do in their breeding programs. I think it would be very interesting to me to have a session in which long time breeders could talk about their own programs, discuss their points with other breeders, and field questions from those new to the breed. I think with a good moderator we could do this in a positive manner, without rancor and with honesty. I would welcome the opportunity.

Agility clinics (3)

Sledding/carting

Herding clinics & instinct testing (3)

Conformation clinic (2)

Eye clinic (3)

Micro-chipping clinic

More participation in state fair

Pack hikes within metro area

Pet fair

Walk for animals sponsored by GVHS

I like the meetings that have food... I like to eat.

Carting/sledding (weather permitting)

Program concerning bloat

I would support a supported entry for local dog shows...

I would like to see current videos presented

I would like to see a program for public education for the new Samoyed buyer... something that runs regularly besides the State Fair

Informational programs are my highest interest along with some times just having fun...

Mondays are bad because we don't look at calendars Sun – and need to plan timing – Mon's are generally bad for meetings.

Tiring – prefer board makes decisions so meetings are not so arduous.

Love activity related meetings; i.e. learning to groom (with dogs), pack hike, etc.

Specialty show puts too much stress on club. Too much effort for too few people.

Guest speakers:

John Sheehan – 85 years old, still showing. 12 Best In Shows bred/owned/handled by him.

Jane/Stan Flowers – pro handlers.

Debbie Patterson – top owner handler.

Agility – somebody to talk, etc.

The Club thanks Ricq and the Member Survey group for gathering this valuable information!

Dog Rescue Support Ribbons

This site has the magnetic ribbons that are on cars. It supports rescue adoption and proceeds can go to any charity. It has paws on the ribbon to distinguish that it's for animals.

<http://www.helpingudders.com/Magnets.htm>

Doggy Camp

September 10th-11th
at Baker Park Reserve

Autumn Hikes
Six Legged Race
Team Building
Doggy Nutrition
Tennis Ball Hunts
Catered Meals
Homemade Doggy Treats
S'Mores By the Fire
Sleep In a Tent
Meet a Dogsled Team
Learn Dog Language
Tellington T-Touch
Canoe on the Lake
Tricks Training
Rally-O
Holiday Photos
and more!



Checkin: 8:30 a.m. Saturday
Checkout: Noon Sunday
Ages 18+ Fee: \$90

 **Three Rivers**
PARK DISTRICT

To Register: Call (763) 559-6700 For More Info: Call (763)694-7726

CatKLeePhotography

