



Samoyed Update

Published Quarterly by the Spirit of St. Louis Samoyed Club

Volume 11, Issue 4

Fall 2009

Meetings:

The Spirit of St. Louis Samoyed Club meets at 7:00 pm on the **2nd Monday** of each month, except for July, August and December because of special events.

The club meetings are held at **Airedale Antics** (dogs welcome!), 7316 Manchester Ave., Maplewood, MO 63143 (www.airedaleantics.com) unless otherwise noted.

Officers:

President:	Bill Szalkowski
Vice President:	Carolyn Herkstroeter
Secretary:	Marta DeMerath
Treasurer:	Teresa Carl

Board Members:

Sarah Dashner
Paul DeMerath
Suzanne Devaney
Jarrod Jones
Kelly Thuet

Web Site: www.stlsamoyed.com

Samoyed Update Editor: Paul DeMerath



Stan and Donna Niemann took Spirit pumpkin picking. She helped pick out the pumpkin and even pulled the cart.

Events:

Monday, November 9, 2009, 7:00 pm

Our regularly scheduled club meeting, to be held at Airedale Antics, 7316 Manchester Ave., Maplewood, MO.

Saturday, November 14, 2009, 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Trivia Goes to the Dogs presented by St. Louis Samoyed Rescue. Located at CiCi's Pizza, 9745 Manchester/Rock Hill.

Thursday, November 26, 2009

Thanksgiving Day Parade

Saturday, January 9, 2010, 6:00 pm

Annual Spirit of St. Louis Samoyed Club Holiday Awards Banquet and Auction. AKC Museum of the Dog, 1721 South Mason Rd., St. Louis, MO.

Proposed Programs/Events:

Holistic Veterinarian
Agility Night at Happy Dog Spot
Animal Communicator
Pack hike and lunch
Carting or lure coursing
Obedience demonstration and tricks class



Wanted:

Please bring with you items and baskets for both the Live Auction and Silent Auction on January 9th, 2010

Herding and Obedience at the 2009 SCA National Specialty

By Carl and Carolyn Herkstroeter

HERDING

The AHBA (American Herding Breed Association) trial at the SCA National Specialty was a two-day event held on Saturday and Sunday, October 3rd and 4th. Our Sammy D was entered for the Sunday Herding Capability Test (HCT). Since many Samoyeds are natural herders, we wanted to see if Sammie D fell into this category.

The event took place at Dogwood Farms, a scenic place located on a winding, wooded country road near Williamsport, Indiana, approximately 80 miles northeast of Indianapolis. After a two-hour drive from Indianapolis, we arrived at the site shortly after 11 o'clock. As herding events are notoriously slow, we waited five hours for Sammy D to show his stuff. Carl was stationed on the sideline, out of sight while Carolyn took Sammy into the sheep pen.

The judge, Kelly Malone, offered to test Sammy with Carolyn on the outside of the pen. Sammy turned his back on the sheep, tail down, wanting out. Carolyn was then asked into the pen to guide the sheep, talking to them, while Sammy continued to ignore and avoid the situation for several minutes. Then I saw a "light bulb" come on and Sammy's whole attitude changed [Carl]. His tail came up and he started to work the sheep! First clockwise and then counter-clockwise. One sheep broke away from the rest. Sammy immediately brought it back to the fold. On the sidelines I heard such comment as "Wow" and "He sure works a nice arc, are you sure he never did this before?" When Sammy's turn was finished, he got an ovation from the spectators. All 10 of the Samoyeds entered passed and received their first leg. We are especially proud of Sammy D. We drove back to the motel in Indianapolis in a happy mood, arriving well after dark.



OBEDIENCE

The obedience trials were held on Monday, October 5th, in the Marriott East Convention Center. First were the Rally classes, judged by Mrs. Shirley Ball. A total of 56 Samoyeds, including 15 in Rally Novice B, were entered. All Novice B dogs qualified. Margo and Sammy D did very well. Margo earned a score of 90, while Sammie D

scored 92. This means that both received their first leg in Rally Novice B. (Only two more to go)

Regular obedience started about 2 hours late. A total 41 dogs were entered, all judged by Mr. Fred Buroff. First the higher classes, Utility and Open Obedience were tested. Finally, late in the afternoon, when most of the dogs were tired and bored and the ring was filled with interesting scents, Margo and Sammie D were the first two dogs in. Margo, more interested in sniffing and looking around, she did not do very well, but could have possibly passed, until the recall! She hesitated, finally came half way, stopped, looked at Carl, looked at the Judge, and looked around the ring. Carl could see her thinking, "I wonder if they can catch me." And away she went, five laps full speed around the ring! Immediately earning NQ.

Carolyn found Margo's antics hilarious. A hard act for Sammy D to follow. But he had his own version. He refused to enter the ring. A man judge! Black suit! Clipboard! OH, NO! (Sammy has a thing about men. Extreme apprehension? Putting it mildly). Of course, Sammy NQ'ed immediately as Carolyn was dragging him into the ring. Mr. Buroff was kind enough to allow Carolyn to do the on-lead healing pattern, talking Sammy through the exercise.

Out of 11 Samoyeds entered in Novice B, seven "NQ'ed", and only three passed. This is an unusually high number of disqualifications. Looking at the judging schedule, Carl counted that approximately 70 Samoyeds were in the ring prior to the Novice B event, leaving all kinds of interesting odors behind. All Novice B dogs were distracted by these odors, straying away from the handler in both the on and off lead exercises. Many "sits" were missed. In Carl's opinion, the order of testing obedience classes should be reversed. Rally should follow the regular obedience classes, because during the Rally exercises the handler may talk to the dogs, and thereby has a chance to divert the dog from all distractions.

Both of us had an enjoyable time at the National Specialty, we did achieve 60% of our goal. Margo, Sammy D and Mindy seemed to enjoy themselves, especially Mindy who didn't have to do anything. We are looking forward to the 2010 National in Tennessee.



Conformation at the 2009 SCA National Specialty

By Marta DeMerath

Viewing conformation at this year's National Specialty was a bit like visiting an East St. Louis strip club . . . many of the girls were NAKED!! I'm sure there was more hair on the floor of the Marriott East Hotel and Convention Center than there was on many of the entries. If you doubt my claim, feel free to call the hotel and have them tell you about the number of workers they had constantly vacuuming the hallways around the grooming area!

Paul started Thursday off by playing the National Anthem on his trumpet. Quite a few people got the giggles as many of the dogs decided to help and add harmony! We were able to see the 6-9 and 9-12 month puppy classes and saw some very nice, but rather large pups. The Winner's Dog, T-Snow Star's Right On Cue, came from the Open Dog class. Echo's Unchained at Rapture was awarded Reserve.

Friday brought the bitch classes into the ring. I'd read talk on the *show_sams* site about everyone complaining about their girls not having any coat. They weren't kidding! It was nice to see that breeders still thought highly enough of their girls to enter them despite their lack of coat. Their structure was in plain view and not camouflaged by loads of hair. Despite a complaining bladder, I watched the entire competition. The Winner's Bitch came from the Bred-By class and her name is Cabaka's Gabe of Rock Star. She was bred by and lives with Gitte Morell and Kim Jensen in Denmark. Pebbles' Run Pretty In Pink was Reserve Winner's Bitch.



Joe Deleo with Tucker

Saturday was an awesome day in Indy! First off, it finally stopped raining! Second, Paul once again started the day by playing the "Star Spangled Banner" on his piccolo trumpet. Finally, former Spirit of St. Louis Samoyed Club member, Doug Daggett and his dog Shiloh (CH Cot'npic'n Polarmist's Rising Son) made it through the first two cuts in Best of Breed competition! That's an amazing feat when you consider that there were upwards of 66 males entered.

Some of the day's excitement stemmed from a mishap in the ring. One of the handlers on a Breed entry

stumbled in the ring and fell down hard. In an effort to come to her aid, other handlers pressed forward and a couple of dogs, stirred up by the commotion, got into a tussle. One dog was excused and the handler was taken to the local hospital. The other handlers did their best to collect and calm their dogs before the judge began to evaluate the entries.

Best of Breed was awarded to CH White Eagle's Celestial Sky. "Celeste" is breeder/owner handled by Mary Norton Augustus. Best of Opposite Sex was awarded to a move-up (a dog that finished their CH after the close of entries). White Magic's Take A Look At Me Now. The Winner's Bitch earned Best of Winner's honors. A large number of Awards of Merit were also given to deserving dogs and bitches.



Club member, Pat Schuler with Autumn

2009 SCA National Specialty

Art Show

By Marta DeMerath

Deb Fiedler was the coordinator of this year's Art Show at the National Specialty. She arranged a beautiful display of Samoyed themed artwork. Paul and I had the pleasure of manning the room on Thursday morning and also assisted Deb in packing up the pieces that weren't collected by the Noon deadline.

Many of the pieces were photos. They ranged from photos of a puppy being born (his "first steps"), to dogs in lakes, sled teams and about every other situation imaginable. Paul Martin's photo of a Samoyed sled team emerging from the woods into the light won first place in it's category as well as Best In Show in the Professional division. It was an amazing shot, as each of the Sammie's faces were lit, but none were yet in full sun. The driver was still in shadow but areas of the woods were illuminated to give depth and balance.

Other Art Show entries were pieces of fused glass, drawings, stitched plastic canvas pieces and items made from spun Samoyed fur. There was a lovely tank top knitted by Maria Chow that earned her a first place award and Best of Show in the Amateur category. Maria graciously donated all four of her Samoyed fur pieces to the SCA Auction.



2009 SCA National Specialty

Auction Banquet

By Marta DeMerath

Paul and I had an amazing time at the Luau themed Auction Banquet held on October 9th. The hall was decorated with posters of Samoyeds driving to Indy, dancing the hula and relaxing on the beach under the palm trees. The meal was a buffet with a tropical flavor; pork loin with sweet and sour pineapple sauce and chicken in a coconut curry were the main dishes. Side dishes included mango and spinach fried rice, coconut glazed sweet potatoes and tropical fruit trays. Even the desserts had a tropical twist; coconut dusted chocolate cake, pineapple upside down cake, banana coconut cream tarts and mango cheesecake tarts! I could play Herb Kubly (former food critic for the Milwaukee Journal) but let me just put it this way, both Paul and I earned our "clean plate awards!"

The festivities took off at the conclusion of the meal. A dog dryer was raffled off; a best Hawaiian-dressed contest was held, as was a male hula contest. Willie Adams won the hula contest and will be able to live it down since none of the photos Paul took turned out (Lynda's camera must have been low on batteries). I wonder if winning the hula contest compared to the year Casey won Best of Breed?! The bidding then started on a variety of items. Artwork by Scott Kennedy, Darlene Wilson and Anne Reid were auctioned off. The last piece of Samoyed stained glass that Charlie Schuler completed was sold for over \$200 (I came close to winning it, but I needed a place to sleep and a ride home). A booster bath, etched wine glasses, Samoyed fur clothing and a dog back pack were also up for bid. The two items that produced the most heated bidding were a black cowboy hat with hand-made silver Samoyed head conchos and the wooden Christmas sleigh pulled by three Samoyeds for outdoor display. The hat went for at least \$600, while the sleigh brought in \$1,300! Needless to say, I'm primed for our Auction and Banquet on Jan. 9, 2010 at the Dog Museum!



13th Annual Spirit of St. Louis Canine Games Report

By Suzanne Devaney, 2009 Games Co-Chair

We had beautiful weather for this year's Canine Games and it was a pleasure seeing so many volunteers from both clubs who gave their time to help make the games a successful one. The games would not have been possible without the help of Purina Farms whom have shown such generosity in hosting the event over the years.

The revenue netted from the 2009 Canine Games was similar to the revenue reported in 2008. We are happy to report that there was an increase in dog attendance this year over last year's numbers. There were 394 happy dogs in the games with 13 Samoyeds making an appearance.

Midwest Doberman Rescue of St. Louis was the gracious host of the Rescue Celebration with 23 dogs participating. Once again, Kevin Wheeler was our amazing Master of Ceremonies. He did a great job, as always.

The top three draws this year were Agility, Flyball, and last years new event, Race the Wind.

We had a wonderful raffle with Bill and Diana Szalkowski being great hosts. The artwork, home made crafts, and electronics that were donated, along with numerous white elephant gifts brought in \$630 that will be divided between the Spirit of St. Louis Samoyed Club and St. Louis Samoyed Rescue.



Meet Our Members

Submitted by Marta DeMerath, Membership Chair

Mark and Lisa Heatherly and their Samoyed, Bear, have been Club members since 2007-08. They've answered a few questions so we could get to know them better.



Are you from this area?

Mark and I are both from St. Louis. Mark has lived in some of the smaller towns of Missouri in his past life as a radio DJ.

What do you do for a living?

Mark works as a broadcast engineer for KMOV and I work as an assistant branch manager for Electro Savings Credit Union.

What made you decide to own a Samoyed?

I meet Bear when he was five weeks old. Suzanne and I drove to my son's house so that Suzanne could see her puppy, Murphy. They were rescued with their sister at the age of 7 days old. My son was going to keep Bear, but I fell in love. He and his wife decided that Bear would be a better fit for Mark and me. I brought home photos and I think Mark knew that it was hopeless. Two and a half weeks later, we took the long way home from the family reunion in Arkansas and picked up Bear. My father had a Samoyed when I was younger and my son had one as well that I just loved and was heart broken when we lost him.

Have you owned other dogs?

As adults we have not, we both had cats when we met. Mark had three and I had one. Of the four cats we started with, we only have one left. Bear has been around cats all of his life and sometimes I think he thinks he is one. He loves cat nip.

How did you hear about the Spirit of St. Louis Samoyed Club?

Through my sister, Suzanne.

What's your favorite club activity?

I would have to say the holiday party, BBQ and Sammy day at the Dog Museum. Mark's schedule keeps him from going to many of the events.

What activities do you like to do with Bear?

Bear is part of the family so we do lots of things together - walking, rides in the car, lots of playing.

What activities would you like to try?

Agility - he is really good getting around me when I want to catch him.

What are your favorite foods?

I would have to say that Bear's is Kitten Chow - he will squeeze through very small spaces to get to the kitten's food. Mark and I really like seafood and steaks and have found a great place to have both at the same time, Sapore, in Manchester, our new favorite restaurant.

Please share a funny/interesting story.

Mark will bring Bear over to my office and we tell customers that he is the security system. He loves to visit and show off; he can be quite the actor. My office has windows that look out at the lobby and on one visit I had to take care of something, so I closed the door and left him in my office. He laid down in front of the window and put on his best "I have been abandoned" face. Everyone was laughing at the poor baby locked in the office. I still have members ask when he is coming back. Needless to say, even though we don't have a drive up at my office, we have milk bones for our four footed friends. So, if you are ever in the area of Manchester and Baxter, drop by and see me. Sammies are welcome.

Summer BBQ

By Marta DeMerath

Sunday, September 23rd was an absolutely spectacular day for a BBQ! With the sun shining and the temperature hovering around 80 degrees, everyone agreed it was the best weather we've ever had for our BBQ.

Fifteen Club members arrived at Stan and Donna's house bearing side dishes and desserts to accompany the pulled pork and beef brisket sandwiches. Eight Samoyeds were also in attendance. The dogs welcomed Isis Dashner-Miller as their newest member. Maggie Brzezinski was the Queen Bee; even Margo eventually accepted her as the "pack leader."

Good friends, good conversation and good food – who could ask for anything more on a gorgeous Sunday afternoon?

Ever consider what our dogs must think of us? I mean, here we come from a grocery with the most amazing haul, chicken, pork, half a cow. They must think we're the greatest hunters on earth!

- Anne Tyler

AREA ALL-BREED DOG SHOWS

Nov 7-8	Ozarks KC	Springfield, MO
Nov 21-22	Lakeshore KC (Roy Jones)	Crete, IL
Nov 28-29	Kankakee Rvr Valley KC (Foy Trent)	Kankakee, IL
Dec. 5-6	Edwardsville KC	Belleville, IL
Dec 11-12+	Starved Rock KC (Roy Jones)	Wheaton, IL
Jan 30-31	Park Shore KC (Roy Jones)	Grayslake, IL
Jan 30-31*	St. Charles KC	Lake St. Louis

***-Obedience and Rally offered**

+Obedience offered

AREA OBEDIENCE TRIALS

Nov 6-8*	Evansville OC (Mimi Nicholson, Trial Sec. 7939 Washington Ave. Evansville, IN 47715)	Evansville, IN
Nov 7*	Car-Dun-AI OTC (Jean Munger, Trial Sec. 47W656 Shirewood Farm Rd. Hampshire, IL 60140)	St. Charles, IL
Nov 8*	Fox Valley DTC (Carolyn Pearson, Trial Sec. 3N161 Timberline Dr. West Chicago, IL 60185)	St. Charles, IL
Nov 14-15*	DTC of C-Urbana (Dr. Hanna Rao 904 S. Carle Ave. Urbana, IL 61801)	Urbana, IL
Dec 12*	Northwest OC (Anne Copeland, Trial Sec. 1034 Tulip Way, Palatine, IL 60074)	Cary, IL
Dec 19-20*	Skokie Valley KC Onofrio	Rosemont, IL
Jan 9-10	Evansville OC (Kelly Austin, Trial Sec. PO Box 15816 Evansville, IN 47716)	Evansville, IN

***-Rally offered**

Unless otherwise noted, Onofrio is the Superintendent.

Trivia Goes to the Dogs

Trivia Party Fund Raiser
Dog Related Questions

Saturday, November 14th 2009
1:00 – 4:00 pm

CiCi's Pizza (Pizza and Pasta Buffet)
9745 Manchester/Rock Hill

\$8.00 per person/pay at the door
Teams and Individuals Welcome

Silent Auction and 50/50 Drawing

For Reservations: Kelly Thuet 314-890-9768
costironkat@aol.com

Braggs

River City's Moonlight Frost (Pat Schuler, breeder/owner) went Winners Dog/Best of Winners on September 19, 2009 at the St. Louis Dog Breeders Association show at Purina Farms. He earned a point.

Sammy D (Carl/Carolyn Herkstroeter, owners) earned a qualifying score in his Herding Capability Test (HCT) at the SCA National Specialty on Oct. 4, 2009.

Sammy D (Carl/Carolyn Herkstroeter, owners) earned a qualifying score (92) in Rally Novice B at the SCA National Specialty on Oct. 5, 2009.

Margo (Carl/Carolyn Herkstroeter, owners) earned a qualifying score (90) in Rally Novice B at the SCA National Specialty on Oct. 5, 2009.

Northface's Skywalker (Pat Schuler, co-owner) was awarded 3rd place in 12-15 mo. dogs during Sweepstakes competition at the SCA National Specialty on October 7, 2009.

Ch Wolf River's Earth, Wind and Fire (Pat Schuler, owner) was awarded 3rd place in Veteran Bitches 12+ years old during Sweepstakes competition at the SCA National Specialty on October 7, 2009.



Club Birthday Greetings

November

11/21 - Phyllis Massa-Busch
11/21/00 - Linn's Cloud Dancer (Siberian Husky)
11/24 - Lisa Heatherly
11/24 - Jacob Worachek

December

12/7/00 - Lexi Worachek
12/24/07 - Harry Phipps (Airedale)
12/28 - Mark Heatherly

January

1/6 - Terry Colvin
1/9 - Lee Busch
1/12 - Linda Worachek
1/16/06 - Sassy Phipps (Airedale)
1/30 - Dianne Sutcliffe
1/30/04 - Aspen Kennedy

Rainbow Bridge

The Spirit of St. Louis Samoyed Club offers its condolences to Steve Miller and Sarah Dashner for their loss of Snowy and to Stan and Donna Niemann for their loss of Gypsy.



Steve and I wish to extend condolences to all the other members of Spirit of St. Louis Samoyed club and St. Louis Samoyed Rescue who have lost furry best friends recently. Snowy was our best friend and we were heartbroken when she succumbed to a tick borne illness on September 1.

Snowy joined our family the day before Thanksgiving 2002. She had been found hitchhiking on Tesson Ferry Road earlier that year by a concerned citizen who picked her up and got in touch with St. Louis Samoyed Rescue. Snowy's greatest strength was her ability to make new friends. We were so proud when she earned her TDI this spring. Age and arthritis prevented her from making any official Therapy Dog site visits, but she was always our therapy dog. She loved going to work on apartment buildings with Steve. She never got discouraged about zoning issues, building codes or economic conditions. She was always happy to meet with building inspectors or prospective tenants.

We don't know why Snowy became homeless seven years ago. We believe that her original family must have been very sad to lose her. We are grateful to St. Louis Samoyed Rescue for introducing her to us.

- By Sarah Dashner

Mommy and Daddy had to have Gypsy put down earlier tonight. It was a surprise to everyone. Daddy put us all outside and came to the door to bring us in a few minutes later. Gypsy was lying at the bottom of the deck steps and she couldn't get up. Daddy went out and brought her in. She couldn't put any weight on her back left leg. They took her to the vet and x-rays were taken. She had broken her leg above the knee. They couldn't put a cast on it. It had to be amputated, pinned or plated. And the vet said her other hip was in really bad condition too. So Gypsy wouldn't be able to support herself on three legs if they did amputate. Plus she still had the bad kidneys and she was almost fourteen. That pretty much left only one choice. But that didn't really make it any easier on Mommy and Daddy.

So far Spirit and I are doing OK. Maybe when Gypsy's still not here tomorrow it'll sink in more.

- By Jake Niemann



Gypsy, Jake and Spirit Niemann

St. Louis Samoyed Rescue News

By Sue Kabler

Barrow is still with us and he's very serious about finding his forever home. He's very special and would be a terrific companion and walking, jogging or running buddy. He's beautiful, as you can see, and would love to meet you.



Meet Lance. He's from Memphis and has just arrived. He's been neutered and chipped and is recovering at Misfit with Felicia, David and JD. Lance is already learning manners and will start serious obedience training as soon as he's recovered. He's very strong and very strong willed, but has that sweet Sammy part that will win your heart.



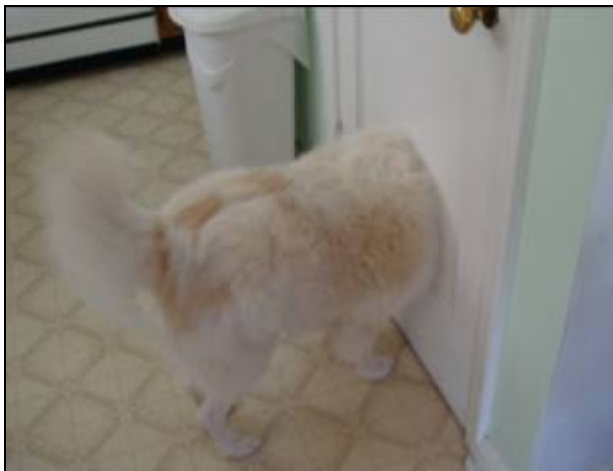
If you're interested in fostering, adopting, or just have questions, contact Sue at: kablerds@sbcglobal.net
www.stlsamrescue.org

Samoyed Update Information:

The deadline for submissions to the Samoyed Update Spring issue is January 15, 2010! Please e-mail your brags, reports, articles, pictures etc. to: icebowl2@charter.net

Subscription to the Samoyed Update is included with membership in the Spirit of St. Louis Samoyed Club. Please visit our web site at: www.stlsamoyed.com
For additional membership information please contact Marta DeMerath at: icebowl2@charter.net

Non-members may subscribe at the cost of \$5 per year (4 issues). Please contact Paul at: icebowl2@charter.net



Captain (Parchman) tries to fit through the cat door



Alicia and Marta with Mac and Nick at Devils River, WI

Reminders:

Club Meeting on Monday, Nov. 9th, 7:00 pm at Airedale Antics.

Trivia Goes to the Dogs on Saturday, Nov. 14th, 1:00 – 4:00 pm at CiCi's Pizza, 9745 Manchester/Rock Hill.

Thanksgiving Day Parade on Thursday, Nov. 26th.

Holiday Awards Banquet and Auction on Saturday, Jan. 9th 6:00 pm at the AKC Museum of the Dog. Remember to bring Baskets or other items for the Live and Silent Auctions!



Spirit of St. Louis Samoyed Club
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