

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



AAHI News

ISSUE 1

JULY, 2008

Message from the Board...Chapter 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Lois Leonard	2
Dog Days	3
Contest	3
Volunteer Spotlight	4
Tick Alert	4
Adoptions	5
Woo News	5
Upcoming Events	5

OK, so no good story would begin with the second chapter and neither did ours. Almost ten years ago, Adopt A Husky was founded by a small group of concerned folks wanting to help wayward Siberians find their forever home. That group was led by perhaps one of the most dedicated and determined women I have ever had the pleasure to meet, Lois Leonard. For nearly ten years she dedicated her life to helping nearly every Siberian that crossed her path, almost 1200 in all. Her inspiration led that small group of folks to grow into what is now one of the strongest and most well respected rescues in the nation, helping Siberians in need in seven states. Those of us that had the pleasure of knowing her owe her just as many thanks for the experience she has given us as do the dogs whose lives she saved. Lois' life came to an unexpected and tragic end this year, but the mission she set out on will live on strong in the caring hands of all of the volunteers she helped find their way to Adopt A Husky.

The pain of our loss continues, but since Lois would have it no other way – it is time for Chapter Two to begin. I am proud to say that all of our volunteers have renewed their support and have made every effort to ensure that the daily business of saving lives did not miss a beat. We even have an entirely new newsletter to get us started – thanks Deb! The endless outpouring of support from our extended AAHI family has been enormous as well. Sadly the downturn of the economy has led to an unprecedented number of relinquished dogs in shelters needing our help, but thanks to the extra efforts of our volunteers and friends, we are keeping pace and finding those homes. If you have been thinking of giving volunteering a try – there is no time like the present. There is an endless list of dogs needing our help to save them from the shelters before their time is up. Whether your interests lie in helping foster a dog, helping to transport them to a foster home, or even doing a

home visit or two – we need your help. Please consider giving a bit of your free time – I promise the rewards will last you a lifetime.

Contact volunteer@adoptahusky.com for more information.

For those that may have missed Husky Hike 2008, you missed quite a show. The hike was a huge success, hitting our goals for raising the funds that are needed to keep the rescue in operation for another year. Great food, games and many wonderful conversations amongst long time friends were had by all. Both the IL/WI and MN venues had absolutely

The pain of our loss continues, but since Lois would have it no other way – it is time for Chapter Two

wonderful weather and not a person missed the opportunity to point out that Lois was still working her magic for us. If you couldn't make it this year – there is always next year – you don't want to miss this great event! In fact, it is not too late for this year as Adopt A Husky of Ohio will be having their Husky Hike on October 4th, and I know they would love to have you join them. What could be more fun than a beautiful fall day in the sun with all your furry friends? Congratulations and THANK YOU to all of the volunteers that made these events possible.

There is also another, more personal renewed effort in this chapter that I would like to ask for everyone's help on. Many of you that have been with us for many years will remember a very special foster girl that stole our hearts – Natasha. In short, her story began with a loving family that simply made a very bad decision. They felt that Natasha could be trusted to run from the car to the house off leash. She ended up with a broken jaw and two broken legs. Cheryl, a very

dear volunteer with our group opened her home to this poor girl and some very amazing doctors put her back together again and gave her a shot at a second chance on life. Those that know me will tell you that I am always over the top paranoid about containment. That is a criticism that I will gladly live with, and every time I hear that comment I thank Natasha for teaching me that lesson. She and I often visited beginner obedience classes together to demonstrate exactly why the teacher was telling them that their dogs should always be on leash. I firmly believe that Natasha's pain and suffering turned into life saving education for a great many dogs and their owners. It was truly an honor that Cheryl, who later adopted Natasha, would let me take her on these trips and trust me with her care – a memory I will never forget. Sadly, Natasha crossed over the Rainbow Bridge a few weeks ago at the age of 14 ½. In the spirit of this new chapter in our story, I ask that each and every one of you takes just a little bit of this girl's legacy to heart and help spread the word about containment so that Natasha's legacy will live on forever – saving other dogs from the pain she had to endure.

On behalf of our Board of Directors I would like to extend my greatest thanks to all of our volunteers for all of the hard work they do and the countless hours they give to help our cause. On behalf of all of the AAHI volunteers and the dogs they have saved I thank each and every one of you folks in our extended family that has helped in the countless ways that you do. Welcome to the new chapter in our story!

Happy Trails...

Mike D.
Board President

In Memory of Lois Leonard...



How do we even begin to describe the hole in our hearts? Everyone has a special memory, a story of how Lois touched their lives.



Friend, teacher, advocate, wife,
mother, sister, and now...

MISSED



The 'Dog Days' of Summer

Hot weather can make us all uncomfortable, and it poses special risks for your dog. Keep the following safety concerns in mind as the temperature rises, and follow our tips to keep your dog cool.

- NEVER leave your dog tied up outside unattended!

- Some breeds benefit from a visit to the groomer and a good shave...*Siberian Huskies are NOT one of those breeds!* The Siberians' double coat that serves to protect them in the winter months also protects them in the warm months. Shaving a Siberian Husky may expose them to sunburn and other skin problems.

- If your dog is outside on a hot day, make sure he has a shady spot to rest in. Doghouses are not good shelter during the summer as they can trap heat. You may want to fill a child's wading pool with fresh water for your dog to cool off in.

- Never leave your dog in a closed vehicle on a hot day. The temperature inside a car

can rise to over 250 degrees in a matter of minutes.

- Always provide plenty of cool, fresh water.
- Avoid strenuous exercise on extremely hot days. Take walks in the early mornings or evenings, when the sun's heat is less intense.

Try to avoid prolonged exposure to hot asphalt or sand, which can burn your dog's paws.

Heatstroke can be the serious and often fatal result of a dog's prolonged exposure to excessive heat. Below are the signs of heatstroke and the actions you should take if your dog is overcome.

Early Stages:

- Heavy panting.
- Rapid breathing.
- Excessive drooling.
- Bright red gums and tongue.
- Standing 4-square, posting or spreading out in an attempt to maintain balance.

Advanced Stages:

- White or blue gums.
- Lethargy, unwillingness to move.

- Uncontrollable urination or defecation.

- Labored, noisy breathing.

Shock.

- If your dog begins to exhibit signs of heatstroke, you should immediately try to cool the dog down:
- Apply rubbing alcohol to the dog's paw pads.
- Apply ice packs to the groin area.
- Hose down with water.
- Allow the dog to lick ice chips or drink a small amount of water.
- Offer Pedialyte to restore electrolytes.
- Check your dog's temperature regularly during this process. Once the dog's temperature has stabilized at between 100 to 102 degrees, you can stop the cool-down process.

If you cannot get the dog cooled down and you begin to see signs of advanced heatstroke, take the dog to the veterinarian immediately.

Some breeds benefit from a visit to the groomer and a good shave...Siberian Huskies are NOT one of those breeds!

Name the Newsletter

After a hiatus of several months, the newsletter is back! You can expect to see a new one each month either in your e-mail or on the AAHI home page.

We hope you like the new format! It's important to us to provide news and stories of interest to everyone. If there is a topic you would like to suggest, please drop an e-mail to

News@adoptahusky.com. In the next issue, look forward to the return of some Newsletter favorites, such as the 'Foster Spotlight'.

And now for some Big News: A newly designed newsletter deserves a new name! So put on your thinking caps and send your suggestions to News@adoptahusky.com. The sugges-

tions will be compiled and voted on and the winner(s) will receive special recognition in the next newsletter.

In case you have already thought of it, please don't suggest Husky Howler; many organizations already use it.

Ready, set, HIKE!!

Volunteer Spotlight : Todd R.

Hometown: Chicago, IL for the past 17 years. (I was raised in a very small town, pop. 1000, near Appleton/Green Bay WI called Hilbert) Go Packers!

Family (including pets): Just little 'ol me and the two greatest Siberian Kids: Top Hat's Fred Astaire (Astaire) & Top Hat's Ginger Rogers (Ginger) Both were previous AAHI dogs.

How did you get involved with rescue? I lost my dear Tyler, who was an Australian Shepard/Greyhound mix. A few weeks later I was surfing the net and happened upon Petfinder.com. Whatever the search I did, Astaire (Voyager) was the first dog that came up. I knew right at that moment that he was destined to be my next dog. When I adopted Astaire, I was so impressed by AAHI that I was compelled to start volunteering. I now do Home Visits, Demos at the Pet Shows, transporting shelter dogs to be rescued by AAHI and fund raising at Christmas time and for the Husky Hike.

What is the best thing about volunteering for AAHI? Working with such a devoted and caring group

of volunteers and getting the chance to meet such wonderful foster dogs at the pet expos and demos. Each foster is different and so special in their own unique way.

Favorite AAHI moment: Sitting at Mike & Noel's dining room table with Lois after we had stuffed Husky Hike bags. She looked at me and said, You should have two huskies! I said, I would like to, but I really have my heart set on my second husky being a red/white female so Astaire can have his Ginger. Lois' eyes lit up, and she said in so many words, "Do I have a red and white petite girl for you!" Holle came home with me to foster two days later. But, in about a week she was Astaire's Ginger, and we have been a happy husky family ever since. That sneaky Lois!

What are your interests / hobbies outside of Siberian rescue? I belong to the Siberian Husky Club of Greater Chicago. Astaire and I compete in Rally Obedience, and Ginger and I have started training in Agility. Just call me a soccer mom as I shuttle the "fur kids" back and forth to their classes. I also am an accomplished singer and enjoy performing when I get the chance.

If you could travel to any place in the world, where would you go and why? The next place I would like to travel to would be Japan. I had a very good friend when I was younger who was Japanese, and the culture fascinates me. Also, I am addicted to Sushi.

What's the last good movie you have seen? Hmmm, I see quite a few movies but good ones are very few and far between. Most often I look to find older movies that are classics. I am a huge Fred Astaire fan. There is a shocker for you. So I like to go back to the early movie musicals and look for ones I have not seen yet.

What would you say to fellow AAHI volunteers and to those people thinking of volunteering with AAHI? What would I like to say to my fellow volunteers? Thank you so much for being a bunch of crazy husky fanatics like me and being so much fun to be around. What would I say to someone who is thinking about volunteering? JUMP IN! The Water is Fine! Doing something beyond yourself is a sure way to make some happiness in your life and for some awesome, special huskies!

Tick Alert !!

It's tick season again. We all know to make sure we use a flea & tick repellent, but did you know you can find out how bad the tick population is where you live?

www.TickAlert.com is a web site that gives forecasts for the emergence of adult ticks, nymphs, and eggs for the



American Dog Tick

American Dog tick, the deer tick and the Lone Star Tick. The information covers the whole year and the information is gathered by zip codes. The site is sponsored by the Virbac corporation of Forth Worth, TX.

WE FOUND OUR FOREVER HOMES !!!



Did you ever wonder what affect your volunteer work has?

Here's the proof -- all these Siberians have been adopted since January, 2008 !!!

Joanna	Calvin	Monsoon	Arrow (now	Jonah
Dwight	Taft	Quincy	Kavu)	Carter
Delilah	Dolley	Soriano	Fawn (now Sadie)	Alabama
Jezebel	Thera	Boom	Kona	Ultra
Wendy	Leno	Scout	Justice (now	Nadia
Kyla	Kennedy	Twister	Kaya)	Windy
Nordman	Jacqueline	Trip	Rose (all the way	Carson
Andros	Garfield	Naomi	to Utah)	Leland
Grenada	Luden	Zenith	Valentino (all the	Desmond
Carolina	Pierce	Amos	way to Minne-	
Sally	Whink	Diamond	sota!)	
Noble	Dandy	Juliet (now Bella)	Ajax	
Deodora	Cascade	Romeo	Lava	
Chap	Tide		Catoka	

Woo News !!!

Congratulations to **Noel Dagley** and her Husky stars, **Skye** and **Breeze**.

Skye earned her O-NCC (Outstanding Novice Chances Certificate) in an NADAC agility trial and Breeze earned her NJC

(Novice Jumpers Certificate) at the same trial.

Do you have something to brag about?

Did your special Siberian win an award or contest? Save a kitten's life? (hee hee) Got loose but came

back when called? (yeah, right)

Drop me an e-mail and tell me about your dog's 15 seconds of fame. I will try to fit in as many as I can! E-mail

News@adoptahusky.com.

Upcoming Events

When -- Saturday, October 4, 2008 -- **AAHI Ohio Chapter Husky Hike**

Time --- Registration / Check-in begins at 9:30 AM. Hike begins about 11:30 AM

Where Cleveland Metroparks, Mill Stream Run Reservation - Royalview Picnic Area, Strongville. South off Route 82 for about 1/2 mile to Royalview Drive on the right, up the hill.

The Hike will take place rain or shine, so please dress appropriately !!