SIBERIAN TALES

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BAY AREA SIBERIAN HUSKY CLUB

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Running a 14-Dog Team

By Marie Stevens

For the last couple of months, Randee, Megan and I (and sometimes Peggy too) have been going up on Umunhum every Friday morning to run our dogs and get them in shape for sledding. (Believe me, it has been VERY cold at times! Last week there was even a little snow, and some of the corners on the way up were icy and kind of exciting to navigate—in a bad way! With the wind chill factor, it was below zero one time too.) On our last run we had 14 dogs hooked up to one of the ATVs. This is almost an Iditarod-size team! Those leaders are really a long ways up there! Using an ATV is really nice because it does give us the ability to get off and go untangle dogs or move them around if need be. (However, we did discover that 14 dogs CAN move the ATV if they decide to, whether we want them to or not.) We have learned that we



really need to keep a sharp eye out when we are running this number of dogs, to make sure nobody is having problems or getting tangled. It is easy to overlook something when there are so many dog butts there in front of you. I have found myself watching a couple so carefully that I overlooked someone else. It helps to have other pairs of eyes watching also. You also have to be ready to stop on a dime if necessary; I got distracted once when we were making a

corner to go up a hill, and I overran the line, which then got tangled up in the tire. Luckily no one got hurt, but there was potential there to hurt the wheel dogs and it sure scared me when I realized the problem. It took two people to get the line untangled. So another thing I have learned is not to go and do this on my own, until I am a lot better at it than I am now! We also have had to improvise solutions to

problems that we didn't anticipate. One day we decided to go up a different road and we allowed the dogs to go under the locked gate (it is a high bar gate) until the ATV got to the gate, so we could easily get off and unlock it. However, we couldn't get it unlocked!! It was stuck. We couldn't pull that many dogs back, so we had to unload the water carrier from the top of the ATV, get off, and lift up the gate as much as we could so the dogs could pull it under, then jump on it immediately so they didn't take off without us. We made it ok, but probably won't try that again. We also have to remember to be well prepared and take with us



everything we think we will need. On one of the really cold mornings the well wasn't working, so we couldn't get any water. Luckily we had enough with us to manage, but that could have been trouble for all of us. The best part of this whole experience, however, is being behind that many dogs and watching them all working together and enjoying themselves. It is a beautiful site to be turning around at the top of McQueen Ridge and see all those dogs lined out and making the turn just like they are supposed to!

In This Issue

14 dog Team	1
Events	2
SnoBASH	3
Rescue	5

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BYLAWS - AMENDED

We have been discussing changes to the bylaws for the last couple of months and at the last meeting we voted to approve the recommendations. If anyone would like a

copy of the new bylaws, contact Greta, BASH secretary



SnoBASH 1

By Marie Stevens



2007 SnoBASH 1 is now history, and history-making (in a small way). It was a smaller group than we have had in the past, but enthusiastic and lots of fun. We were worried about the snow (or more appropriately, the lack thereof) but there was enough to have a trail behind Tamarack Lodge, as we usually do. And it even snowed

a little bit on Saturday! But most of the weekend was sunny. It was around 18 degrees in the morning, then warmed up later in the day. We figure we had about 40 dogs brought by club members, with

maybe another 10 or so brought by others. We also had new sweatshirts and t-shirts! (There are still some available, so contact Randee if you want to buy



something. They are cute.) As usual, a small group went up on Friday and put out the lines and set up for the event. On Saturday we gave rides to people, and also added new dogs to teams if the owners wanted them to have an opportunity to try sledding. Most of these new dogs did really well, once they got the idea of what

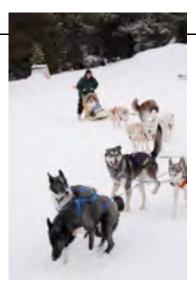


was expected. Because the course was short, we kept the teams small so new dogs didn't feel too overwhelmed. Saturday night we somehow got involved in playing Twisters, that game where contestants have to put hands and feed on different colored circles without falling over. This is clearly a game for the young and agile, like the Mateos girls. They did great. Us older folk tended to get into positions that were downright painful and potentially dangerous. Luckily there were no permanent injuries. (And let me just add, NEVER play this game with Ross McQueen. He will just make a small movement and knock you right over!! I'm sure this is cheating!)



On Sunday we had the Sourdough Race (maybe our 7th???....does anyone remember when we started this?) For those who have never seen this race, it starts with all the mushers in their longjohns, in a sleeping bag on the snow (or under a blanket), boots off, dogs not hooked up. The race starts with a shout of "There's gold in them thar hills!". Then everyone has to put on their boots, hook up the dogs, and run the course. This year we had 8 entrants in the adult race, all women (where are those cowardly men???). The winner was Alyssa Antonucci, who zipped around in record time.....some of us were still struggling to get out when she was coming in! Then we had a Kids

race, with 6 entrants. They ran a smaller course with just one dog each. The winner was Nolan, whose family

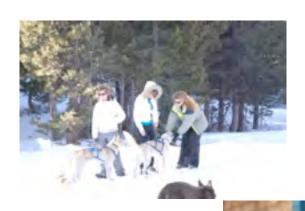


owns the Lodge. This race got kind of exciting when Kaelani, a 4-year old running her own dog, got pulled at top speed straight across the middle of the course and collided with Nolan. No one was hurt though, and Kaelani stayed on her sled till the end, just like mushers are supposed to. They each got



medals. We gave a few more rides on Sunday, but were able to pack up and get home at a reasonable time. (I remember times in the past when we finally pulled into

San Jose at 11:30pm or midnight, and then had to get up and go to work in the morning.) Our second SnoBASH is scheduled for April 21st and 22nd. We will do our sledding on the cross-country course at Bear Valley then. So put it on your calendars and we will see you then!!!







February 2007

Serving the Bay Area & Northern California

Descriptions of the dogs, including evaluation of their temperament, listed in this newsletter are furnished by the people placing them. We are providing an exchange of information only and we do not attempt to verify the information given.

Bill Otto 408-258-9806 billotto1412@aol.com

Tawny is a very playful and gets along well with other dogs. He likes to play with tennis balls and stuffed toys. He is house trained, has basic obedience and needs some leash work. Tawny rides very well in a vehicle and has not shown any aggression towards small animals. This does not mean he is cat friendly. He is a sweet dog and likes some affection and rewards you with lots of kisses. He needs to put on about 7 pounds and has all his shots and is neutered. I would like to place him with another dog as he has been very comfortable with my dogs and likes to play.



Kari Allen 831-210-0136 Karikmendiola@aol.com

Jake is a husky/mix, about 2 years old and comes from a loving home. Jake has been raised around children ages infant through teen. Jake is an excellent family dog and comes from a family of 8. Jake cannot be a free-feed pet, he is best fed once per day and will continue to eat if provided access to food. He is crate trained and excellent indoors. Although Jake can make it on his own, he thrives with a companion. His family is relocating

MA

to Maui and has found that they cannot save up enough money to transport him as he is over the maximum weight requirements for passenger flight travel. Jake is current on all vaccines, is neutered and micro chipped (medical records will be provided). Jake likes walks and does well with a consistent owner - he is a great companion and loves to smile.

Geneve Huxley (408) 524-5344 gmh962@yahoo.com

Apollo The family that adopted Apollo, lost the house they were renting (owner sold it) They have been unable to find another home that will allow dogs. Apollo was an owner surrender to a local shelter. He has the sweetest disposition, and just loves his human family. He just wants love and pets and attention. He rarely barks or howls, and he quietly sleeps through the night inside the house. He is house trained, microchipped, and current



on shots. He loves to play fetch and run around the back yard. He loves to go on walks. Inside the house he is calm and will sit or lie down at your feet. Apollo is a wonderful dog!

Randee McQueen (408)377-2900 bashrr@aol.com

Roxii, Kaylee, Harlee, Jessee, Rockee, Bailee – Roxie is a 18 month old Malamute. She is very very sweet, a fantastic mother, has basic obedience skills, housetrained, rides great in a car. She has 5 puppies that are about 4–5 weeks old (Siberian/Malamute).



ADOPTED Dutchess, Meika, Angell, Apollo, Avery, Ally













Bay Area Siberian Husky Club

Membership Renewal and Associate Application 2007-2008

Membership enclosed for: \$30 Single \$35 Family \$25 Associate

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Make checks payable to BASH. All memberships and subscriptions are valid through March 31, 2008. Send membership renewal form and check, or inquiries about becoming a voting member, to:

Marie Stevens Bay Area Siberian Husky Club 2633 S Bascom Ave Campbell CA 95008

Bay Area Siberian Husky Club www.bayareasiberian.org

2633 S. Bascom Avenue Campbell, CA 95008

Upcoming Adoption Fairs

First Saturday
PetsMart, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
850 W. Hamilton, Campbell
Coordinator: Randee McQueen
408-371-1841

Second Saturday PetsMart, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. 175 Ranch Road, Milpitas Coordinator: Bill Otto 408-258-9806

Third Saturday Pet Food Express 11 am to 2 pm 15466 Los Gatos Blvd., Los Gatos (408) 356-7600