



Samoyed Association of Mpls/St. Paul Club Newsletter

e • newsletter

March 7, 2011

Upcoming Meetings

Club meeting
Wednesday, March 9,
6:30 social time, 7:00
meeting time
Gage & Gage

Board meeting
Wednesday, April 13,
7:00 pm, Panera at
Knollwood Mall

S.A.M.S. 2011 Board Of Directors

Larry Mackai –
President
Bob Gage – Vice
President
Jill Crisp – Treasurer
Paula Maidl –
Secretary
Members At Large:
GJ Harper
Todd Maidl
Karen Reynolds

2011 Meeting Schedule

Club Meetings:
3/9, 5/11, July TBD
(Dog Walk and Picnic),
9/14, 11/9,

Board Meetings:
4/13, 6/8, 8/10, 10/5,
11/30

www.samsmn.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Club Meeting

Wednesday, March 9th

Our March club meeting will be held at Gage & Gage in Shakopee. It will begin at 6:30 for 'social time', and 7:00 p.m. for the meeting start time.

Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 13th

The April board meeting will be held at the Panera restaurant at Knollwood Mall at 7:00 p.m.

Weight Pull Practice

March 13

Weight pull practices are held at Gage & Gage on the above Sundays from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$5 for the first dog, \$1 for each additional dog you bring.

Weight Pull

March 18, 19, 20

There is a UKC novice pull on Friday, March 18th, and regular pull on the 19th and 20th at Gage and Gage. See details on our event calendar:

<http://www.samsmn.org/events.html>

Wellness Clinic

March 27

Our wellness clinic will be held Sunday, March 27th, at Gage & Gage from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. You can get vaccinations, bordatella, heart worm checks, etc. Just show up any time – no appointment needed. More details, such as costs, will be arriving via email, or contact Paula Maidl at pmaidl@frontiernet.net.

MEMBERS CORNER

BRAGS

From the 2010 National:

Ch. Sylvan's Flying Bombardier NAP, NJP, WSX, TDI, HIC, owned by Barbara Gage and Pam Landers:

3rd Place Working Dog Sweepstakes
1st Place 64 – 76 lbs Class Sanctioned Weight Pull
2nd Place SCA Annual Top Wheel Weight Pull Samoyed.
Submitted by Barb Gage

UCH Prairie Isle Gabby That'LL Do -
TT,CGC,TDI,RE,WSXM,WPGRCH,UWPCH

1st place in Working Sweepstakes Advanced (WSXM) Dog Show Ring, 97 out of 100 score in Rally Advanced, 2nd place in sanctioned weight pull, 1st place in Working Dog Show Ring. Out of 33 dogs in the Open Dog class Gabby made the final cut. Top Wheeled Weight Pull annual award for both the OWS and SCA. Add it up. It equals a great week.

*From the people and dog that Gabby shares his house with;
Linda, Donaven and Mr. Dillon Murray*



MEMORIALS

Today our Papi went to Rainbow Bridge...

CH Donnereign I Papi, call name Papi, was born September 9, 1996 and lived a bouncy, lively life. He had the privilege of being a house dog and one of John Donner's favorite puppies. He actually got to sit on the couch with John. He came to our home at about 3 years of age. He finished his Championship title on the same day as Jon Gauthier's Prima. They were traveling/show buddies. He was a lapdog with a lot of bouncy energy. In the showing he would jump straight up about 4 feet and come down 4 square. He often jumped like this before he would kennel up. He like to jump in your lap. He had that spring in his step for 14 1/2 years! He was a beautiful dog with a beautiful spirit. We will always remember

him and his abundant energy!

Submitted by Laura Wolfe



Packer earned his Open Jumpers with Weaves title in January.
Submitted by Leny Wendell

BOOK EXCERPT

Thanks to Kathy Mackai for typing this up for me to include in our newsletter!

SAMOYEDS

BY Puxley

CHAPTER 2

The first thing to do when a new breed is introduced is to have it recognized as a distinct kind and get the points settled. This is not easy, because – very rightly- the Kennel Club insists upon every dog registered having the names of its parents given and its ancestry. In the case of dogs such as those imported from the North this impossible and therefore one must try and get the Kennel Club to recognize this.

Therefore, when Samoyeds were first brought to England, not only were the owners not allowed at first to show at all at any show under Kennel Club rules, but when at last it was allowed we all had to show in “Variety” classes, which placed us at a great disadvantage. For when other species had won first prizes in their own classes, the “Variety” dogs had to compete against those of any other kind, and we might have to show our dogs against-say-a St. Bernard and a Peke. Then, too, as no judge can be equally successful in assessing the points of every breed, it followed that the Samoyed stood no chance of a first prize. Also there were so few Samoyeds being shown at that time that no show thought it worthwhile to put on separate classes for them. But by degrees matters mended, and Mrs. Kilburn Scott was asked to set the points, and most happily\ these are almost all adhered to at the present time. For while other species of dogs have been “improved” until they have become until they have become deformities, the Samoyed is left just as Nature formed him, and today there is not a single first-class show where a large number of these beautiful dogs are not shown, and where they fail to attract attention owing to their beauty and charm.

Those who have taken up the breed from the beginning are sincerely anxious to preserve the points exactly as Nature first formed them, for it is

probable that this is the original dog to have been tamed by man in lands where he is almost necessary to his master; and therefore, while one species is advertised as having “eyes no larger than boot-buttons” and bull-dogs have their legs so bowed that they can hardly walk, nor can they breathe with comfort, the noses having been cut away into mere holes; while one kind is shaved in parts of its body and the remaining tufts tied with ribbons, and other species reduced in size until they can fit into a lady’s muff; the graceful Samoyed remains just his old self and can retain those qualities which have made him as useful as he is beautiful.

The male dog should stand about twenty-one inches in height at the shoulders, the female a little less; the head should be wedge-shaped, not puggy, with large dark eyes rimmed with black and having white eyelashes; the body must be shapely but not cobby, and the shoulders broad and strong, able to draw a heavy weight if need be. The back must be straight but not too long, and the legs must have plenty of bone, while the coat must be long and either white or light biscuit colour, and each hair must have a glitter at the tip like the gleam on ice when the sun shines on it. The undercoat is of soft fur like cotton-wool to resist cold and wet, and the outer pelt consists of long hairs standing-off from the body rather stiffly – particularly in the male; while the feet must be thickly covered with hair which grows between the pads in order to help the dog to grip the ice of his native regions. The ears must be pricked and slightly rounded like those of the wolf, and the tail must be a long, thick brush carried over the back and hanging over one side.

The importance of these tails, by the way, is great to the dogs under natural conditions, for they use them at night to cover their feet and their noses to prevent them from getting frost-bitten and it is said in the North that if a dog loses his tail he does not live long, so necessary is it to his well-being. One can see this in the case of a mother-dog; for she will always use her tail to cover up her babies, and if she is moved, she at once recovers them as soon as she possibly can, recognizing this shelter as necessary for them.

Samoyed dogs are allowed to have their litters amongst the Samoyeds in the huts, but when the winter comes they are usually turned out of doors, and therefore they burrow deep holes in the snow where they lie, only coming to the entrance now and then for food. It is this intimacy with man which has made the dog so companionable, and as he is devoted to children he is always ready to play with them if they wish. But though playful and affectionate the Samoyed never fawns as some species do, nor does he – unless cruelly treated – ever lose his dignity; and the value he sets upon his appearance can be seen by the way in which he cleans his coat all over every day as a cat does.

When strangers to the breed see him on the show benches, they always think it takes a lot of hours of care to keep him clean, but this is by no means the case. A very little brushing will serve, for these dogs are singularly free from vermin as a rule and have no doggy smell; while their great care for their own coats keeps these free from impurities, for if something gets in the thick fur the dog will not rest until it is removed.

It is amusing to notice how vain they are when being brushed. If another dog ventures near the dog whose coat is being attended to, the latter will give a fierce, low growl of warning, and if the intruder persists he will probably get a bite in order to make him keep out of the way. The dog being cleaned will turn from side to side to have every part of his coat properly seen to, and when finished he will walk off with the greatest satisfaction, showing

himself off to his mates a superior being.

But these dogs should not be washed often, for if this is persisted in they lose the soft under-pelt which makes the fur stand out from the body. Then, too, the coat is made to resist cold and wet, and as their natural climate is cold rather than wet the danger is that they may catch pneumonia unless they are thoroughly dried as soon as possible, and even this takes hours to do. Therefore I never wash mine, except before a show. This should be done if possible two days before hand, and upon the day before the show some cleansing powder should be well rubbed in and brushed out on the morning of the show.

Another piece of advice I should like to give to the intending breeder. Make friends with the other breeders if possible, for almost all of them are "jolly good fellows; and respond at once to your friendliness, and they can help you in many ways if you meet them half-way. Personally I have some great friends amongst them whom I should never met except through attendance at the various shows, and have always met with the greatest kindness and consideration at their hands.

One thing I shall never do again. That is to show a dog which has never had distemper or been inoculated against it. I say more upon this subject in the chapter on "Diseases," but perhaps I may mention here the case of a beautiful young dog of my own, whom I showed when he was only just over six months of age. He duly took three firsts and two specials, and I went off with him with great pride, with his chain blazing with red ribbons. But a few days later the dread symptoms showed themselves, and though I obtained the best possible advise, and sat up with him for twelve nights in succession, all was in vain, and I was left with a high bill and a dead dog. Since that day I personally should not dream of risking a dog to almost certain infection unless he was protected against it to the best of my power.

In showing, much depends upon the person showing the dogs. Some people seem to think more of themselves than of the dogs and some have not got the power of getting the best out of them. In the case of nervous, high-strung dogs like Samoyeds, if they are harshly treated they show this at once. They lose their pride and self-respect, drop their tails and slink about, and make altogether a sorry picture in the show ring. No use for a hard master to try and make friends with this dog in public or at the last moment, and to give it back the pride and joy in life natural to it; I have seen several cases of people trying desperately to make their dogs erect their tails and walk with the bovine carriage which is natural to them but in vain; and they have left the ring with a master who is dissatisfied with this dog when the real fault lay with himself. Personally I do not find that these dogs should ever be severely treated. They are so sensitive that a hard work is ample for the hate to feel themselves in disgrace, while blows only harden them and make them sullen.

These dogs shed their fur once a year, and it is important at this time to help them to get rid of the dead fur, for if this is not done they will only drop it by degrees, with the result that when it is desired that they should appear with their new snowy coats, instead of presenting an unbroken appearance some parts of them may be perfect but with gaps here and there.

The fur can be woven into very fine material. This has long been know in the Far North, where tribesmen wear clothes made of the soft, warm fur: and one breeder of some beautiful champions – Miss Thompson-Glover-has had garments mad of it, which can either remain white or will take a good dye.

A point to be observed when one intends to show a dog is to see that he retains his graceful by being given plenty of free exercise, and being extremely intelligent it is easy enough to teach them to leave other animals alone if only one is kept as a pet, though a number are apt to get each other into mischief; but lack of freedom in any form will damage the chances of a dog in the ring, for its graceful speed is part of its great charm.

This comes natural to this species, as for centuries the Samoyeds have used their dogs for drawing heavy loads. They have been used in almost all Polar expeditions; Nansen, Scott, Shackleton, Borchgrevinick, The Duke of the Abruzzi- All have written and of their dogs who travelled bravely over bleak miles of snow and ice and died only too often while remaining at work to the last and barely able to crawl for lack of food or any care of comfort. These dogs have surely shared the exploits of the men who have been acclaimed as heroes.

That they have not as yet lost any of their qualities anyone can see who visits the shows and see the best dogs in the world of their kind. Champion Kara Sea-judged by all to be the fines of the breed till his death-was unbeaten when shown, and had all the points; while many of his sons are themselves champions, Miss Keyte-Perry of the Arctic kennels having had a least six of them in her kennels; while one of his sons-tiger Boy- which went to the United States, has set the points for the American Samoyed, and is considered to have attained to absolute perfection.

By way of seeing how the champions of the present day compare with those of the past, once can observe the points of my own early champion Siberian Keeno, whose stuffed body has been setup for years at the Natural History museum at south Kensington as a type of what these dogs should look like. This dog was Kennel club champion until the unfortunate accident which put an end to his life, and he is seen to be extra-ordinarily like the best of the dogs of today. Not do they seem to be losing their powers, for one of mine which we to Canada two years ago-a female by the way, and therefore not so strong as the males- is declared by her owner, Colonel Alexander, to be capably-"given a moving start"-of pulling him and his son on a toboggan at a good rate; not so bad for a dog of under twenty inches at the shoulder.

Another interesting experiment is being tried with another of my puppies, for a man of my acquaintance who has stated on an Arctic expedition has taken one of them with him, and means to see how it gets on in the hard climate of the Far North; if it comes through all right we shall know that the softer climate of England has not damaged the stamina of these dogs.

Unfortunately it is becoming more and more impossible to get much fresh blood. The Samoyeds themselves are retreating before the advance of the Russians, who are pressing more and more into the regions where these primitive people live and making it harder for them to live and find food. The reindeer forms almost their whole stock-in-trade; for it supplies them with transport, food, clothing, and house covering. Not the animals have to be driver farther and farther afield in search of the moss they require in order to live at all, so it seems impossible to hope that either they or their owners can hope to survive much longer in their primitive state, and with them will go their beautiful dogs.

Therefore realizing, as breeders do, that it is extremely necessary to avoid losing the stamina of the breed through too much inbreeding, efforts are ceaselessly being made to obtain more of the dogs from any corner of the world

where they are to be found. Greenland, Russia and every part of Northern Siberia have been explored to try and get as many as possible; especially as other countries though anxious enough to get our best dogs, will not readily part with a single specimen.

For our Samoyeds are being sold to many lands which are clamouring for them. French kennels are being built up, and so are Dutch, while America seems only too eager to buy any fine specimen she can get hold of. Dogs used to be dispatched to Australia and some to Japan, where the Emperor took up the breed; two of mine which have gone there find the climate suits them very well-though the same cannot be said of the West Indies, where another of mine has gone.

Samoyeds are not being sent by air to various countries in order to save the long journey by steamer, which in some cases takes weeks to accomplish, whereas aeroplanes carry the dogs to their destinations in as many days in some cases.

To return to the show bench. It is as well to try and keep the general points of the breed, instead of devoting too much attention to some one point. For instance, one breeder will put all his powers to obtaining a coal-black nose, and will perhaps sacrifice some other point. One, in obtaining strength and stamina, will gradually find his is breeding long-backed dogs, which is a great drawback as the beauty of these dogs lies in their symmetry, whereas the long backs makes the dogs look like white collies. Another will find that the fur is gradually tending to lose its thick undercoat due to the milder climate, and this is a great loss to the look of the breed; others again find a certain difficulty in preserving the right size, for being too large is as bad as being too small; and breeders of many animals find that a different climate has an effect upon the species. Thus I noticed that the Africans animals, such as the elands born in the London zoo, are about two-thirds the size of the same animal born in Africa under normal conditions; while also the Spitz dogs of Germany –which are doubtless of the same stock as the northern dogs-are far smaller than the latter. This same thing has been noticed by some horse-breeders, who find that if left to themselves in England horses tend to assume the size of the New Forest ponies, which are doubtless the kind best adapted to England if they were allowed to become entirely wild. So Samoyeds, if left to Nature, would probably assume the size and appearance of the German Spitz. This of course does not mean they would degenerate into the modern “Pom” of the show ring, which by careful breeding has become a tiny freak.

On the other hand, some breeders in trying to keep up the size of the Sams have found that they are becoming too large, which would militate against them in their northern homes, and judges, therefore, turn these down in most cases. Therefore, one must steer between these difficulties in order to succeed on the show bench; but experience will help breeders to avoid these pitfalls and breed to type.

When a breeder now and then breeds a perfect puppy he will be well advised to resist the temptation of accepting a good offer for it, however tempting; for such a dog will repay him a thousand times, and he cannot afford to lose it to a rival; it will be invaluable to him for years to come, whereas its loss may well prove to be irreparable. Perhaps not more than one in a hundred is born which is seen at once to be perfect, but when one does arrive it should be preserved as a treasure by its fortunate owner; and the fact that an owner and breeder is able to pick out

a perfect puppy is an asset to him of the greatest value. Some people have an absolute flair for this and others do not seem to possess this gift, which is beyond price to a breeder, as will be proved later on at the shows.

BOARD AND GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Samoyed Association of Minneapolis & St. Paul - Approved Board Meeting Minutes: 12/8/10 – Draft

Larry Mackai called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

President's Report – Larry Mackai

- There was no president's report

Secretary's Report – Paula Maidl

- There was no secretary's report

Treasurer's Report – Larry Mackai for Kathy Mackai

- This information not included online - please contact the club Treasurer

Committee Reports

2010 Specialty: Larry Mackai

- Received thank you from Connie Rudd
- Received applications for next year's specialty from AKC
- Todd Maidl is show chair, Jill Crisp is trophy chair

Activities:

- The holiday party is at Jon Gauthier's home, on 1/22, at 7:00 p.m.
- We hope to start weight pull practices again in January
- We are planning a herding fun day in May

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

The next club meeting is 1/12, which is our annual meeting

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Maidl

Samoyed Association of Minneapolis & St. Paul - Approved General Club Meeting Minutes: 11/10/10

Bob Gage called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Laura Wolfe motioned to approve the minutes as published; this was seconded by Karen Palm, and approved by all.

President's Report – Larry Mackai

- No president's report

Secretary's Report – Paula Maidl

- No secretary's report.

Treasurer's Report – Kathy Mackai

- This information not included online - please contact the club Treasurer

Committee Reports

Judges Report: Jim Shea

- Rita Biddle sent a nice Thank You note from our 2010 specialty
- Diane Garcia was supposed to judge sweeps in 2010, but could not due to a conflict with judging at the National, so she will be judging sweeps for us in 2011 in place of Martha Langeshultz who switched years and judges for us this year.
- 2012 judges are Jan Cherney and Pat Hastings for breed, and Jane Anderson and Lori Elvera for sweeps

Activities/Education: Barb Gage

- Weight pull practice will hopefully start up again in January
- There will be a herding fun day in May
- Lure coursing – there is a ranch in Ramsey that we could use. We would need to rent the lure course equipment from the Afghan club. Paul Holtzlider has the information on this.

2010 Specialty: Larry Mackai

- Paula will forward 2010 financial spreadsheet to membership

Nominating Committee: Larry Mackai

- Elfie moved to accept the nominations as read. Laura Wolfe seconded. All approved.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- Elfie Shea discussed the Rabies Challenge Fund. Jim Shea motioned that SAMS donate \$200 to this fund. Leny Wendell seconded the motion, and all approved.
- Our holiday party will be at Jon Gauthier's home again this year, on Saturday, 1/22.
- To donate to trophies for the 2011 specialty, contact Jill Crisp
- There was discussion on having the club place an ad in the SCA Bulletin. Jim Shea motioned that SAMS place an ad in the SCA Bulletin once/year in the edition following the National. Leny seconded this motion, and all approved. Paula will email members telling them to email their information on their accomplishments at Nationals to Pat Griffin, and she will compile them for the ad.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Maidl

**Samoyed Association of Minneapolis & St. Paul - Approval Pending
General Club Meeting Minutes: 01/12/11**

Larry Mackai called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

The previous meeting minutes were accepted as written.

President's Report – Larry Mackai

- No president's report

Secretary's Report – Paula Maidl

- No secretary's report.

Treasurer's Report – Kathy Mackai

This information not included online - please contact the club Treasurer

Committee Reports

2011 Specialty: Larry Mackai

- Todd Maidl is the chair, Jill Crisp is trophy chair, others TBD

Activities/Education: Bob Gage

- The holiday party is 1/22 at 7:00 pm at Jon Gauthier's home
- Weight pull practices – schedule will be coming soon – check the web site event calendar
- Herding fun day – Bob will be scheduling this, Paula sent Bob Kim's email address so he can contact her.
- Sledding fun day will be scheduled soon
- Paula is looking into scheduling a pulling clinic in the spring

Old Business

- The motion made at the last meeting regarding the club creating an ad for the SCA bulletin was discussed. Paula Maidl made a motion to modify the previous motion to have S.A.M.S. create and submit an ad for the first SCA bulletin of the new year, listing members' AKC and SCA recognized titles achieved during the previous year, plus the previous years' SCA national wins and placements. This motion was seconded by G.J. Harper and approved by all. Paula will email membership to get their information to Pat Griffin as soon as possible.

New Business

- The 2011 board was running unopposed, and was unanimously voted in.
 - President – Larry Mackai

- Vice President – Bob Gage
- Treasurer – Jill Crisp
- Secretary – Paula Maidl
- Board members at large – G.J. Harper, Todd Maidl, Karen Reynolds

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Maidl