



Howls & Growls

August/September/October 2022

EDITOR'S CORNER

Sherri Taylor



News update from the last issue: Winnie-the-Pooh stated it well, *“Any day spent with you is my favorite day. So, today is my new favorite day!”* That is how Saturday felt. It was great to be back at [Bark at the Park](#) in Lancaster again. Did we have fun there? Indeed, we did! As seen by the photos below (and there are even more pictures on page 9 at the back of this issue). **Nichole Royer** was busy over at the Urban Sledding area mostly by herself giving the public carting rides and showing them how to scooter with their dogs which was sponsored by the [SoCal Working Snow Dogs](#). While over at the Pawcasso booth, sponsored by our club, puppy paws were showing off their talented artistic skills creating masterpieces with a little guidance help from their humans. The doggie artists, inadvertently and unknowingly, contributed to an incredibly special canvas banner that we gifted to the Bark event at the end of the day. We were also extremely proud and honored to post a Memorial at the booth presented by the Bark’s Director **Carole Kelly** and Committee Member **Sherry McGrath** in remembrance of their dear friend **Candi Mitchell-Sheely**, a fellow High Desert Obedience Club member and trainer, who passed away over the Summer. Candi was one of Pawcasso’s biggest fans! Candi and her husband Alan and their dog are pictured below. We saw a vast number of visitors and repeat customers on this beautiful Fall Day making their canvas purchases and donations. There was one sweet 5-year-old boy who asked, *“Are these donations for a non-profit organization?”* After hearing the answer was *“Yes”* he made his kind offering in exchange for some bottles of water for his family. SCAMC had another amazingly successful fund-raising day, total contributions were over \$400; from which there was \$55 in generous donations alone. Everyone working this year’s event was a bit short-handed, despite that fact we all did our best. A huge **“Thank You!”** goes out to **Karen Ulfig** for her tireless coordination efforts and the club’s sincere gratitude goes out to our hard-working volunteers that were there all day long! **The Pawcasso booth’s volunteers included** our club members and friends: **Karen Ulfig, Steve Starks and Patty Starks, Chris Weimer and Mike Trcka, and Sherri Taylor**. If you missed coming out to join in on the fun-filled festivities, you are in luck because the plan is to do it all again next year!



Club Address: 6910 Beckett St, Tujunga CA 91042

The SCAMC Newsletter is distributed electronically to club members and will be available later on our [website](#). Please send submissions to: taylorstd_1@yahoo.com



2022-2023

SCAMC Officers & Committee Positions

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| President: | Stephen Starks |
| Vice President: | Terry Toussaint |
| Treasurer & Secretary: | Patricia Starks |
| Membership Director: | Gloria Toussaint |
| Working Director: | Open |
| Ways & Means: | Karen Ulfig |
| Education Director: | Sue Carnall |
| Rescue Referral: | AMAL |
| News Editor/Webmaster: | Sherri Taylor |



Next Issue: There will be a special article from Sue Carnall about her research contributions for an upcoming / new book soon be released, hopefully in 2023.





PRESIDENT

Stephen Starks

By now many of you have already seen [Nichole Royer's](#) Facebook post with the unfortunate news about our stolen trailer. This is devastating to all of us and we're asking that everyone please email me a list of the items that they recall was stored in our trailer for reporting to the authorities and for insurance purposes: markitmal@gmail.com I'm not sure how our club will recover from this major loss. ~ Steve



VICE PRESIDENT

Terry Toussaint

Hi Everyone! Our club meeting for October has been canceled. Enjoy your month off and if you are going to the Regional/National in Colorado the BEST to you and come home a WINNER! ~ Terry



WAYS & MEANS

Karen Ulfing

The best part of Bark at the Park was seeing everyone again which made the day extra special. We worked hard and thanks to our team, the end result was a huge success. Thank you all so much. ~ Karen



MEMBERSHIP

Gloria Toussaint

On behalf of the members of SCAMC I want to welcome Christy and John Sires back into our Club. Their ideas and suggestions are always appreciated, and they are great TEAM players. WELCOME!!!!

Good Luck to any and all our members who may be attending the Regional/National in Colorado. Remember next year, 2023 is in Albany, Oregon. ~ Gloria



Question: Are we planning to have Christmas Party this year?
Answer: Yes, we are trying to! Please send your suggestions to Patty Starks, this year's Christmas Party coordinator, asap! Include your ideas of where you want it, i.e.: a park or restaurant? Where and when? Dogs included? Let's make it happen folks. Stay tune for more party details.



EDUCATION

Sue Carnall

The 8 Biggest Dog Food Myths

By [Caroline Coile, PhD](#)
Jul 29, 2022



The Internet can offer a Wealth of tips and facts on dog food. Unfortunately, it provides even more dog food myths and misinformation. Here's a sampling of urban legends populating the Web and the actual truths behind them.

Myth: Don't Feed Dogs Pork

But then I started to wonder why so few commercial foods contained [pork](#). Some rumors include suggestions that pork's high fat content will cause [pancreatitis in dogs](#) (yet pork contains a little over one-third the fat content of beef), that it contains something toxic to dogs' livers (a mystery component), that pigs eat disgusting things including bugs (but it's fine for people to eat them), and that pig meat is hard to come by (harder than bison?).

A few dog food companies do offer pork-based foods. Its scarcity may simply be because so many parts of a pig are used for human consumption that snouts and feet and such don't make it to the dog food plant. And because of the possibility of [trichinosis](#) in uncooked pork, nobody is going to suggest it as a great [raw-food](#) ingredient.

According to [Eagle Pack](#) staff veterinarian Al Townshend, DVM, "Pork is a highly digestible animal protein, an excellent source of amino acids, and a unique protein source that not all pets are

typically exposed to. It's less likely to cause an allergic reaction that some pets may have to other proteins. We recommend pork as a protein because it contains more calories per pound."

Myth: Lamb is Hypoallergenic

There is nothing inherently less **allergenic** in one meat compared to another. Lamb was initially used in hypoallergenic dog foods because it was a meat most pups had not eaten before; therefore, they were unlikely to have developed **food allergies** to lamb. Now, with so many people feeding lamb as a regular diet, manufacturers have had to find different meat sources, such as duck or bison.



©Remolded Alexandr - stock.adobe.com

Myth: High-Protein Diets Cause Kidney Failure

The idea that excess protein causes **kidney failure** arises from the fact that high levels of protein have historically been ill-advised for dogs with the condition. Failing kidneys allow urea, a byproduct of protein metabolism, to build up in the blood, making the dog feel sick. That's why the blood urea nitrogen (BUN) is used as one index of kidney function. Decreasing dietary protein can decrease the BUN. But if the protein level is too low, the body simply draws on its own protein source (muscles), causing more harm.

In fact, there's a huge debate about whether restricted protein is the way to go for dogs with **kidney disease**, with studies disagreeing about whether it helps kidney patients live longer. Researchers do agree that protein sources with high biological value produce fewer waste products and are better choices. **Egg** protein has the highest biological value, followed by **milk**, **meats**, and more.

But what about protein levels for dogs with normal kidney function? There's very little support for the suggestion that you can preserve kidney health by not taxing them with too much protein. Feed a moderate level of high-quality protein, and your dog will likely be just fine.

Myth: Meat is More Nutritious Than Meat Meal

If you're comparing **ingredient** lists, should you choose the one with meat or with meat meal listed first? If your goal is to have the most meat nutrients, choose meat meal. Ingredients appear in descending order of their weight; that weight includes any water in the ingredient.

When you see **chicken** listed as an ingredient, it means unprocessed chicken, complete with water. Chicken meal means chicken with the water and fat removed. It weighs less than chicken but actually can contain a higher percentage of protein.



Myth: Grain, Especially Soy, or Corn, is Bad for Dogs

Some dogs can be allergic to some grains, just as some dogs can be allergic to some meats. But for most dogs, some grain is fine; it usually contains more nutrients than replacement ingredients used in grain-free diets. Also be aware that the FDA is investigating potential links between [grain-free diets and heart disease in dogs](#).

Myth: Feed Raw Eggs for a Shiny Coat

I have never found one study showing this to be true. Eggs contain lots of protein, fat, and vitamins, all essential to hair growth and skin health. One of those vitamins is biotin, which is important for cell growth and fatty-acid metabolism. Biotin is widely accepted to be helpful for human hair, though that may be simply because deficiencies can cause hair loss. While egg whites contain avidin, a biotin inhibitor, the yolks contain enough biotin to make up for it. But diets high in fat have been shown to result in glossier and softer coats in dogs and might do the coat more good than eggs.

As for feeding them raw eggs, it's true that cooking will do away with the avidin, but some people feel that also destroys vitamins. And of course, the raw egg/salmonella debate rages, with most food authorities cautioning against feeding eggs raw and many dog naturalists advocating it.

The bottom line is an egg is a good source of protein and other nutrients, but probably no better than any good diet at promoting a shiny coat.

Myth: Dogs Don't Like Variety

Dogs raised on a non-varied diet prefer to stay on it and don't accept new foods readily. But dogs raised on a varied diet [prefer variety](#). From a nutritional standpoint, it makes sense for an animal to crave nutrients its current diet lacks.

Myth: Raw Food is Better for Dogs

While raw food may be suitable for some pups, it isn't for all dogs. A recent [study](#) in the United Kingdom examined the presence of antibacterial-resistant (ABR) E. Coli in 16-week-old dogs who ate raw food. The scientists concluded that raw feeding is associated with carriage of ABR E. coli in dogs even at 16 weeks of age and that bacteria carried by puppies are shared with humans. We therefore suggest that those who feed their dogs raw meat seriously consider the potential ABR-transmission threat their pet may become as a result and deploy appropriate hygiene practices in mitigation." While ABR-resistant E. Coli might be present in some raw food, most healthy dogs [won't get sick](#) from it.

While the Internet can be a great source of information, remember to use always look for trustworthy sources and seek scientific research backing up any claims your social media friends may be making before hitting that share button.

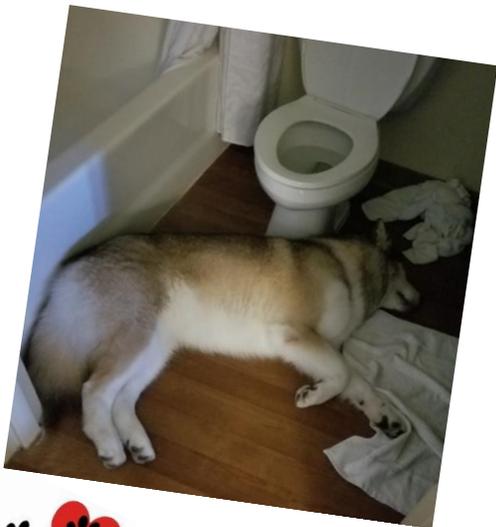
[For another related AKC article, check out \(click here\): Do Dogs Tire of Eating the Same Food, Day In and Day Out?](#)



BRAGS & CRIES

From Keith & Cyndi Chauvie

Phoebe was "pooped" after all the days of showing. She was clearly done for the night and slept there for hours!



From Sherri Taylor

Sky was spent from showing as well.



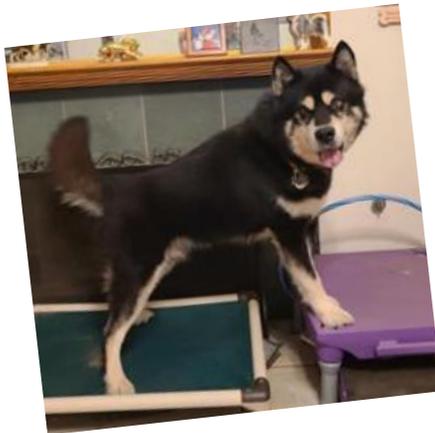
From Mike & Diane Wheaton

Cheyenne says that was a good walk Daddy, night night!



From Kristine Ashley

Ashi had a 10th Birthday, pictured here with Aiko. These Ladies are true Party Animals!

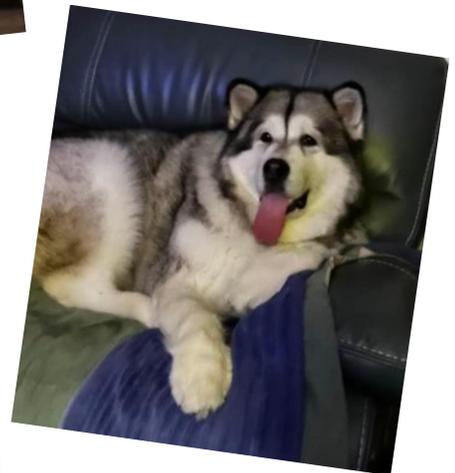


From Nichole Royer

It was Never's 10th Birthday, too!

From Steve & Patty Starks

And Halo had her 5th Birthday!





Sorry for the loss
of your furry
friend.

Big hugs,
Little hugs,
Snuggle hugs,
Loving hugs,
Healing hugs,
Comfort hugs.
Whatever kind of
hugs you need,
this should have
it covered,
especially for you!

RIP Hammer - CH Terraglos You Can't Touch This
4/20/09 - 10/3/22
He tried his heart out but could not recover from his couch
mishap and muscle issues after.
From Gloria & Terry Toussaint



From Nichole Royer

10/6/22 FB Post: Antelope Valley folks and dog mushing folks, we need your help. The SoCal malamute club's trailer was stolen off my property. It contained the club's weight pull cart and all the equipment (buckets, fencing, etc.), along with harnesses, an old blue style Sacco cart, and a three-wheel dog mushing cart. These are pictures of the trailer, weight pull cart, and my similar Sacco cart. If anyone spots the trailer or sees the carts being sold, please let me know. It is very doubtful whoever stole the trailer knows what they have, and they may just dump everything.



ODDS & ENDS

From Steve & Patty Starks



Source: Dog Lover's Trivia - Mike Darton

ODDS & ENDS – Continue...

From Sherri Taylor



Source: [Dog Dispatch](#) (click on the image above to see the full video 📺)

Did you know?

Before the development of snowshoes, Mother Nature had gifted animals with special feet that made walking on the snow easy.



The “snowshoe hare,” as the name implies, evolved with over-sized feet so he could move more efficiently over the snow.

Among dogs, a couple of dog breeds have snowshoe feet meant to help them navigate more efficiently through the snow fields. Just like snowshoes, their paws are large so to distribute their weight across a greater surface area, a quality that prevents them from sinking into the snow.

Snowshoe feet in dogs are compact oval feet with well-arched toes and fur between them. These feet offer several advantages that are like those provide by the characteristic footwear that humans wear when walking over snow.

The breed standard for the Alaskan malamute calls for large, snowshoe feet with fur growing between the toes.

Source: [Adrienne Farricelli](#)

BREED COLUMNS

WORKING GROUP

More about Feet...

Source: [AKC Gazette, January 2022](#) (Pages 37-38)

Alaskan Malamutes

NO FEET, NO MALAMUTE!

A classic concept from the horse world, “no feet, no horse” translates perfectly with respect to the Alaskan Malamute. Just as unsoundness of the equine foot can critically impact a horse’s health and usefulness, the structure and soundness of the Malamute foot should always be one of the greatest priorities in one’s breeding program. And we have only to look at our breed standard for direction and focus.

The standard speaks: “The feet are of the snowshoe type, tight and deep, with well-cushioned pads, giving a firm, compact appearance. The feet are large, toes tight fitting and well arched. There is a protective growth of hair between the toes. The pads are thick and tough; toenails short and strong.”



Important: In judging Malamutes, their function as a sledge dog for heavy freighting in the Arctic must be given consideration above all else.

It is precisely because of this fact—that our breed’s heritage and existence is inextricably tied to its soundness for heavy work in severe conditions—that the Malamute foot must be sound. It may seem obvious to say that dogs run on their feet, but just think of the challenges of actual freighting conditions: severe cold, heavy snow, ridges of ice, biting wind—all while pulling a heavy load, either single or as part of a team. Here, feet are not merely a nicety; they make the difference between failure and survival.

As we navigate the challenges of making solid decisions for our breeding programs today and look honestly and objectively at feet in our breed, we must embrace the fundamental truths of our standard. We know in our hearts that behind all our wonderful

Top row (L-R): The large, oval “snowshoe foot” keeps the dog on top of the snow; the cat foot, too round and small, sinks into the snow; the flat foot, with no arch to the toes, breaks down structurally; the weak foot rocks back on the heel, so that often the pads are visible. Right: A correct, sound foot, with depth, arched toes, and a big, functional oval shape.

achievements of wins, titles, honors, and the recognition of our peers, the Malamute foot is the absolute foundation of our breed, and the gorgeous dog we create before the eyes of the world depends on those four feet for a lifetime, just as a beautiful building depends on a firm foundation.

With this in mind, I decided to look back at my own dogs, examine the structure of their feet, and present a photo gallery of closeups showing both strengths and shortcomings. I hope these are a learning experience for newer breeders, and reminders we can all use as we seek to make the best choices for the future.

So here we go. Accompanying this column are photos that illustrate specifics: the snow-



shoe foot, the cat foot, the flat foot, the weak foot, and finally, a strong and correct foot.

The Snowshoe Foot

This is a big, oval foot—the ideal, and also hard to achieve, given that our gene pool has been influenced by the cute, smaller “cat foot.” But the snowshoe foot, like its name-sake, keeps the dog on top of the snow, unlike the cat foot.

The Cat Foot

The cat foot is cute and round and small,

COURTESY PHILIP HAUKE/VOX

especially given the weight of the dog standing on it. This foot will sink right into powder snow, quickly tiring the dog and exposing the feet to frostbite and permanent harm. Think of stiletto heels on the trail!

The Flat Foot

This foot has no depth: no arch at the toes, and internal ligaments that are weak and will break down structurally as the dog pulls a heavy load over miles of icy footing—a certain cause of pain and lameness. The flat foot often accompanies the key signs of the weak foot, described next.

The Weak Foot

Pictured is the classic weak foot, which I call the "rocking back on the heel" foot, in which the pads are exposed and plainly visible. Since it can be observed so clearly, and is such an obvious unsoundness, it is a critical flaw, and it serves to remind all of us to correct this and make proper genetic foot structure our commitment for the future.

The Good, Sound Foot

Finally, here is an example of a good, sound foot: lots of arch to the toes, depth to the foot as a whole, and a big, functional shape that is oval and snowshoe-like. Although no foot is perfect, this foot makes an ideal visual

reminder of the truths in our breed standard.

No foot, no Malamute. And so we have come full circle, back to our standard and the heart and soul of Malamute heritage. Because the feet define our breed and its existence. And as we celebrate the glorious show wins and incredible competition careers our dogs so well deserve, may we always hold this truth:

When we are out there, far from shelter, with our dogs out in front giving us all their strength and vigilance, the finest show win will not save us.

But the good feet, the strong feet, the correct feet we build into our bloodlines will save the day and light the way for the generations to come. And so we lean into wind and rally our team, and they leap to our voice: "Hup! Hup! Let's go! On by!"

—Phyllis I. Hamilton,
benchmark1946@gmail.com
Alaskan Malamute Club of America



dddddeadline

The deadline for submissions to the next newsletter is **January 15, 2023** – please send your articles / pictures / Brags & Cries / cartoons / Odds & Ends to Sherri Taylor at: taylor1946@yahoo.com

Hope you enjoyed this slightly upgraded look of the newsletter.

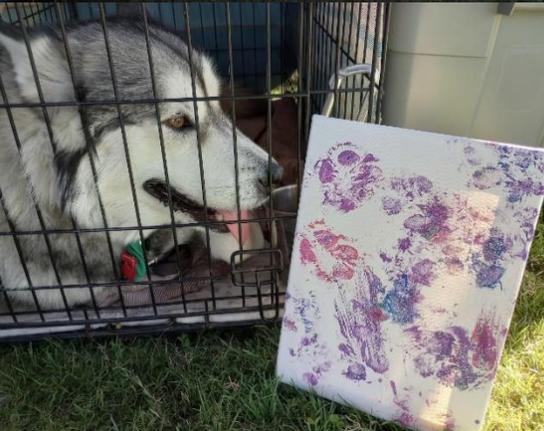


Check out our club's website scamc.org and our [Facebook](#) presents, too.



We have a photo gallery on the website to submit pictures, and to update information links and lots more. If you would like to see something added onto the website or on Facebook, please contact Sherri Taylor at: taylor1946@yahoo.com







6910 Beckett St.
Tujunga, CA 91042