

# Samoyed Association of Mpls/St. Paul



## CLUB NEWSLETTER

Volume 9/2003    September 30, 2003

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

Next Newsletter Deadline: October 31<sup>st</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

#### *Items in this issue:*

*General Meeting Notice*

*Upcoming Events*

*President's Message*

*Play it Again Sam!*

*Braggs*

*Dear Dogs*

*Lessons I've Learned or The World's Most Expensive Pair of Pantyhose*

*SAMS 2004 Board Nominations*

The Next General meeting is scheduled for **November 10th** at United Methodist Church, 1524 W Co. Rd. C2 and Snelling in Roseville. It will begin at 7:30pm and will include the nomination of the 2004 board.

## Upcoming Events

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

**October 12<sup>th</sup>**                Seminar: Canine Aggression with Dr. Petra A Mertens, Asst. Professor, U of MN  
Where: Bloomington Obedience Training Club  
Time: Noon - 3 pm  
Cost: \$35.00

**October 12 – 19**    **SCA Education & Research Foundation** will again hold an e-Bay auction. 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.

Our auction last year was lots of fun for the donors, as well as, the Bidders. Through the generosity of our sammy lovers - the foundation was able to raise over \$6000 for future research.

We are currently squirreling funds and in negotiations to establish a DNA bank for Samoyeds that will be the first of its kind in dogs- a cheek swab and blood DNA bank with complete security and data sorting abilities - and a possible option of frozen semen and/or tissue storage. The reason we need a bank is that researchers are not generally interested in using our breed as the focus of their investigation without studies we can't get answers. The establishment of a DNA bank in Samoyeds would get us into a research investigation as the focus breed because we have what they want - a broad cross section of readily available DNA - normal dogs, those who are carriers, those who are relatives, those who are affected. Such a cross section would make researchers willing to use the Samoyed as a major focus breed in their investigation because they have every thing they need to do a sound research study.

Actually, from speaking with researchers the message they gave me is-build a bank and many researchers will come knocking on our doors.

Therefore, we are running a second e-bay auction to raise the funds necessary to create a state of the art bank.

Thank you for all your help and good wishes,  
Amelia Price  
SCA Foundation

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

**October 20<sup>th</sup>**                **Play it Again Sam!** Starts at 7:30pm at Gage & Gage in Shakopee. New movie/video presentation for SAMS members. See detailed article listed in newsletter.

**November 1-2**             BOTC Obedience Trial Bloomington, MN  
Contact: Bonnie Swanson [Woodlandgs@aol.com](mailto:Woodlandgs@aol.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, **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, October 6<sup>th</sup> - 7:30pm at Lynne Sparks and Karen Palms' house  
Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>

## President's Message By Leny Wendel

Only one more club meeting scheduled for the year 2003. Does it seem possible? It feels as if we just started the year...Anyway, our last meeting of the year is an important one. The nominations committee has submitted its recommendations for the year 2004 to our secretary, Lynne Sparks (see Lynne's notification to the club elsewhere in this newsletter). Per our constitution

*“ Additional nominations may be made at the final club meeting of the calendar year by any voting member in attendance provided that the person so nominated accepts when his or her name is proposed and is a voting member, and provided further that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance at this meeting, his or her proposer shall present to the secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying his or her willingness to be a candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than one position.”*

I want to thank nominations committee chair John Donner and committee members Lynnette Sylvester and Jon Gauthier for their excellent work.

Although 2005 still seems far away, I have asked Jim Shea to chair the 2005 judge selection committee. He has very graciously accepted and is, along with his committee members Pam Landers and Larry Mackai, in the process of submitting the first ballot to the S.A.M.S. voting members. Thank you Jim, Pam, and Larry!

I also want to take this opportunity to thank Nellie Hofmeister for the beautiful 2003 S.A.M.S. specialty binder she created. The binder showcases numerous snapshots Nellie took as well as the official photos taken by our specialty photographer. In addition, Nellie forwarded a selection of photos to the SCA bulletin along with a listing of all the results. Photos may be reviewed on our web site (SAMSMN.ORG). I will also bring the binder to our next club meeting.

And talking about our web site, I think that everyone will agree that our web master, Ricq Pattay, has done and continues to do an outstanding job. Thank you, Ricq!

I hope to see many of you at our next club meeting, Monday, November 10, at our new location (Co. Rd. C2 and Snelling in Roseville). Leny

### **Activities & Education Committee Presents: Play it again, SAM!**

The activities and education committees are starting a new and exciting program, called *Play it again, SAM!*—a S.A.M.S. night at the movies. Actually, we'll be showing videos that pertain to Samoyeds, Samoyed/canine health issues, and any other Samoyed/canine interesting topics. Our premiere will be on Monday, October 20 at Gage and Gage in Shakopee. Social hour begins at 7:00 p.m.; program at 7:30 p.m. Donovan and Linda Murray will be showing two tapes of puppy temperament testing: one by Jan Richards testing Samoyed puppies; the other by famous musher and educator, Jamie Nelson.

Puppy testing information can be found in a book called *How to Raise a Puppy You Can Live With* by Rutherford and Neil. The Murrays will bring their copy of this book as well as hand-outs of the test.

Fresh popcorn and coffee will be served. Please bring a snack to share.

Directions to Gage & Gage: South on 169. Exit 83, Canterbury Road and turn right. Turn right at 1<sup>st</sup> stop sign (12<sup>th</sup> Ave). Proceed to 4950 and turn right into Gage & Gage parking lot (brown building with teal trim).

# Braggs

From Donaven and Linda Murray:

SANDBECK MR DILLON R U READY TT, CGC, TDI, HIT, CD, WS, HCT

On September 6th near Northfield Dillon passed the 1st leg of his herding test for AKC. September 7th proved to be a challenge when Dillon drew the 3 most cantankerous sheep for the second leg of his test. He was up to the challenge and appreciated being able to show off his talents. The black sheep was conquered and he earned the title HT (Herding Test).

## Dear Dogs:

Submitted by Barb Gage

When I say to move, it means go someplace else, not switch positions with each other so there are still two dogs in the way.

The dishes with the paw print are yours and contain your food. The other dishes are mine and contain my food. Please note, placing a paw print in the middle of my plate and food does not stake a claim for it becoming your food and dish, nor do I find that aesthetically pleasing in the slightest.

The stairway was not designed by NASCAR and is not a racetrack. Beating me to the bottom is not the object. Tripping me doesn't help, because I fall faster than you can run.

I cannot buy anything bigger than a king size bed. I am very sorry about this. Do not think I will continue to sleep on the couch to ensure your comfort. Look at videos of dogs sleeping, they can actually curl up in a ball. It is not necessary to sleep perpendicular to each other stretched out to the fullest extent possible. I also know that sticking tails straight out and having tongues hanging out the other end to maximize space used is nothing but doggy sarcasm.

My compact discs are not miniature Frisbees.

For the last time, there is not a secret exit from the bathroom. If by some miracle I beat you there and manage to get the door shut, it is not necessary to claw, whine, try to turn the knob, or get your paw under the edge and try to pull the door open. I must exit through the same door I entered. In addition, I have been using bathrooms for years, canine attendance is not mandatory.

The proper order is kiss me, then go smell the other dogs butt. I cannot stress this enough. It would be such a simple change for you.

Rules for non pet owners who visit and like to complain about our pets.

1. The dog lives here. You don't.
2. If you don't want dog hair on your clothes, stay off the furniture.
3. I like my dog a lot better than I like most people.
4. To you, she's a dog. To me, she's an adopted daughter who is short, hairy, walks on all fours and doesn't speak clearly.
5. Dogs are better than kids. They eat less, don't ask for money all the time, are easier to train, usually come when called, never drive your car, don't hang out with drug-using friends, don't smoke or drink, don't worry about buying the latest fashions, don't wear your clothes, don't need a gazillion dollars for college, and if they get pregnant, you can sell the pups.

# Lessons I've learned or the most expensive pair of pantyhose

By Anne O'Neill

Kelly got her stitches out today. She gets to go out in the yard again and play with her friends. Every time I look at her I am filled with joy that she is still with me. She made an incredible journey over the past two weeks and I'd like to think that I got something more out of it than the world's most expensive pair of pantyhose. Bob Hupp recently mentioned his \$2500 sock... lets just say I envy him :) What did I learn from Kelly's experience?

- 1) Pantyhose are Deadly to dogs. Yes Deadly with a capital D.** There are few things they can ingest that are worse. In Kelly's case one leg stayed in her tummy acting as an "anchor" for the other leg which tried to travel down her intestines. Think of a drawstring on the waistband of a pair of pants when you gather it up. That's what happened to her intestines. Once they were gathered up, the pantyhose began to saw back and forth cutting thru the intestinal wall. She had 7 perforations in her intestine, some which did not even show up until after the pantyhose were removed, basically spots weak at the time of the first surgery but not perforated all the way thru. Do yourselves a favor and, whatever else you might leave lying around for your dog to get into, **DO NOT EVER** leave pantyhose anywhere the dogs can find them.
- 2) If you ever suspect a blockage in your dog do not let your vet treat the dog as if it "might" be an upset tummy.** X-ray the dog immediately. In Kelly's case the first x-ray showed nothing unusual in her intestines but there was a mass in her tummy. My vet assumed it was food. He treated her as if she had an upset tummy and encouraged me to feed her when she came home. Knowing Kelly and her trash eating tendencies, I should have suspected a blockage before anything else and should have insisted on fasting her with another x-ray 12 hours after the first. We then would have seen the mass still in her tummy and would have known it was not food. At that point they might have been able to use a scope into her tummy to get it out, or at worse, done surgery to remove it from her stomach without getting her intestines involved.
- 3) If your dog is not acting what you think should be normal for them after surgery - at a point where they should be recovering - ask the doctor to do an abdominal tap.** This is a simple and inexpensive (\$35) procedure where they remove fluid from the abdominal cavity and examine it. If there is *\*any\** intestinal leakage post surgery it will show up. If we had done one on Kelly after the first surgery we would have known something was wrong before she got home. After the 3rd surgery Kelly's temp stayed at 101.2 - 101.5 for several days. The 3rd day it jumped to 102.5. Even though still considered normal, the specialist immediately did an abdominal tap.... And we stopped worrying as it was 100% normal. The slight temperature rise was just her body trying to heal.
- 4) Trust your instincts about your dog.** As the specialist who ultimately saved Kelly's life said... "Dogs are great liars and Kelly is better than most". And the doctor who did the first surgery also told me she learned a lesson from Kelly... not to always trust the clinical indications that a dog is fine. Kelly tried (with her panic attacks) to tell us something was wrong and no one listened because all the clinical signs (temp, blood pressure, blood work, heart rate) were normal. Prior to the 2nd surgery, the emergency room vet said she could not believe Kelly's heart rate was 100% normal, given how much pain she should have been in. She also thought Kelly looked "great" ... but I knew the Kelly that had been home for less then 24 hours was not the Kelly she should have been. In the future I will trust my dog.... Those panic attacks were **NOT** normal for a healthy happy Kelly... even given the trauma she'd been thru.
- 5) If your dog is ever seriously ill and on supportive care (fluids, pain meds, etc.) and has an extended hospital stay... INSIST that all treatment (other than long term stuff such as antibiotics) be removed for at least 12 hours before you agree to take the dog home.** Again, if we had done this with Kelly after the first surgery we would have known she was not okay. They basically took her off everything while I was there waiting to pick her up. By the time we got home (3 hours later) she was already showing signs that something was wrong.... She was lethargic, wouldn't eat and her temp was slightly elevated. When they released her the second time I insisted (and the specialist agreed) that she be off the fluids and pain med before they did a final evaluation to release her.

6) Dog can receive one blood transfusion of any blood type from any dog. But once they receive that one transfusion, if they ever require blood again it MUST be the same type as their own. I don't really understand this, (Deb F. can you shed any light?) but when I asked about the plasma Kelly was given this is what I was told. In her case she received plasma, not blood, so is still "safe" should she ever need blood. But if you have a dog that has received a transfusion and you don't know if the type was a match BE SURE to tell the doctor about it should they ever need blood again. Otherwise the transfusion can kill them.

7) There is credit card called CareCredit. Many vets take it. It is a credit card used specifically for health care related costs. And I even found out it can be used to pay for some human stuff as well. We now have a shiny new CareCredit card in our possession "just in case" we ever have an emergency and don't have the cash to pay for it. Do your dogs a favor and, if you can, get a CareCredit card. I don't believe in or use credit cards but I'll treasure this one. Even if you have a "shopping problem" this is one to have..after all you can't use it for anything but health care.. So it's not a "real" credit card :)

8) And ... in trying to look at the silver lining in all that happened.... Back in January I set a goal to lose 34 lbs. By early June I had lost 28 lbs and hit a plateau. Didn't budge for 2 months. Kelly helped me lose the last 7 pounds :)

Anne and the WhiteStar sammies

## **2004 SAMS Board Nominations**

Submitted by the Nomination Committee

### 2004 S.A.M.S Board Nominations and Election

The nomination committee consists of the following S.A.M.S. members: John Donner, Jon Gauthier, Lynnette Sylvester. Alternates are Karen Palm and Marcia Doering.

The committee's 2004 slate of nominations includes:

President: Leny Wendel

Vice President: Jane Anderson

Treasurer: Rolan Anderson

Secretary: Ann Musker

Members at Large: Sharon Dobson, Jon Gauthier, Cyndy Whiteside

Voting S.A.M.S. club members may submit nominations from the floor during the November 10, 2003 club meeting. The election will be held during the January 2004 S.A.M.S. club meeting.