

Siberian Tales

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Sept *August*
September 1996

Club Officers as of April 1, 1996

President:	Al Ouellette
Vice President:	Laura Morales
Secretary:	Randee McQueen
Treasurer:	Kris Sihler
Members at Large:	Dana Anderson Melissa Beers Angela Kwan

BASH Member Profile:

Kevin and Carol Lape

Cinnamon, a BI-eyed, red and white female out of Aslanlar's Kennel started Carol on her adventure in dogdome. One of Cinnamon's litters produced Sheba, a nice show prospect who was sweet, fun and obedient, much like her mother. Both Carol Lape and her Dog, Sheba, started out in the dog show world with little experience. The first fun match did not go so well. Instead of the puppy showing how great she looked, stacked and in motion, she just rolled on the ground and showed the judge how much she loved to have her belly rubbed. But before too long, Sheba was able to win Best Of Breed puppy at a BASH specialty match. She continued to win matches and points toward her championship. Crystal, a daughter of CH. Innisfree's Brannigan, out of Kristari's Kennel was Sheba's companion. Crystal loved to show and finished her championship easily. She ranked in the top 20 nationally!

Carol and Kevin have raised litters and purchased other dogs. One litter produced two puppies that looked alike and moved well together, which allowed Carol to show in a class called Brace, a favorite of hers. The Lapes participated in BASH matches, back-packing, and Snow-BASH as well as many dog shows.

The Lape's life changed on May 16, 1994 when Carol had her own litter of twin boys, Christopher and Austin. Then about a year later, as luck would have it, another boy named Steven came along. Carol and Kevin have been busy raising this litter the past few years, but they are slowly re-entering the dog world. The kennels are emptier with only Crystal and Lacey, a Sheba daughter, but they co-own Sheba, Wolfy son of CH. Kristari's Kamir, and Riga, a daughter of Wolfy.

Carol is a homemaker. Her other hobbies include photography, art and reading. Kevin is employed at KLA Instruments in San Jose, a manufacturer of line monitoring inspection equipment for Semiconductor manufacturers. He enjoys playing the piano, keyboards, electric guitar, and bass, as well as dabbling with home improvement projects. The kids and dogs get along fine.

BASH TRAIL TALES

The First Annual BASH Campout by Kathy Miyoshi

Over the weekend of August 16th BASH had its first annual camping trip. Doug Aldrich and Angela Dismas kindly made arrangements for us to go to the Arroyo Seco campground in the Santa Cruz mountains. It was a beautiful spot and a great lot of fun and adventure! Here is the story:

DAY 1: Saturday, August 16

I had the day off so I had plenty of time to pack my truck and meet the others to convoy together to the campground. This was Gracie's (my new Sibe puppy) first camping trip and I was nervous as to how she was going to fare! Konan is a camping expert, having accompanied me and Amir on many trips. It took about two hours to reach the campground. The last part of the drive was pretty. The road winded through peaceful valleys and mountains as we climbed up to our destination. The campground was set-up in layers, an upper part had the single campsites and a lower part had our site - the group site. It was a large clearing with Oak Trees, two outhouses and many picnic tables. The site was located next to two lakes and we could watch it as we ate at the picnic table. The site was loaded with another kind of oak too, Poison Oak. I am happy to say that I am not allergic to the stuff (I would have to swim in it before I would get any bumps) but some of us were not so lucky! By the end of the weekend Nic had it as well as Angela.

We set up a drop line first and hooked up all the dogs. There was Maxx and Teruu, then Konan and Gracie and then the four dogs of Angela and Doug Meeko, Nikita, Jazz and their newest addition, a white Siberian named Timber. There were all those big dogs and then my little puppy smack in the middle! She looked funny but I could tell she was having a grand old time!

Next we unloaded all the cars, coolers, tents and equipment. Next came the exercising of the dogs! Doug started out first with his bike and a dog in harness held by a leash in his hand. Randee and I used the K-9 Cruisers and went around the lake and camp sites twice with our sibs.

Now all that was left to do was WAIT. Wait for Dana and wait for Nic and his tribe to arrive. We had dinner. About 11 pm Dana called us on the radio of her arrival. We went out to get her and show her the way to the campsite. After unloading **Cont page 3**

SKYEWRITING

By Alan Doyle

Running in the biggest race of his life

VALLEJO, Calif. (STNS) - Telling assembled supporters and international representatives of the press that, "This is the most important race of my life," Skye confirmed rumors circulating in political circles since July by announcing his candidacy for the presidency of the United States.

Speaking from the front gate of his family kennel under a warm, sunny Labor Day sky in this San Francisco suburb, Skye said he intends to "get this country on the right trail again."

"We've all seen the charades of the Republican and Democratic party conventions, not to mention the Reform fiasco," Skye said. "It's clear that under Bill Clinton, Bob Dole or Ross Perot we'd just have more of the same.

"And that isn't good enough. As America stands on the threshold of the 21st Century, it needs new leadership, new visions, new hope - a new injection of common sense, not the same old egocentric, mealy-mouthed politicians."

"In my business, they say the view never changes unless you're the lead dog, but that's not true. Americans are tired of being led down the same old path by leaders who don't care about them. We need a different view of ourselves, our nation and our future."

Under sharp questioning from the press, Skye acknowledged an independent candidacy would be difficult under any circumstances, let alone for a dog who never before has run for public office.

"There will be some obstacles to face; I'm sure of that," the blue-eyed bachelor explained, a smile crossing his face, the hint of a wag in his tail. "But we Siberians are accustomed to overcoming obstacles. From Balto to the latter-day heroes of the Iditarod, we Huskies have confronted seemingly insurmountable obstacles and have defeated them."

"Beyond that, as my fellow Americans watch and participate in my campaign, they should keep two facts in mind:

- "Humans most often complain this country is going to the dogs, but that is a slander. It is the humans who have created the problems we dogs now must solve on behalf of all Americans."

- "Tough times demand tough leaders, and these are the

toughest of times. Throughout its history, America always has turned to tough, demanding leaders in times of crisis. We all know we are in a crisis these days: A crisis of leadership. A crisis of confidence in our institutions. A crisis of faith that we will be able to prosper in an uncertain and changing future as we have during America's glorious past. Such crises demand the very best of America's leaders. What's needed is America's very own S.O.B. And I am the only candidate who can truly claim to be an S.O.B." "There is much work to be done to get this country back to smooth sledding, and I intend to enlist the support and assistance of all Americans, not just humans, in doing that job. Together as a team, we can win."

In response to questions from the press, Skye said he would announce a detailed campaign platform the next 30 days.

Refusing to disclose specifics, he said his major planks would include an "end to welfare as we know it - corporate welfare, that is;" a program to control the use of handguns in crime by, "dealing with the problem, which is criminals, not their weapons" and a controversial reworking of federal affirmative action programs Skye promised would "level the playing field by ending not only ageism, sexism and racism, but that most insidious and invidious forms of discrimination - speciesism. There is no room in America for any form of hatred, and certainly not one the basis of an individual's ancestry."

As proof of his commitment to that emotional and potentially politically damaging plank, Skye introduced the aide who has been recruited serve as his principal strategist on the topic.

"Henry Hissinger has a long and distinguished career of public service to the United States and indeed the world," Skye said. "Every campaign, indeed every presidential administration needs a snake in the grass. Dr. Hissinger has graciously agreed to advise this campaign and to serve as Sssssssecretary of Ssssstate in my administration."

To become a member of Skye's presidential team, as a volunteer or donor, contact his campaign committee, Skye's The Limit, in care of Alan Doyle, campaign manager, 1029 Tuolumne Street, Vallejo, California, 94590-4630; (707) 643-7975 or via the Internet at alandoyle@aol.com. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by federal law and the laws of your state. Volunteer campaign organizations will be forming within the month.

BASH TRAIL TALES

Cont. from page 1

Send your Trail Tale to: BASH'S TRAIL TALES: Nic Matulich, 1140 Nadine Drive, Campbell, Calif 95008 -or- SMELLOFDOG@AOL.COM
If we use your Trail Tale you will receive a free Tee-Shirt.

her six dogs and equipment and setting her up in the tent it was more waiting for Nic. Nic arrived right around midnight and we all got up again to help unpack still more dogs and camping stuff. Nic brought five dogs with him and that brought the total occupancy of the campground to seven adults, two kids and 19 dogs!!!!

Bedtime was now definitely in order and we all trooped to our places, hoping, I'm sure for a good night's rest. However, for our tent that was never to be! Dana's dogs had never been camping before and hadn't been well exercised after the car ride. I don't think they ever figured out why she drove them over two hours just to tie them on a line. They all expected to go running and were full of energy. First it was Sitka who kept incessantly pulling at the line dragging the sleeping dogs first one way and then another. Every time they settled down she would yank them off their feet and drag them off. Dana tried in vain to get her to shut-up from the warmth of her sleeping bag by yelling at her. But, of course, this didn't work. Then Tukanuk joined in and starting barking and barking and barking. Dana got out of bed and took Sitka and Tukanuk into her truck where she hoped they would settle down. But every time she tried to leave they would start making noise, so she ended up spending an hour in the truck freezing her buns off to no avail. Next thing I knew the sun was coming up and I couldn't remember whether I had actually ever fallen asleep!!

I was sure we had kept the entire campground awake not to mention our little site, but I was surprised to learn that everyone else slept just fine and not one complaint was registered with the park ranger

DAY 2: Saturday, August 17

Eventually we all struggled out and woke up to a beautiful, sunny day! Now it was about getting the dogs ready for some morning carting exercise. We split the dogs into two carting groups, one six-dog team and one eight-dog team. I rode my bike in front of the six-dog while Dana and Randee rode the cart. We went for 3-4 mile ride and then took out

the eight-dog team. I had never driven a cart before so Randee gave me lessons all weekend. I was a little nervous because I have vivid memories of last winter when I took out five dogs on my little sled and my weight alone wasn't enough to stop them!!! I thought for sure that an eight-dog team would drag me straight into the lake!! In my excitement, however, I temporarily forgot my left-right commands and kept yelling out to poor Sioux the wrong commands! There was Randee and Dana yelling "Gee, Sioux, Gee!" and I was yelling "Haw!" Oh well. (Sioux, being smarter than all of us humans, figured it out.) But all went well and it was a lot of fun. Now it was time for lunch and a nap! We all spent a few delightful hours just relaxing. When we started stirring again, Doug and Angela led the way to a great spot on the river where we could go for a swim. Randee and I brought our pooches too and I was surprised when my leash started moving around in all kind of directions. I looked back to see Gracie in the water, swimming like a pro!!! My little 13 week old puppy swimming better than my Konan ever would! Like usual, hestayed on the shore and watched as we all paddled around and cooled off. Randee's Maxx and Teruu also waded in and enjoyed a swim. It was a wonderful break and gave us all a chance to get clean again.

Nic and Diane took little Nic and Chris fishing while we took the dogs on an afternoon cart run. Same teams, same trails and more experience for me! They actually caught two fish! Dinner that night was bar-b-que'd ribs and chicken complements of Doug and Angela, plus there were hot dogs and bean salad. I noticed that most dogs, also, got to benefit from the ribs and were happily chewing away on the bones!

Nic then led us on an evening nature hike to view some little bats that were whisking up and down over the lake eating millions of insects. We all flashed our flashlights out

over the water and watched at the bats flew in and out of our beams as they dived onto the surface of the water and in the air catching their prey. It was really neat as it was a clear night and the sky was lit up with stars and the crickets were going full steam.

Now it was time to settle down in front of a blazing campfire. Chris and Nic (and some of the rest of us) charred some marshmallows but mostly we just enjoyed conversation. We didn't stay up quite as late as we had the night before. Soon we were all heading off to try to get a better night's sleep. The dogs were definitely quieter. We had intentionally run Sitka every time we went out to make sure she would be calm. It paid off. That and the fact we lugged crates out of Dana's truck for Sitka and Tukanuk to spend the night in DAY 3: Sunday, August 18

We woke up much the same this morning as the one before, eating eggs and pancakes and then running the dogs a final time. However, thething to keep in mind here when running these huskies is how excited they get when we are putting them in harness. When the dogs get excited, they howl and howl and make all kinds of noise. We ended up with a gallery watching us on our runs today. By the second time around kids were following the cart. After the runs we pretty much began packing up the camp, loading all that same stuff we had unloaded two days before. Then we all relaxed for a bit. We gathered some of the dogs and went for a little hike around that same lake we had been carting by. This was kind of niceto give the dogs and us a some time to enjoy our surroundings. (It's kind of hard to take in nature when you've got six or eight dogs in front of you to watch!) Little Nic really attached himself to my Gracie and I let him walk her through most of this walk I figure puppies and kids are meant for each other and if it hadn't been for Nic and Chris, Gracie wouldn't have had nearly so much fun!

I don't know about anybody else, but I can't wait until the second annual camping trip! Hope to see more BASH members at the next one!!

Kathy

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

- Sept 6-8 Campout at Pine Crest with Malamute Club
- Sept 14 General Meeting
Randee McQueen's
(see map page ___)
- Sept 29 Ice Cream Social
Los Gatos Creek Park
(see flyer)
- Oct 12 Bike Rally at Terrel School in San Jose (watch for signup flyer next month)
- Oct ??? Another fun Day at Martin Luther King Park
- Nov. 16 BASH All Breed Fun Match

Put Your Ad HERE!

Advertise your kennel goods for sale or anything you may have in our newsletter for just \$10 a month for a business card size ad. Ads must be submitted by the 20th of the month to guarantee placement in the following months newsletter.

Please send camera ready copy-to: Randee McQueen c/o BASH 2633 S. Bascom Ave Campbell CA 95008

BASH Logo Items----

Sweatshirt/t-shirt

Pin/ short sleeve t's

Bay Area Siberian Husky Club



Work * Show * Play

Sweatshirts-Child M M L XL XXL	\$ 20.00
Cardinal Forrest Green Black Plum Blue	
Long Sleeve T-Shirts- L XL XXL	\$ 15.00
Cardinal Stoney Blue Black	
Short Sleeve T-Shirt- Child M M L XL	\$ 12.00
Fusia Green Navy Black	
BASH Baseball hats	\$ 12.00
StoneWashed Green Blue Maroon Gray	
BASH pin (old logo)	\$4.00
BASH pin (new logo)	\$5.00
SnoBASH Coffee cups	\$5.00
Wolf Christmas Ornaments	\$8.00
Harnesses (x-Back, S, M, L, XL++)	\$20.00
Alaskan Collars	\$6.00
Leashes with tie-out	\$ 10.00
K-9 Cruisers	\$ 35.00
New- Rescue Knife (a must for mushing and carting)	\$ 12.00

Send \$2.00 per item if you want it mailed

Articles published in this newsletter are original or have had permission granted to republished. If you would like to have a letter article or picture published we will need to receive it by the 15th of the month in order to have it in the next issue. This is a monthly publication - Siberian Tales Editor: Randee McQueen, 2633 S. Bascom Ave., Campbell CA 95008 FAX (408)559-7684 or Randee1@aol.com

UPCOMING SHOWS MATCHES AND EVENTS IN NO. CA 1996

Dog Show Dates

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| Sept 11-14 | SHCA-National Specialty in Vermont |
| Sept 14 | SNDD- Fun Match- Hayward State |
| Oct. 5 & 6- | Donner Trail KC,-Show at Placer Co. Fairgrounds, Roseville. |
| Oct. 11- | Shasta KC-Show, at Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds, Yuba City |
| Oct. 12.- | Chico Dog Fanciers-Show, same place |
| Oct. 13 - | Two Cities KC- Show, same place. |
| Oct. 20- | Del Valle KC of Livermore-Show, Alameda Co. Fairgrounds, Pleasanton. |

Bay Area Siberian Husky Club

Meeting Minutes

8/18/96

Present: Kathy Miyoshi, Al and Carol Ouellette, Bryan & Celine Tews, Terry and Melissa Beers, Michael and Sandy O'Brien (1st meeting), Jackie Moss, Gary and Anita Kelly, Randee McQueen, Kris Sihler.

Meeting was called to order at 3:20

Approval of minutes First by Melissa and seconded by Anita.

Officers Reports:

- President Mt. Umunhum was very successful and many really enjoyed it.
 Vice President Absent- no report
 Treasurer There is \$1059 in the checking account
 Secretary 4 new members that have paid and numerous members from rescue.
 Rescue Nic Absent report given my Kathy -Adopted out 2 the day before at the rescue and was able to assist in the placement of an 8 year old dog. BASHRR is running very well. Ads have been very successful. Melissa gave a report on the ads that have been placed. Classifieds hooked up

with a reporter that wrote about BASH and BASHRR in the Alameda Community.

Old Business

- A. All Breed- we are sending out letters to the judges and hope to have things set by the Sept meeting so that people can help put the flyer together. We will need stewards on the day of. Jacques' Porter has volunteered to call all members to solicit assistance.
 B. Ice Cream Social - Will try for Oct. 5 if still available, if not we will try for LGCP or one in EBRPD. Melissa will buy the Ice Cream.
 C. Pine Crest- contact Bill Griffiths if you are going. Current 3-4 families are planning on joining the Malamute group.
 D. Sept Meeting- At the Ice Cream Social ? No meeting will be at Randee's on Sept. 14.
 F. Arroyo Seco Camp out- Angela and Doug- It was a great success and those that went had a blast.

New Business

- A. Discussed if meeting should be put on a specific day of the month. No decision made.
 B. Walk-a-thon at Terrel School as fund raiser. It is on for October 12th. Celine will set up a list of times so that we can rotate dogs to do the carting. Celine requested that all dogs be groomed prior to the event and that people not groom their dogs at the event.
 C. Christmas Parade- We have been invited to Los Gatos' parade - do we want to do it? Yes. More info will follow in October.
 D. NorCal Show is on Sept 21st. BASH will lend their tables (Marilyn will transport) will anyone staff it? Kathy said she would if someone would help with the adoption day.
 E. Sept 22- Dog Show in Gilroy that we were invited to participate in as a club and rescue. We will also be able to demonstrate carting with our dogs. Nic, Randee, Gary and Anita have said they will man the booth.
 F. Al reported that he talked with Sue Adams (a founding member of the club but was unable to attend as she was the hostess for the dog show our meeting was at) stated that she was proud to be a member of our club and proud of what we were doing with our rescue group. What we are doing is right and all should support it.

Next meetings agenda: Randee's house on Sept. 14th.

Bragg: Kris bragged that Rowdy took BOW yesterday and a reserve today. He got his first point and now he can go to the Cow Palace Show.

Bryan bragged that it was Celine's 33rd birthday today. We all wished Celine a happy birthday

AGENDA for September 14 MEETING

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>I. Call to Order
 II. Sign in sheet of members present
 A. Introduce guests
 III. Approval of Minutes
 IV. Reports
 A. President
 B. Vice-President
 C. Treasurer
 D. Secretary
 E. Rescue Chairman
 V. Election of New Members
 A. Donna Miller
 B. Jackie Moss
 C. Michael and Sandy O'Brien</p> | <p>VI. Old Business:
 A. All Breed
 B. Ice Cream Social - Sept 29th at Los Gatos Creek Park
 C. Pine Crest- malamute group.
 D. Set dates for next 3 - 4 meetings.
 E. Bike Rally- Terrel School
 F. Dog Shows- Sept 21 (Nor Cal) Sept 22- Gilroy
 VII. New Business:
 A. Future events-
 B.
 C.
 VIII. Set Next Meetings Agenda-
 IX. Brags
 Adjournment</p> |
|---|---|

Tahvi and Gary Kelly - The Training of a Guide Dog - Part 6

Tahvi is challenged by the spring growth. So many of the trees here have grown so much that their limbs now hang down at face and head level for me. Tahvi has the task of keeping me from walking into these. It is one of the hardest things to teach a guide dog. Tahvi does quite well with this. He mostly thinks carefully now before approaching such a place, and warns me by slowing, or stopping. If he stops, I know to reach up and move the branch aside, or to command to find a way around it. If I direct him to go "forward" he will take action to avoid the obstacle which may mean to go into the street. If I direct "straight" he will proceed, slowly, trying to leave clearance for my head to just brush by the leaves. If this is not possible he will wait until I either clear the path or give another command.

Tahvi is allowed to have branches or leaves brush me, but not hit me in the face or body. This is sometimes a judgment call, and takes time to learn. The standard may vary with the master. I am pretty tough, partly since I wear glasses, and I don't want them scratched or knocked off of my face. I have enough vision to see obstacles to my right, but none at all on my left. Branches from the left are especially dangerous. Tahvi is more likely to make a mistake on a new route than a known route.

The ultimate challenge comes when another dog is near as we approach overhanging branches. That has to be the toughest challenge for a husky pup. He has to actually put me first and forget (at least post pone) his interest in the other dog. That is discipline! Tahvi is far above average in this regard, and getting better.

On one occasion, we went to Monterey, and walked around Fisherman's Wharf. Tahvi loved it. He kept trying to chase all the sea

birds of course, and I am fairly tolerant of that behavior, I control it, but I prefer he maintain some interest in his environment. I am a firm believer that attempting to eliminate interest in the environment, produces a depressed dog. Tahvi was a dog long before he learned to be a guide dog, and I owe it to him to respect that.

Tahvi met a monkey at the Wharf. A man with an organ and a monkey was there collecting money from all the passers by. We stopped and I took Tahvi quite close. Tahvi was fascinated, and interestingly enough, so was the monkey. The monkey kept trying to come closer to Tahvi, and this annoyed his master, since he was more interested in having his animal collect money for him. Tahvi stood politely, wagging his tail, and staring at the monkey. He did not say a thing, only watched.

I moved him away after a few minutes so as not to provoke the man further. Tahvi left with his usual good humor, and no reluctance. Tahvi always believes that if we are going to a different place it can only be that something else is there for him - that might be even better! He never shows any displeasure at my changing direction or plans.

On the observation deck overlooking the harbor, Tahvi stood on his hind legs to see over the rail just as any person might. From his level he could see nothing, since there was a boarded up portion of the fence from about four inches to 40 inches. Tahvi simply stood up, and poked his head over the boarded up portion just under the top rail. People started watching him more than the harbor! They are always surprised by his almost child like behavior.

These incidents and more, illustrate how a husky can mature in to a wonderful guide dog, and how they can learn to enjoy the job even with its restrictions because it does offer the kind of variety on which they thrive.

The End

Tahvi at the Zoo- continued from Pg 7

Tahvi didn't like the wild hogs at all! Any version of wild pig got a refusal to look at for more than a moment it took to identify it. Then Tahvi would insist it was time to move along to another exhibit. One might say he was bored, but I suspect it was a reaction that is almost genetic in nature.

As we went by, the macaques saw Tahvi, and began to move towards us. Norman moved us along, and the macaques followed. They were not upset, but very curious, and Tahvi was just as curious about them! He kept looking at them over the low wall, and they kept coming after us. Finally they reached the end of their cage, and continued watching us as long as they could see us, gathered at one end of their cage.

We saw a rare tree fox, and it is such a timid animal that Norman said that this was only the second time he had seen it in two years of being at the zoo. It usually hides from humans. It was in plain view, and watching Tahvi intently. Tahvi watched it as well, and they kept this up for a minute or so, before Norman moved us along. He didn't want the timid animal to be frightened, but it was also amazing that it came into the open to watch Tahvi, when it normally would not.

Few animals remained oblivious to our passage.

Our visit lasted almost 5 hours, and covered 8 miles of walking through animal areas. Tahvi was quite exhausted at the end of the day-a first! I suspect it was emotional and exhaustion through concentration more than physical. After another day of intense activity, he got almost punch drunk from stimulation and hard work. While always a clown dog, he became a slap-stick comedian. Upon returning home, he slept 12 hours, and took a couple of days to recover fully. I have been surprised that his dreams have not disturbed him more!

- -

Freedom, like sanity, is best questioned to be sure one still has it.

A visit to the Zoo by Tahvi (the Guide Dog)

We just enjoyed a long weekend in San Diego. It was one of great weather, good food, and fun times. We took Tahvi to the zoo there, and saw the zoo from an entirely different perspective. Tahvi is extremely interactive, and we expected to see him react to the animals. We did not expect to see the animals interact with him. One usually thinks of the animals as existing in their own caged world, largely choosing to be unaware of those people outside of their cages. This is simply not so. They were incredibly aware of Tahvi in most instances, and reacted to his presence in often very obvious ways.

Our adventure began with our late flight out from San Jose. We went to bed late. The next day I got up at 6:30 that morning. We ate, and got ready to go to the zoo. We made the zoo at around 10:00 a.m.

Upon admission, we found that we had to talk with security about taking a guide dog through the zoo. After some preliminary work, we were permitted to take Tahvi through the zoo, but with an escort, to be sure that the animals didn't get frightened, and that Tahvi didn't misbehave. The assigned escort was an extremely nice young man named Norman, and the actual tour was more like having a guided tour than a security escort.

Norman was to observe Tahvi and the animals, and make determinations as to when we might go into some areas, and when we had to avoid them. Some areas were off limits, such as the aviary, where frightened birds might damage themselves on their cages upon seeing a predator. Norman was quite impressed with our husky guide dog, and very perceptive of his behavior.

We were unable to move into the primate area because the monkeys reacted so strongly to Tahvi when he was still 25 yards away. They set up such a chorus upon seeing him, that it was advisable to not enter their area.

We did get to move into the big cat area—at least a part of it. The cats, normally appearing to be

oblivious of the crowds, often stood, moved to the fore parts of their cages, then followed along the inside of the cage until we passed by. This was an accomplishment, since normally guide dogs are not permitted in the area at all. The exception came about because the keeper for that area gave us permission to enter, and Tahvi behaved well.

Tahvi walked on the opposite side of the sidewalk from the cages, and sometimes crowded against me. He never made a single noise, appearing to be aware that these were certainly not house cats! We avoided the snow leopard, since it was known to react to dogs, and we did pass its cage from a lower road. The snow leopards, two of them, could see us from 100 feet away, and one of them watched us take each step until we passed from view. Anita said that it was the only time in her life where she felt the stare of a wild animal who didn't want us near.

Norman was pleased with the encounters. The other visitors were quite entertained by the sight of such big cats watching a little husky who was probably more than a little concerned about becoming dinner for one! The escort stated he would be able to give the handlers some excellent information as a result of our visit. Animals that he expected to react reacted mildly, or in a very acceptable way—as with the big cats, and others, like the deer, reacted strongly, even barking at Tahvi until we moved from their area completely.

The deer were quite funny! There were six of them in one very large enclosure. Tahvi was looking in at them, and the females lined up in a row, and began moving towards him, staring intently. Norman decided it was time to move on at that point. As we did so, the male stood, and joined with the females. They moved after us, and began a sharp barking. The barks are single, explosively loud sounds that hit like the impact of a drumbeat. They are designed to frighten, and could easily do so. They kept this up until we were quite a long distance away.

One interesting development

was that when we first took Tahvi to a caged area, he would, with encouragement, put his forepaws on the top of the low wall around the area, and look inside. He often could not spot the animal, which might be hiding, and only partially visible. If the animal didn't move, Tahvi became bored, and jumped down. After a couple of hours, he would spend minutes looking, and learned to keep looking, and using his senses until he did find the animal inside of the cage.

We, as humans, can converse and say, "Look at . . ." Tahvi has no such advantage. To him, each cage was just another wall with vegetation behind it unless the animal was clearly moving, or choosing to make itself known. He would even get distracted by bird life common to the area, and miss the animals. After a time, this changed dramatically, and Tahvi even got some animals to interact with him. One particular tree kangaroo put on a peek-a-boo game with Tahvi, with both participating. The game lasted almost 5 minutes.

Another animal, a blue larakeet, did a dance for Tahvi, and played in the cage just in front of him for minutes with Tahvi intently watching. This parrot wasn't in the least afraid of him, and he never threatened it, only watched it take a dust bath, dance around, and chirp at him.

One of the other surprises was his reaction to the brown bears. The great grizzly female he saw from above, was a huge specimen, and she was quite active, walking along a stream in her pen while we viewed her from a catwalk above, and well out of reach! Tahvi looked, jumped down, jumped up, and looked again. He then turned his head to Anita, and with very wide eyes, seemed to be asking her if she saw this too! He then looked back, and standing on his hind feet feet, with front paws on the wall, kept looking. He would jump down, jump up and look again, jump down, and appear to think about it before deciding he had better look again. He was caught between being apprehensive at not seeing this huge animal on the other side of the low wall, though 20 feet below him, and seeing it—a horrific sight! He seemed relieved to leave the bears.

Continued Page 6-

Book Review:

My Lead Dog Was a Lesbian - by Brian Patrick O'Donoghue

The title sounds strange but this is an excellent book. Patrick O'Donoghue is a reporter for the Fairbanks newspaper who had covered the Iditarod for a couple of years. On a fluke he took a sponsors place in a race and was "bit" by the mushing bug. It gives you a feeling for what it is like for a rookie to run the "Great Race". The title comes from what he believes is his sexually confused lead dog. (to many of us know as our alpha dog)

The book begins with his completion of the Beargrease 200. This is a qualifying race for the Iditarod. It then chronicles through his preparation for the Iditarod from

funding, work schedules, creating food drops, figuring out what dog can do what and when and supplies for the race.

When he draws the number for the start he ends up with number 2. Number 1 is always reserved for an honorary starter. He is able to keep the lead for a few blocks and then the real race begins. He starts with ideas that he may place but soon gives up on that and plans on finishing and not in last place.

He tells about the errors he made, the things he did right, the snow storms, sickening wipeouts, endured and the contempt of more

experienced racers. He gives you an insight into the good and bad about people, the strange things that some do during the race, good and bad about the race along with the camaraderie that eventually is created by those at the end. This doesn't just stop at the end of the race, but says also what happens after the end. The fatigue, the fun, picking up dropped dogs and planning for another year and another race to raise money for.

I would recommend this book to any person that enjoys a good true-life adventure even if you don't like mushing.

Bay Area Siberian Husky Rescue/Referral



Presents:

Adoption Fairs on the first and third Saturday

Premium Pet Mart

Please join us on Saturday, October 5

11 am to 3 pm
4698 Meridian Ave
(at Branham Ave.)

Directions to Husky Day in San Jose. Take 85 South Exit Camden Ave. Go Right at light to Branham Ave. Go South on Branham to Meridian. Shopping Center on far right corner. You will find Premium Pet Mart in the middle.

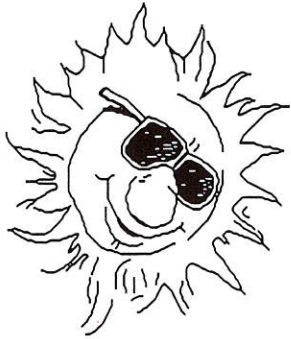
Pet Food Express!

Please join us on Saturday September 14

11 am to 3 pm
Westgate Shopping Center
1933 Davis Blvd.

Directions to Husky Day in San Leandro. Take 880 Exit Davies West take left at the first light into Westgate Shopping Center. Turn right at the first stop sign. You will find Pet Food Express to the left in the row of buildings in front of you.

Come one come all - pets too!



**3rd Annual
B.A.S.H.
Ice Cream Social**

When: 10 am to 2 pm Sunday, September 29th, 1996

Where: Los Gatos Creek Park (map on back)

Who: B.A.S.H. members and friends (including dogs)

We will have available a dog carts so you can try some carting individually or in teams.



Ice Cream and a variety of toppings will be supplied for people.

For our pets, dog ice cream (Frosty Paws) will be supplied.

Bring a picnic lunch or food to Barbeque. There is plenty of shade and tables.

PICNIC



COME AND GET IT!!

Bay Area Siberian Husky Club

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 1996

Single \$20.00 Family \$25.00 Associate \$15.00

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ (____) _____ (____) _____

home

work

Kennel Name _____

E-Mail Address _____

Make checks payable to BASH. All memberships and Subscriptions are valid through March 31, 1997. Send Membership Renewal form and check to:

Randee McQueen
Secretary, Bay Area Siberian Husky Club
2633 S. Bascom Ave.
Campbell CA 95008

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