

Siberian Tales

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BAY AREA SIBERIAN HUSKY CLUB

MARCH 2016

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Time to Renew-
our year goes
April to March.
Paying your dues,
helps us pay for
the rent,
insurance and
other costs that
go into putting an
event on.

Remember to keep the chocolate away from
the dogs.

Feb 28	Husky Hike
April ???	General Meeting
April 16-17 or 23-24	SnoBASH Spring (it will be the week after Bear Valley Cross Country Closes)

Dec 17	Christmas Party
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AMAZON SMILES

We have signed up with Amazon Smiles.
1.5 % of sales on Amazon through
Smiles comes back to BASH. Use the
following link and earn money for
BASH.

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/77->



SnoBASH

It overall was a great success as we did have snow....we had a great trail. Here are some pictures.



Next Husky Hike is this coming Sunday Morning, February 28, 2016 at 8:30 am at

Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge (East Bay)

at Edwards Visitor Center parking lot, 2 Marshlands Road, Fremont, 94555. There is a map at this link. Be sure to scroll to the bottom for street

info. <http://www.fws.gov/uploadedFiles/Headquarterstrailmaps.pdf#a>

Dennis and I will be near the Parking Lot at one of the picnic tables with coffee, hot water for tea and cider, and breakfast snacks. About 9:00 we'll start out for a hike North along Marshland Road to the Quarry Trail, which bridges Highway 84 at the Dumbarton toll Plaza. Just over the bridge, it joins the Apay Way Trail, which is part of Coyote Hills East Bay Regional Parks.

Apay Way is a rolling, single lane dirt gravel road that skirts the bay shore along the west side of Coyote Hills, and offers beautiful views of the bay, birds, jackrabbits, wildflowers. On two headlands there are some nice benches for taking in the views. On a clear day you can see San Francisco skyscrapers and Mount Tamalpais; panorama photos from these locations can be incredible, so bring your camera. From here, we may return on the same trail, or on the higher ridge trail, Meadowlark Trail that loops back down to the quarry and bridge. This round trip takes about 1 ½ to 2 hours at a slow, moderate pace. Further investigations of Coyote Hills are possible from this entrance, as well, if you want a full day of hiking, limited facilities for a picnic stop are available at Dairy Glen Group Campsite in the center of Coyote Park

http://www.ebparks.org/Assets/files/parks/coyote_hills/Coyote+Hills+map.pdf

The Apay Trail is level with very good footing, and should be fine even after a light rain. It rolls along with gradual inclines from 20 to 80 feet or so above the shoreline, so it's not likely the dogs will get into salty bay muck. There are a few hikers, runners, and bikes, but it is not particularly crowded this time of year.

The only water and restroom facilities along this planned hike are at the Edwards Visitor Center, so plan accordingly.

It may rain late Friday/early Saturday, so trails may be damp, and we are hoping for brilliant, clear weather, but we can't know now what we'll get. Wear comfortable shoes, dress in layers, expect high fog, or brisk cold wind and/or bright sunshine. You may need sunscreen/sunglasses, hats, gloves, jackets, and maybe dry socks for the trip home.

Bring water, dog treats, 6 foot leash, pickup bags, dry off towels if Friday's rain is heavy, and possibly a mat/blanket to sit down on. Benches are few and far between.

Any questions, etc. e-mail me, or the morning of hike I will have a cell phone 1-510-258-9447 after 8:00 AM –

Greta

History of SnoBASH

At the last SnoBASH we talked about the ones in the past years. It really made me think of how it has changed, how many people have come and gone, how many fantastic friends I have made through this club and their events.

I am the longest active member of BASH. I joined in 1992 and went to my first SnoBASH that year. A few friends of mine and I went up, stayed in Angels Camp and went to the event that was then held in the meadow beside the Bear Valley Cross Country Ski Store. I borrowed a sled from someone and took Maxx out. Not much else happened. To be honest then the club event was not that well organized.

In 1994 was the next one I went to, and by now I was part of the planning. We took up little Coleman BBQ's, bought hot dogs from the Bear Valley Cross Country Store and made a great day out of it. Again we all stayed in Angels Camp. Drove an hour to Bear Valley on both Saturday and Sunday. We tried as a group to meet for Pizza at a Pizza place in Angels Camp... we took over the place...

In 1995 we were again next to the cross-country store. On Saturday there was a Blizzard.... we sat in the parking lot all day...running single dogs and the small kids around the parking lot...BBQ'd hot dogs for lunch and hoped for a better day on Sunday. It was gorgeous on Sunday.... We ran the dogs in all the great powder that they had. They also had put in a trail to the end of the meadow, which connected to the housing above. We would run our teams out and up into the housing (roads weren't plowed in the winter) and back down the main road to the Cross County Store. It made for a great 1/2 hour run with gee/haw turns.

In 1998 we decided to add KIDS rides to the days events. The first year we had a 100-yard course. We would send kids out with one dog on a sled. It was very successful and we realized we needed to charge as some kids did it 10 times. The following year we had medals made to give each kid when they finished.

We continued having SnoBASH at the meadow next to Bear Valley Cross Country until the Meadow was sold, and they could no longer put a trail in, I think was about 2000 or 2001. At this time Nic Matulich and myself searched for other sites to hold our event at. Our criterion was a meadow or trail that was in or could be put in where we could run dogs from 1 to 5 miles. The location also had to have accommodations within 30 minutes, ideally right where we sledged. We found about 4 but when we got down to it the areas didn't have enough snow at the time of year we hoped to do it and we would have to put a non-refundable deposit down. Most would allow us to do this at the end of the season, but guaranteeing we would come if there wasn't any snow didn't work.

In the spring of 1996 we were asked to come back up at the close of the season to give rides to disabled adults. Bear Valley would bring a busload of adults up from Hope in Santa Clara County. They would make it a GREAT weekend. They would take them skiing, Snow Shoeing, Ice Skating and added dog sledding. They set up a course for us on the Cross Country trail directly across the highway from where we had been. It was a great trail. All day on Saturday we gave rides to just these adults. We did a mile trail for over 35 adults. It was an amazing experience. We also learned to do shorter rides. The joy we brought to these adults was priceless. On Sunday we were allowed to use the entire trail that was available just for us to have fun. We continued this event in the spring at the Cross Country Course for 4 years until Bear Valley was sold and discontinued bringing the adults up.

In 2000, Tamarack Lodge opened for the first time in 10 years.... and we took it over. With all the rooms, cabins, etc....almost everyone with BASH who was ok leaving dogs in the car could stay there for the weekend. We were 5 minutes away from Bear Valley Cross Country. They originally had a diner there so we could have dinner. In 2002 or 3 a new family bought it, closed the diner part but asked us to hold the entire event in their meadow. We did. We made drops and lines and pickets to attach the lines to for 100 dogs, rented them for people to use. Sold lunches, we BBQ'd, we had vendors come up and sell harnesses and other equipment. It was amazing and fund and all in one place. We had 140 dogs at this and probably 70 people. The Johnson's who owned the lodge allowed us to use the professional kitchen that they had and we fed everyone dinner. We started holding both SnoBASH's there (winter and spring) I think about 2008 or so they sold the lodge and again things changed. The Lodge did long term rentals and not by night.

Some people had stayed at Tamarack Pines before and we were told that they could put in a trail for us there. So many of us went there and others had to again stay down in Arnold or Angels Camp. Here we had trees so we didn't need pickets and we had a nice trail that connected to what we had been using. This worked great for a couple of year until there was no snow.... for 4 years. We held 2 events out of 8. In 2012 we were able to hold the spring one, and 2013 we were able to run on just Saturday and a big storm came in and we had to get out early Sunday. Over those 4 years we lost many members to other events and some moved etc.... SnoBASH has changed a great deal and it will continue to change, but hopefully we will have snow every year to continue it. There will be new changes.



SnoBASH
2006 2007



What it takes to put on an event such as SnoBASH.

The reason to tell all is that a very few BASH members helped put this event on, it was a success to us but we know many would like to have run their dogs more. Much was because people came at a time we were planning on giving the dogs a rest and other times because we didn't have enough people to safely do it.

In BASH's hey day(1999-2006) we had 200+ members of which 40-50 were active and helped at different events. We currently have 40 members and 10-14 that are active in putting on events. We had 9 to help us set up and 7 that helped us take down. This even costs BASH about \$1000 and we in the past have not charged to participate. We did receive \$37 in donation from people that we took for rides that just came by.

To put on SnoBASH 16 last week...~.

3-4 months before Superbowl Weekend (we have it that weekend as it is usually slower on attendance for them) we contact the Bear Valley Cross Country to set up things and we reserve the rooms at the Pines.

For the few months up to it we WATCH the weather...and hope for snow.

3- weeks prior , when it looks like it is a go, we start putting all the stuff together that needs to go to Bear Valley so we can have a safe and fun event..

What we bring:

sleds, hooks, lines for the sled, harnesses, collars, drop lines for the dogs to stay on while there, cables to hook the drops between the trees, extra water bowls, water containers, poop bags, trash bags, signs.

All of the above has to go in various peoples cars that are going to be there **at the start to set up and stay until the end to take it down**. To give people an idea of how much we take, I have the largest Thule Cargo carrier they make and it was $\frac{3}{4}$ full will just the BASH stuff. We took $\frac{1}{2}$ of what we did 3 years ago because we did not have room to take other things. We had 11 people there to set up and 8 to take down.

Set up on Friday- We have to go out and see what trail they have been able to put in for us. Depending on Snow, owners of the property etc.... they give us what trails they can with loops. We walk it to figure out where we should set up, where to start and how, how many people we will need on the course to help with corners etc. Just putting up the drops, stomping down the snow with Snow Shoes etc.... it takes a good 2 hours. Then we set up the sleds, lines, harnesses etc... At the end of this, those of us that set up go out with our dogs because they have been sitting and waiting in cars or on lines since we left at 8:30 in the morning. We set up to run no more than 4 dogs per team. By the time we were done it was dark.

On Saturday morning we start out from 5:30 to 7.... Some earlier some later to walk dogs, water and feed dogs etc.... then get our breakfast and by 9 am we are moving our dogs down to the set up. Walk the trail again to see if there are any changes as they groom it for us each night. By 10:00 to 10:30 we are running our dogs with other people's dog to give them the opportunity to have their dogs sled. We were limited on the dogs that could run lead. We set up only 4 dog teams so dogs that were use to it ran in front and dogs that weren't ran in the rear.

We are limited to the amount of time (which ends up being limited amount of distance) that the dogs can do. Between the heat of the day and the number of runs, each set could do 5-7 runs in the morning. We came up with 14 dog that were use to running on a cart or sled. We scheduled that we do rides from 10-12, .but the vast majority that came up, came after 11 am.....so we ran what we could. Then we take lunch to give the dogs a break from 12 to 1:30. A couple of us have to sit with the dogs during this time. After lunch we then evaluate how much we can run the dogs based on temperature. We end by 3:30 so we can get the dogs back to the cars to get some rest.

We start all over in the morning..... at 5:30-7. Since our plan was to be home before the Superbowl ended because of traffic, we always plan to finish running dogs in the morning, pick up and put away all that we brought and get it back in the vehicles to leave. We didn't have anyone wanting rides when we got out there for 10 am. Most again showed up after 11 and we had already started to put some of the gang lines away We

finished running the dogs about 12.... And it took us until almost 2:30 pm to bag up everything,, haul it back to the vehicles, load that and the dogs, load our stuff and get on the road to go home.

Why tell people all of this..... because at this event we just didn't get that much help. I posted in advance that we needed people to stand out in the trail and help. A few did help and they know who they were, but many said they would but when it was time to help, they could not be found. In addition we had too many people that blatantly broke rules. Rules that have been in place, but we didn't realize that we needed to again tell everyone the rules. Because of this, a few of the people that helped put on the event don't plan on attending next time because they were tired of being the police for BASH and not getting to have fun with their dogs. Over the years it has been a standing rule that dogs are not off leash at our events, **especially** those that we pay for the location. There were more dogs found off leash than ever before...and people FACEBOOKED that they had them off leash at SnoBASH. Why do we care??? The trail groomers get permission from landowners for us to have a trail put in, the cross country groomer puts in our trail and tries not to go very much of their cross country trails but they have to. We are asked not to destroy that part by walking on the sections before and after "our trail". The people that want to cross country don't want foot holes in their trail and don't like dog poop on their skis. We walked out at the end of the runs and clean up all the poop. People walked on the sledding trail with their dog(s) (on and off leash) while we were doing sled rids. It is not safe to have a dog running at your team or being held on the trail while we are going by.

It has been a bad 4 going on 5 years of little and no snow....and we told people that they needed to pay the \$20 to Tamarack Lodge to use their parking lot and then they could use the sledding hill for kids....and they didn't pay to park....

We have decided for future SnoBASH we will require that people sign up that they are coming, they will have to sign a form that they have read the rules....and will abide by them.

Rescue March 2016

Go to the website and check it out as it is changing every day.

We have-

Jessie – 2 year old male (Randy will have him)

Lucas – 18 month old male (Heron and Arturo)

Max- 2 year old malberian who is being looked at today (Pat and Dona)

Chuy- 2 year old male (being boarded for now)

Atlas - 11 week old puppy that may have some issues with his knees

Puppy 2- 4 month old puppy that isn't going to adoptions for food aggression issue

And there is a female named Aya that is at the Salinas Shelter.

Bay Area Siberian Husky Club

Membership Renewal and Associate Application 2015-2016

Membership \$35.00

Date _____
Name(s) _____
Mailing address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Area code and phone _____
E-mail Address _____
Amount Enclosed \$ _____

I would like the newsletter mailed to me.

Make checks payable to BASH. All memberships and subscriptions are valid through March 31, 2017. Send membership renewal form and check to:

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
408-371-1841

Second Saturday
Pet Food Express 11 am – 2 pm
1902 S Bascom Ave, Campbell,
(408) 371-5555

Check with foster homes if they will
be at a specific adoption fairs.