

## Adopt A Husky, Inc.

"Saving one dog won't change the world, but surely the world will change for that one dog."



## VOLUNTEER NEWS YOU CAN USE



### AAHI Volunteers Compete in the "Can't Depend on Snow" Sled Race

On Saturday, December 3, 2005 Adopt A Husky volunteers from 3 states, IL, WI and MN, drove to Fond Du Lac, WI to compete in the "Can't Depend on Snow" sled race.

The race took place at the Rolling Meadows Golf Course and was hosted by the [Tri-State Alaskan Malamute Club](#). The race was originally supposed to be a rig/scooter race, but it snowed just enough to make it too dangerous for anything on wheels.

The race kicked off at 10:00 a.m. with IL's very own, Mary Beth drawing the number one position and having to start the race off. Mary Beth and her team did a great job being first out of the chute.

Out of 21 teams 10 represented AAHI, 9 volunteers and 1 adopter participated in the race. Most of the teams ran 4 dogs (the maximum number of dogs allowed) while others ran with 2 or 3 dogs. Most of the dogs on the teams were former AAHI fosters.

AAHI representatives placed in the following positions:

1. Furicane Siberians, Jeff (IL) with a time of 9:58
3. Tundra Star Siberians, Don (MN) with a time of 11:15
7. Husky Haven, Cynthia (IL) with a time of 11:46
8. Frozen Tundra Siberians, Mary Beth (IL) with a time of 12:49
10. Furicane Siberians (2nd team), Noel (IL) with a time of 13:35
11. Siberhowl Siberians, George (IL) with a time of 14:12
14. The Fellas, Karen (IL adopter) with a time of 17:30
16. Curt (WI) with a time of 18:47
18. Siberpaw Siberians, Mike (IL) with a time of 19:32

January 2006



Jeff (IL) and his team running the last stretch to the finish line.

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

##### IL EVENTS

Jan. 21 & 22 Morton Arboretum, Lisle

Jan. 28 Palos Heights Winterfest, Lake Katherine Nature Preserve

##### MN EVENTS

Jan. 6-8 Land O' Lakes All Breed Dog Show, St. Paul

Jan. 14 3rd Annual Dog Sledding Winter Festival, Forest Lake

Feb. 18-19 Twin Cities Pet Expo, Minneapolis

#### HAPPY TAILS

*Recent fosters that have found their forever homes.*

Furicane (IL) Dec. 4

19. Green Valley Dog Drivers, Jen A. (IL) with a time of 19:50

Congratulations to all of the teams that participated in this race!!!!  
Everyone did a fantastic job!!!!

- Jen, IL Volunteer

Whisper (WI) Dec. 11
Bebe (IL) Dec. 11
Louie (IL) Dec. 11
Frosty (WI) Dec. 17
Charades (IL) Dec. 17
Roxie (IL) Dec. 17
Sakari (IN) Dec. 21
Takoda (MN) Dec. 30
Tyco (IL) Dec. 31
Dahlia (IL) Dec. 31
Holiday (MN) Dec. 31

## CAFÉ PRESS!

Announcing the Grand Opening of the Adopt A Husky Café Press store!!! AAHI has new items for Siberian lovers everywhere! Everything from clothing with various AAHI logos to items such as coasters, clocks, pillows, aprons and much, much more. Proceeds directly benefit Adopt A Husky's rescued Siberians.

To visit the new store and start shopping please visit [www.cafepress.com/adoptahusky](http://www.cafepress.com/adoptahusky)

Note: More items with more pictures can be added. If there's a type of item you'd like to see included with a picture you can provide with UNIVERSAL APPEAL, send it to Lois for inclusion. There's no limit to the number of items we can make available.

## A Happy Tail



Dakota, Wayne and Sundance

Hi Everyone,

I just thought we would give you an update as to how "Pepper," "Grady" (now Sundance) is doing.

Sundance has adapted "well" as you can see from the pictures. He and Dakota love to play rough inside, and outside. They're a pretty good match, Dakota has the height and weight, but Sundance has the strength. It's fun to watch them chase each other around the yard in the snow.

Sundance thinks all the toys are his, which really hasn't created any problems, because if Dakota wants one of his toys back, he just goes up and takes it, and Sundance just lets him.

Every morning Sundance will come up to the bedroom door to listen to see if we're awake or not. Usually, if we're very quiet, he'll go lay back down for 20 minutes or so, but then he comes back with a loud "Gggrrrrr" (good morning, I WANT A BISCUIT!). After a biscuit and quick trip outside it's back down on the couch and back to sleep, at least for him. He isn't hard to please when it comes to food. The only thing we've found that he doesn't care for is lettuce. Everything else is gone in a heart beat. That boy does have a good appetite. We'll have to watch that.

Sundance has been great for Gail since the loss of Fairbanks. He's like a big 'ol baby who just wants attention and to be loved. He'll come up on the couch (when invited) and lie on her lap for as long as she wants to pet him. He's becoming more affectionate as time goes and wants nothing more than to be loved....and walked....and fed....and fed again. We love the little brute.

Again, I want to thank everyone for their help in helping us find and adopt him. If I had one Christmas wish though, it would be to be able to at least let his original owner know that he's found a loving home where he'll be treated well and loved all his life. It's very obvious that someone really loved him, and he knew it.

Everyone, have a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season.

Wayne Adolf

## Story of a Blind Siberian

For those of you that are new to AAHI, in February 2005, Adopt A Husky took in 7 Siberians that had lost their home, because their owner came down with Alzheimer's and could no longer care for her dogs.

One of those Siberians, Homer, came to AAHI blind. Homer had lost his vision in his right eye do to trauma and unbeknownst to his owner his left eye had recently suffered a detached retina.



Baron (R&W), Aspen (B&W), Kaya (in wheel) Nick (in sled bag) and the driver, George (IL)

Mary Beth and Donna (IL volunteers) became Homer's foster home and took him immediately to an ophthalmologist. The ophthalmologist said it was too late to save his left eye and that Homer would be permanently blind. Mary Beth then put a plea out to the AAHI list for a foster home that would be able to foster Homer in a house, as she did not have room in the house for another foster. He needed to learn all about house life as he had previously lived in a kennel.

George and I had never worked with a blind dog before, but after hearing Homer's story, we decided to introduce him to our 2 Siberians. They got along, and we quickly became his foster home.

Upon arriving to our house, we changed his name to Baron (named after John Barron, as the naming theme was Iditarod mushers). Baron had never been in the house before, so everything was new to him. He learned all about stairs, toys, comfy dog beds and in just a matter of a week he learned to navigate around the house without bumping into things.

After a week, we knew we couldn't let him go and after 2 weeks, George and I signed the adoption contract and hand delivered it to Lois. Baron became our 2nd foster failure.

Baron, along with his mother, aunt and littermates, had experience running on a sled team. So, this year we began running him in the wheel position on our team (the same position he ran with his

previous owner). He of course ran and pulled his little heart out just as we expected him to do, (we had quickly learned that his blindness definitely did not slow him down or keep him from getting into mischief). :-)

On December 11, 2005, George ran our team at the Shoe Factory Road Woods in Cook County IL. After about 3/4 of a mile on the trail, George needed to switch our Siberian, Nick, out of the lead position and decided to let Baron have a chance to run lead. Baron ran the next 4 miles in the lead with our other foster failure, Aspen. Needless to say, when George came back down the trail I was in shock to see Baron in lead. He looked amazing. He took all of his cues off of Aspen and never stopped pulling.

It just goes to show how amazing Siberians are. They don't let anything slow them down, not even a little thing called blindness.

And in case you were wondering who that dog is working his way out of the sled bag in the photo, that's Nick. He wasn't hurt, but he refused to run the last mile, so he finished the run riding in the sled bag.

- Jen, IL volunteer



### Volunteer Spotlight: Bobbie, OH Volunteer

**Name:** Bobbie (known to many as Grandma Bobbie)

**Hometown:** I live in Berea, Ohio. My "hometown" however, is a little berg called Ridley Park, PA outside Philadelphia, where I grew up loving animals.

**Family:** I currently have three children who each have a spouse, 8 grandchildren and 6.5 great grandchildren of the human kind. I currently co-own two Pembroke Corgis that live in Salem, WI and two Siberian Huskies that live in PA.

**How did you get involved with AAHI?** 3 guesses - Lois, the CEO, but I was doing rescue BEFORE our AAHI association with the SHC of Greater Cleveland

**Favorite AAHI Moment:** When we picked up a pretty little red/white bitch from a local county pound, and she was pregnant, and then THREE DAYS LATER she had 5 of the cutest little red/white blue eyed Siberian Husky pups - was thrilling...but attending our first AAHI Hike in May of 04 was also. Such organization!

**Outside of volunteering for AAHI what do you enjoy doing?** This may take several pages.... Belonging to the SHCG Cleveland for 39 years, working my tail off, was Pres. Director, and was and am Secretary for yea many long years, and show secretary for over 25 years, and race secretary for many years, and oh yeah, newsletter editor for many many many years, (even when I didn't live in OH), have been Pres. of the SHCA, and Sec of that group and director, and am currently Area Clubs Chairperson, and have chaired 4 National specialties. Oh yes, and I am a AKC judge of Siberians, Malamutes, Sams, Rotties, Akitas mad Pembroke Corgi's and Juniors.

**What was life like before you got involved with rescue?** About what it is now.. hectic! Only I was younger and apparently not any smarter.

**Favorite vacation destination:** My family's cabin in the mountains of PA, with friends or family and the Jersey shore and/or visiting my grandchildren somewhere.

**We have several "mushers" in the group, tell us about once of your most memorable sledding experiences.** Oh my this could take another several pages.. Let me think.....I did "race" my Siberians, as did my youngest daughter, for about 15 years. We had a good time. I did win a 2nd place once though. We had lots of fun and good laughs, probably too many to actually pin point them to answer this question. My daughter on the other hand was ranked 12th in the ISDRA world in 3 dog class one year for awhile way back when, and she was 2nd in this ISDRA district

**What is most important in life?** Life and Friends! To me if you don't have friends you don't have much of a life. Whether they be 2 legged or 4. But more especially the 2 legged kind. You must be able to laugh, at yourself, your friends, your enemies. If you can't laugh at life then what is there? A wise old woman once said: Remember: You don't stop playing because you get old, You get old BECAUSE you stop playing.

**What would you like to say to your fellow AAHI volunteers?** Keep up the good work. Someday it may pay off. But rest assured you will all receive a special plaque you know where someday.

Thank You Bobbie for your hard work and dedication to AAHI!!!!!!

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO . . .

- Ed & Donna (IL) on foster failing Charades and Roxie!
- Chris & Maria (IL) on their new house!
- Jeff (IL) on placing 1st in the "Can't Depend on Snow" sled race and for the SHCGC Sportsmanship award.
- all of the AAHI mushers from IL, WI and MN that competed in the "Can't Depend on Snow" sled race in Fond Du Lac, WI on Dec. 3.
- Julie (IL) on her Siberian, Jenga, earning the Canine Good Citizen Award.
- Mary Beth (IL) on foster failing Tyco and Dahlia!
- Don & Bev (MN) on foster failing Takoda!

#### THANK YOU TO . . .

- all of the volunteers for their time, hard work and dedication to AAHI!
- Lois and Bobbie for helping with this month's newsletter!
- all of the volunteers that have been doing home visits and making it possible for us to find loving homes for our rescued Siberians.

To print this newsletter [CLICK HERE](#). You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader.