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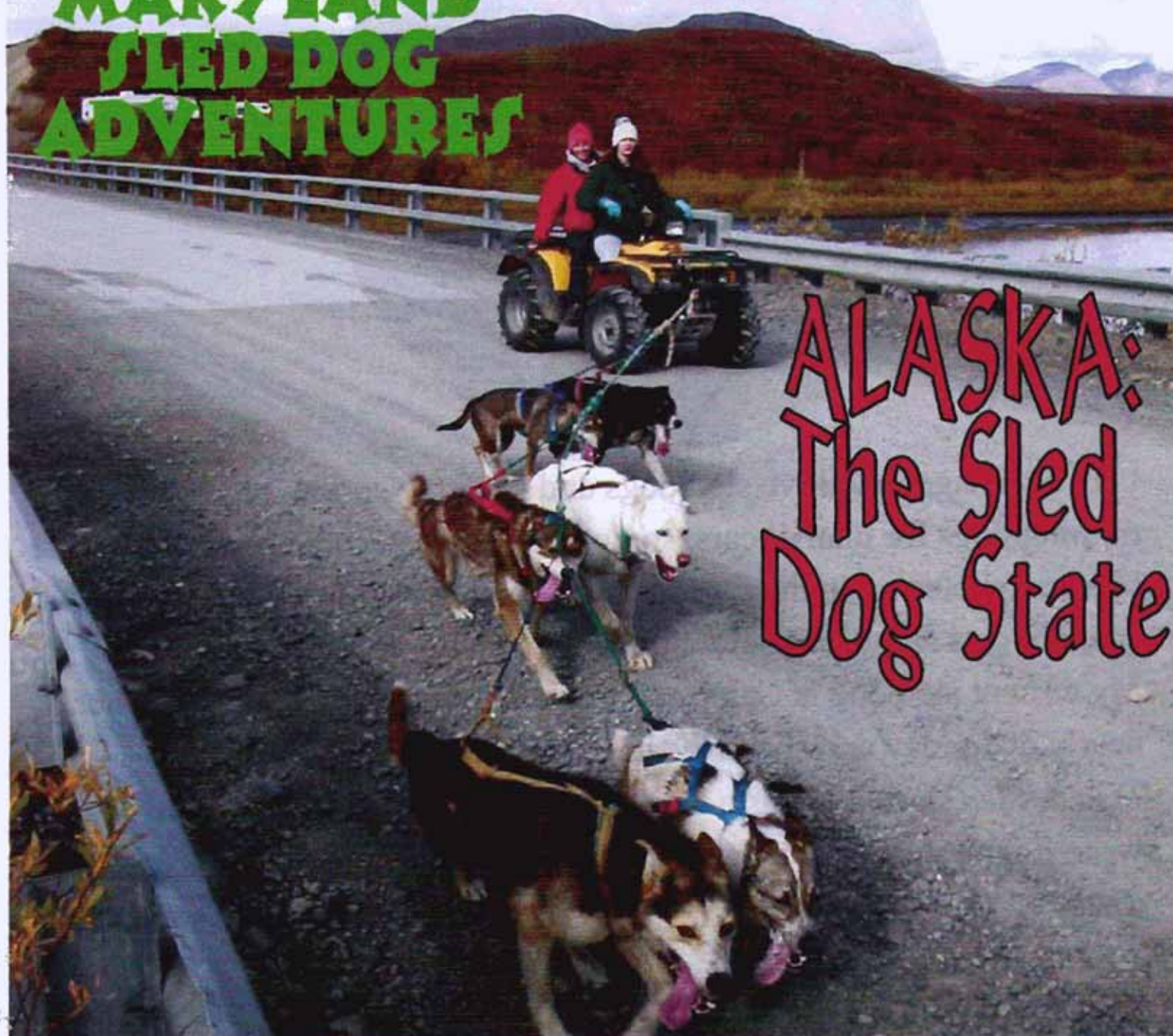
Fall 2007

&

Sled

**MARYLAND
SLED DOG
ADVENTURES**

**ALASKA:
The Sled
Dog State**



Dog & Sled is published quarterly. Each issue contains articles, news and information on the world of sled dog sports.

For more information, contact *Dog & Sled* at P.O. Box 32 Armuchee, GA 30105-0032 or online at huskystd@mman.net . Visit *Dog & Sled's* new website at www.dx4solutions.com/dogandsled/

ALICE E. WHITE Editor, Writer, Publisher and Distributor



I am a teenager and love sled dogs and sled dog sports. I have been running dogs for many years, sometimes on foot, sometimes with a bike or scooter or, in the rare case that my home state of Georgia actually gets significant snowfall, with a sled.

My current sled dog is Calypso, a Siberian husky. I scooter with her nearly every day and she loves it!

Dog & Sled started out as a handwritten magazine in 2000. Now I write it with the aid of a computer.

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Alice E. White

CONTENTS



Sled Dog State

Sled dogs rule in these Alaskan kennels.

Page 5

Maryland Sled Dog Adventures

An interview with Catherine Benson

Page 11

DEPARTMENTS

TALK & BARK

Page 4

VIDEO REVIEW

Page 10

NEWS

Page 13

CLASSIFIEDS

Page 14

LAST WOOF

Page 14

COVER: Zoya

DeNure's sled dog team runs along the Denali Highway towards their Crazy Dog Kennels.

Talk & Bark

Commentary By Alice White



I have not seen *The Simpsons Movie*. I did, however, see a clip of the dogsledding scene on YouTube. Yes, *The Simpsons Movie* has dogsledding. In the scene, Homer Simpson is driving a team of sled dogs through the snowy wilderness. And whipping them continuously, while shouting, "Run! Run!" Then there is a shot of the dogs resting in snow while Homer whips them, shouting "Rest! Rest!" The clip ends with the dogs becoming fed up and attacking Homer, then running off leaving him stranded and wondering something like, "Why does everything I whip run away from me?"

I'm not sure exactly what message is presented here. It might reinforce the inaccurate Jack London-esque view that dog mushers routinely whip and beat their dogs. On the other hand, it might put forth the argument that, if you abuse your dogs like Homer stupidly does in the movie, the end result is not good.

Certainly my Alaska trip was nothing like the Simpsons'. There were lots of sled dogs, mountains and wilderness, though. Enough to convince me that I'm not going to spend the rest of my life sitting around in Georgia, where there is no snow and Summer temperatures are often up around 104 degrees with awful humidity.

I met several mushers and visited several kennels, which I wrote about for the 'Sled Dog State' article in this issue. However, I learned so much that I can't fit it all into one article. So think of this issue as a sort-of "preview of coming attractions." In the next few issues I will have more articles, pictures, etc. from my Alaska trip.

I want to send a big thank-you to those who took the time to talk to me and show off their dogs. Jeff King, Ray and Raymie Redington, Pascale Burnet, John Shandelmeier, Zoya DeNure and Zack Steer - *thank you so much!!* You helped make my visit to Alaska *great!*

Also, another big thank-you to Catherine Benson of Maryland Sled Dog Adventures LLC, who let me interview her for this issue of *Dog & Sled!*

Thanks to all of you. I hope you enjoy the magazine.

SLED DOG STATE



A sled dog statue on 4th Avenue in Anchorage marks the spot where both the Iditarod and Fur Rendezvous sled dog races begin.

If there is one place that is synonymous with sled dogs and mushing, it is Alaska. One can't even drive around Anchorage without seeing evidence of the prevalence of the state's official sport. There are murals of dog teams, restaurants with sled-dog-related names and, of course, the sled dog statue on Fourth Avenue, where the Iditarod and Fur Rendezvous races begin. For a Summer visitor, it's hard to imagine this busy city street filled with snow and hundreds of dogs.

If you travel out from Anchorage, you enter some areas where the idea of meeting sled dogs doesn't seem quite so distant. There are mountain ranges and vast tracts of wilderness, waiting for Winter. And you'll see various buildings along the way with dogsleds bolted to the roof in a sort of Northern fashion statement.

If you are a tourist, you might first encounter sled dogs at the Iditarod Headquarters in Wasilla. In a wooded area just outside of the Iditarod's log cabin gift shop and museum, Iditarod musher, Raymie Redington, offers rides in a dog cart pulled by some of his veteran huskies.

Son of Iditarod founder, Joe Redington, Raymie Redington runs a sled dog kennel just down the road from the Iditarod headquarters. Each day during the Summer, he brings a team of dogs to the headquarters. Eight dogs are hooked to a cart built

from the frame of an ATV. The cart has several seats for visitors and provides a comfortable ride. Tourists experience what it is like to be pulled by sled dogs and the sled dogs get Summer exercise. The dogs not pulling the cart are tethered next to wooden doghouses in a representation of a mini-kennel. All of the dogs are friendly and happily greet visitors to the headquarters. Redington even brings some puppies along from the kennel. The pups are exposed to lots of people, which will help them grow to be as well-adjusted as the older dogs.

When not running, the huskies rest, occasionally looking up to see if anyone is coming to pet them. Visitors may be surprised to discover that although the sled dogs aren't purebred, Redington knows the history and lineage of practically every dog.

Farther north, near the entrance of Denali National Park, is Husky Homestead. Also known as Goose Lake Kennel, this facility is run by 4-time Iditarod



Sled dogs at the Iditarod Headquarters





Jeff King's sled dogs pull one of the exercise carousels

champion Jeff King and is considered one of the top sled dog racing kennels in the world.

Including puppies, about a hundred dogs live at Husky Homestead and are cared for by King, his wife, their three daughters and several dog handlers. Each year, King runs a competitive team of dogs in the Iditarod and one of his handlers runs a team of younger dogs - giving them a taste of what the race is all about without the pressure of competition.

Even in the heat of the Summer, things stay busy at Husky Homestead. King has discovered a way to keep his dogs in top condition during these warm months. He swims them. Several times a week, the dogs are hooked to a line, with floats attached at intervals, strung between two boats. The team forms an arc in front of the boats and pulls them around Goose Lake for about half an hour. The dogs have grown to enjoy these swims and often ignore the side of the lake. "They don't even see this bank," King says, referring to the edge of the lake. The dogs are used to entering and exiting the lake at only one place and this is the only section of bank to which they pay any attention.

Jeff King also employs the use of ATVs and exercise carousels. Teams pull the 4-wheelers on training runs when it is cool but not snowy enough for sleds. The exercise carousels resemble a kiddie ride at an amusement park. The arms of the carousel have doghouses to which the dogs are tethered. When the contraption's brakes are released, the dogs pull the wheel around in a circle.



Lead dog, Salem, swimming in Goose Lake

King's top lead dog, Salem, often oversees by sitting in his house and riding while the other dogs pull. He often barks loudly, as if encouraging his team-mates to go faster!

One of the ways Husky Homestead makes a living during the Summer months is by offering kennel tours three times a day. Hundreds of tourists, many from cruise ships like Princess Lines, visit Husky Homestead. They are first greeted by puppies, who are socialized while being held by many different people. With an older group of pups, King warns his visitors, "Keep them away from your face because they will grab onto your nose."

Later in the tour, the visitors get a good look at the dog yard. A lot of attention is given to the puppy pen and the giant hamster-wheel where the pups exercise. Few tourists notice the sled hanging above the puppy pen but it is one of King's inventions. The sled has a seat for the musher in the middle of the sled and room for supplies on the front and back.

The tourists get to see the carousels in action and, if it is cool enough, King will sometimes take out a team with the ATV. Afterwards, the guests are treated to an indoor program consisting of tales from the trail, sled demonstrations, videos and more.

Handlers explain that several litters of puppies are born each year at Husky Homestead. The pups are kept until they are adults, since it is impossible to tell which ones will be top sled dogs while they are



After their swim, the dogs run off-leash.



Jeff King and one of his pups

- and this has happened to King. Older dogs that no longer want to run as fast are retired. Retired dogs either stay at Husky Homestead to help train puppies or are sold to recreational or beginning mushers. Others end up with sled dog touring companies.

One touring operation is located just south of Fairbanks at Northern Sky Lodge. The kennel here is more typical of Alaskan sled dog operations. Twenty-nine huskies live in the Northern Sky dog yard. They are used purely for recreational purposes and touring.

Pascale Burnet, who owns Northern Sky, says she moved from France to Alaska "because of the dogs." Although she does not compete in races herself, she is still a fan of racing and enjoys going to the Yukon Quest banquet in Fairbanks every other year. The entranceway to the lodge is decorated with Yukon Quest posters signed by mushers, as well as other sled dog-related posters and memorabilia.

During the Winter, teams of around four dogs pull drivers down a 12-mile trail through the country behind the lodge. Burnet usually drives ahead on a snowmachine so that she can keep an eye on her dogs, as well as her guests - many of whom have never even been on a dog sled before.

During the Summer months, guests at the lodge can visit the dogs in the kennel. "They will love it," Burnet says, reminding us that her huskies are bouncy and will jump on people.

Each dog is tethered on a swivel next to a green doghouse. The swivel allows the dogs to exercise

still young. The top dogs will eventually end up on King's main team. The other dogs, which are still champion-caliber racers, will be sold to different kennels, where they will run with other teams. In fact, it's not unheard of for these "culls" to beat their former mushers

within their individual circles but doesn't tire them out. This results in overly enthusiastic greetings from the friendly dogs.

Unlike those at Husky Homestead, all of the dogs at the Northern Sky kennel are adults. Some are young and sleek, obviously in their prime. There are also some older, retired dogs in the kennel.



ABOVE: A husky greets a visitor at Northern Sky
LEFT: Lead dog, Princess



One of the first dogs one might encounter upon entering the kennel is Princess, an aging lead dog who Burnet says is

"older than twelve."

Although she is not as strong or as fast as she was in her youth, Princess still seems sure of herself and has a definite presence.

Pascale Burnet feeds the dogs twice a day and encourages those interested in sled dogs to come along and assist.

Burnet has an eight-year-old son, Duncan, whose playmate is Sid, a Golden retriever - the only non-sled dog at the lodge.

Northern Sky is a favorite lodge for Japanese travelers, who often come to see the aurora borealis which frequently lights up the sky during the darker months.



Dogs At Northern Sky Lodge



Zoya DeNure plays with puppies



John Schandelmeier in the kennel with Eddie and his other dogs



Patsy-Ann, the blind sled dog pup

Pascale's neighbors are Jacques and Magali Philip, who run Noatak Racing Kennels and compete in stage and distance races.

In fact, dog mushers are extremely prevalent in Fairbanks and the surrounding areas. This is where you find the homes of some very well-known mushers. Among them are Trail Breaker Kennels, run by David Monson, husband of the late Susan Butcher, and the kennels of Rick Swenson, Lance Mackey and many others. There are mushing supply stores, museums and lots and lots of dogs.

While most kennels are run responsibly, there are sled dogs who are dropped off at shelters by mushers (usually from small-time kennels) who haven't taken the time to realize the dogs' potential or who believe them unfit for mushing.

Many of these "unwanted" sled dogs have found a home at Crazy Dog Kennels, located along the gravel Denali Highway. Crazy Dog is run by former model, Zoya DeNure, and her husband, two-time Yukon Quest champion, John Schandelmeier. The two mushers, together with their rescued sled dogs are showing the dogsledding world that, with a little extra time and patience, even "problem" dogs can be star sledders.

About fifty dogs live at Crazy Dog Kennels. Some are rescues being rehabilitated, others are on the main team and still others are being boarded. Occasionally a litter or two is bred. In 2007, two litters were raised. The first consisted of three puppies while the second produced only one pup, who was named Patsy-Ann. Born blind, Patsy-Ann is fearless and full of energy. She loves to run and explore and even when picked up, she paddles her legs and wiggles, determined to explore new things. At the time of this writing, Patsy-Ann is scheduled for an appointment with an eye specialist

in Fairbanks.

During the Summer, Crazy Dog offers kennel tours and cart rides. Visitors are greeted by Schandelmeier, DeNure and their dogs - some of which roam freely around the dog yard. One dog who loves to greet visitors is Eddie, a black and white husky formerly owned by Iditarod veteran Ramey Smyth. Eddie completed the Iditarod seven times and, although he is now retired at age fourteen, he is still happy and energetic. "Eddie is a true honest dog," DeNure says. "We sure love him very much."

Tourists also see DeNure and Schandelmeier dogs at the Maclaren River Lodge where they give Summer demonstrations for Princess Cruises, which brings visitors along the Denali Highway via tour bus. The dogs pull a large cart from the kennel to the lodge, which is located next door.

In early September 2007, Crazy Dog Kennels was visited by a camera crew filming the pilot episode of what they hope will be a TV series aired on the Outdoor channel in 2008. The show will follow dogs and mushers as they race, train and work at the kennel.

When temperatures grow cooler, Zoya DeNure and John Schandelmeier hook dog teams to ATVs and let the dogs pull them on the usually-deserted Denali Highway and on the many trails which branch off.

The Denali Highway closes to motor vehicles during the Winter as it is quickly covered in deep snow. During these colder months, Schandelmeier and DeNure move the entire Crazy Dog Kennel operation to Paxson, a small community at the end of the gravel road. Here they train with sleds (often running on the snow-covered Denali Highway,

which is frequented by many teams in training) and prepare for races. They also organize the GinGin, a 200-mile Iditarod qualifier with separate classes for men and women, and the Taiga 300, another qualifier.

DeNure plans to run the 2008 Iditarod with some of her rescued dogs.



One of Zack Steer's racing sled dogs

Farther South, along the paved Glenn Highway, Zack Steer is also preparing to run the 2008 Iditarod. Steer placed third in the 2007 Iditarod and also came in second in the 2004 Yukon Quest. He and his wife, Anjanette, run Sheep Mountain Lodge and keep twenty-five sled dogs.

"It's not a big kennel by any means," Steer says, noting that he had to borrow a couple of dogs to fill out his Iditarod team. This year, Steer bred one litter of puppies, which he

hopes will run in future races. These puppies are in a pen at the edge of the dog yard where guests can pet and play with them through the fence. Steer also has several yearlings in the dog yard, which will probably make his team in upcoming mushing seasons.



Some of the younger dogs at Sheep Mountain Lodge eat breakfast. They have pieces of moose scattered around their circles.



Zack Steer and one of his Iditarod sled dogs

with, chew and eat. One of the huskies has a whole moose head. "That one is special," Steer says, pointing at the dog.

When asked which of the dogs are leaders, Steer replies, "All of them. I wish!" He explains that all the dogs here will run in lead but some of them are better at leading than others.

Steer trains his dogs to jump on their houses to be petted. That way, he says, the overly-friendly huskies don't have to jump on people and are less likely to scare small children.

When the weather starts to turn cool, training begins with shorter runs of about one mile. The distance the team runs will increase as the season progresses.

Zack Steer also directs the Sheep Mountain Lodge 150 Sled Dog Race, which takes place in December. Limited to 50 teams, the race field is already full at the time of this writing (October).

The Sheep Mountain sled dogs will soon be running on snow as will huskies all across Alaska. The dog mushing season will begin in earnest.

Another Winter is beginning for the dogs and mushers of the sled dog state.

VIDEO REVIEWS

Dog Gone Addiction

If you keep up with the sled dog racing community, you've probably already heard about *Dog Gone Addiction*, the film with the tagline "Inspired By The Women Of The Yukon Quest."

The independent documentary film came out earlier this year and was even screened in Alaska, receiving plenty of acclaim from dog mushers and sled dog fans.

Is the film as good as the hype surrounding it? For the most part, the answer is a definite yes! The story follows three female mushers, Agata Franczak, Kelly Griffin and Michelle Phillips, as they compete in the thousand-mile Yukon Quest.

These three women come from different backgrounds but are united in their love of (some might say addiction to) dogsledding. *Dog Gone Addiction* shows them at different checkpoints along the trail as they face the struggle to keep going.

What's just as amazing as the story of the Yukon Quest mushers is that it was produced, directed and filmed by one woman, Becky Bristow, who also helped with the editing.

That said, I would have liked to see more focus on the dogs, as well as more trail footage (which is something that I believe to be lacking in many mushing films).

However, despite the shortcomings, it's a great film for any musher to watch and I think non-mushers will find it quite interesting as well.

The DVD of *Dog Gone Addiction* also includes 55 minutes of special features.

Iditarod 2007:

As Tough As They Come

Last year's Iditarod documentary, *Mother Nature's Turn To Dance*, won an Emmy - no surprise considering the film was one of the best to come out in recent years.

Perhaps a second Emmy is in store for the Iditarod, because *As Tough As They Come* is every bit as good as *Mother Nature's Turn To Dance*.

As Tough As They Come will interest both mushers and those who have no experience with the world of sled dogs.

The cinematography is beautiful, the footage even more so, and the story of the race compelling. Some of the trail footage is spectacular and you feel you are getting an "insider's view" of the race.

There's even a little more footage and information on back-of-the-pack mushers who aren't in the race to win - something missing from past films, although the focus on them dwindles as the race progresses. However, that's understandable, as the front-runners are the primary interest for viewers. Plus, it would be hard to fit both the competition and the back-of-the-packers into a ninety-minute documentary.

There are some definite improvements over the 2006 documentary. The irritating speeding-up and slowing-down of footage is virtually non-existent in the 2007 film.

As with last year's film, I was very impressed with *As Tough As They Come*. I can only hope that future Iditarod films will measure up.

MARYLAND SLED DOG ADVENTURES

An Interview With Catherine Benson

Catherine Benson runs Maryland Sled Dog Adventures LLC (on the web at marylanddogsledding.com) with her husband, Eric. This past Summer, Catherine talked to *Dog & Sled* about the touring operation.

Dog & Sled: Okay, here's the question I usually start with. How did you first become involved in mushing?

Catherine Benson: At the time we got into dog-powered sports, we had two high energy dogs that needed more exercise than we could give them with just walks alone so we got into mushing as a way of getting our dogs the exercise they so dearly need. We gave them a job that we (the dogs and us) could both live with and enjoy. We also enjoy spending time with the dogs on the trail and bonding with them while we are training them to pull.

D&S: What made you decide to get into the sled dog touring business?

CB: Living in Maryland, a lot of people don't really understand dog sledding and there are a lot of myths and misconceptions about dog sledding and dryland dog sledding. By interacting with the public and giving rides, tours, working with Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and 4H clubs, and by offering bikejoring, skijoring and canicross lessons, I hope to dispel some of those myths

and misconceptions.

We also offer a Run What You Brung program where we work with owners of high energy dogs to train their dogs to pull doing ground work and pull training. We then move on to hooking their dog(s) in with our team of trained sled dogs and go for a run. This helps the novice dogs learn what is expected of them from other dogs which is usually much more effective than me trying to train the dog to do certain things.

I also enjoy introducing people with high energy dogs to dog powered sports as a means of getting their dog(s) and themselves some exercise, and as an opportunity for folks to get out and spend some time with their dogs while bonding, doing something that is great fun for the dogs and also great fun for the humans.

So far our Run What You Brung programs have been wildly popular. I never realized there were so many Siberians and other northern breed dog owners in this area that wanted to try dog powered sports.

I like to think that our programs give folks the tools and framework they need to succeed in training their dogs. I also want folks to be aware that you don't need a large kennel to participate in dog powered sports; one or two dogs is plenty.

Lastly, because of my years working in Siberian rescue, I know that far too many high energy northern breeds including Siberians get

dumped at shelters because their owners are ill - prepared to get them the exercise that these breeds crave and need. With Sibes, I always say that if you don't give them a job they will find a job and it won't be one you like! This is one job you can give them that will tire them out.

D&S: Agreed! I like the sound of Run What You Brung. You also mentioned that you offer other types of programs. Could you tell us a little more about them?

CB: In addition to the Run What You Brung programs, we also offer patch programs in dog sledding (and dryland dog sledding) for Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. These programs last approximately 3-4 hours and we can tailor them to make them appropriate for just about any age of Scout. During the programs, the kids learn how to make a one dog line, how to connect lines to the rig or sled, how to harness a dog, how to bootie a dog, about sled dog nutrition and hydration, all about famous sled dog races and the equipment used in dog sledding and dryland dog sledding. They also get to actually put booties on a dog and harness a dog. And the end of the program, they can either mush their own team of 1-2 dogs on our small rig or they can take a short ride on our large rig with the entire team. Before their ride or

mushing experience they get to help hook the dogs up to the rig or sled and afterwards they get to help water, unhook and unharness the dogs.

We offer a similar program for 4H clubs, church groups and other organizations. We also offer educational programs on dog sledding for people who are home schooling their children and are looking for a way to teach their kids about dog sledding. These programs are perfect for kids that are reading Jack London books, studying Iditarod, or have watched *Eight Below* or *Snow Dogs* and want to learn more. We will also visit schools and do classroom presentations, bringing a dog or two along if permitted.

In addition to our educational programs, we also offer introductory and advanced dog sled tours that are the total dog sledding experience. These programs last anywhere from 2-3 hours to all day. Because our longer tours are not appropriate for young children, we offer short rides and mush your own team experiences for younger children. We will bring our dogs and our equipment to children's birthday parties or other special events and give a presentation and rides.

Our last group of offerings is our lessons. We offer bikejoring, canicross, and, weather permitting, skijoring lessons using either our dogs or an owner's personal dog(s). We'll also arrange for longer

bikejor or skijor tours if someone wants to go out for an entire day or half day. Of course all programs that we offer come with tons of husky kisses which the dogs just love giving to anyone.

D&S: Of course! I read on your website that you have a micro- kennel of four dogs. How does this affect your tours?

CB: Being a smaller kennel doesn't really affect our tours as four Siberians and Siberian mixes are capable of pulling some serious weight over some rather lengthy distances. The usual rule of thumb is that a dog in good mushing temps can pull approximately three times his/her weight. If you add our dogs' weight up and triple it, that gives us well over 600 lbs of pulling power. Even with a passenger, a musher and the larger of our two rigs (150 lbs) that gives us a pretty good dog to weight ratio. One impact being a smaller kennel does have on us is that our Fritz Dyck rig only carries one passenger at a time. Some of the larger kennels (20+ dogs) that I'm aware of have a rig called a "Touri" also made by Fritz Dyck that can carry two passengers at a time. In some ways, being a micro kennel actually helps us to accommodate people's requests. For example, many larger kennels will not do a Run What You Brung program because having a new dog in their large dog yards causes too big of a ruckus and is too difficult to manage. Because

we're smaller, we don't have that issue and we love working with dog owners to train their dogs to pull.

D&S: I think that's important, having people learn to run their own dogs and learning that the sport can be done with just one or two dogs. Are many of your guests surprised at how much weight a single dog can pull?

CB: I think a lot of our clients come to us knowing their dog(s) can pull since in many cases that is exactly why they've come to us (i.e. because they have a high energy dog that yanks them all over when they try and walk the dog) but I think they are very surprised when they realize that there are ways to channel that energy and desire to pull into productive activity, especially a productive activity that can be done right here in Maryland without snow. And yes, I think they are very surprised when they learn that 1-2 medium sized dogs can easily pull someone on a bike or scooter for many miles. They are also usually quite surprised by how small our dogs are (and some of our dogs are rather large for traditional sled dogs). People seem to have this idea that really huge dogs are necessary to pull a dog sled or rig and then they meet our dogs all of whom are rather long, lean, and leggy and are surprised by how well they do, pulling the rig/sled.

D&S: Thanks so much!

NEWS

86 Teams Signed Up For 2008 Iditarod

As of mid-October, 86 mushers have signed up for the 2008 running of the 1,150-mile Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

Among those in the field are past champions Mitch Seavey, Martin Buser, Jeff King and Rick Swenson, as well as defending champion, Lance Mackey. Kjetil Backen of Team Norway will also be in the race. Other crowd favorites entered in the 2008 Iditarod include such mushers as Gary Paulsen, DeeDee Jonrowe and Rachael Scdoris.

Source:

www.iditarod.com

Jamaican Dogsled Team Film Released

On October 2nd, 2007, Palm Pictures released *Sun Dogs* on DVD. The film follows the story of the Jamaican Dogsled Team and was screened at several film festivals prior to the DVD release.

Source:

www.jamaicadogsled.com

Third Dogs Across America Relay To Be Held

In late 2007, the third annual Dogs Across America relay event will take place across the country. In the non-competitive event, mushers in each participating state run relays along the length of a designated trail. For the most part, Dogs Across America is a dryland event, with participants using scooters, bicycles or rigs. The Dates for the 2007 Dogs Across America are November 10 and 11th for Northern states and December 15 and 16 for Southern states.

Source:

www.dogsacrossamerica.com

Crufts Dog Show To Feature Dryland Mushing

Crufts, the world-famous UK dog show, will feature a canicross event in the 2008 show. The sport will be demonstrated by Cani X UK. The group said on their website "[We] are delighted to have the opportunity of showing the world what wonderful athletic dogs we have that train with us

throughout the year keeping fit, trim and above all healthy."

Source:

www.canicross.co.uk

Sled Dog Events To Take Place In VA

The town of Damascus, VA (near Bristol) is hosting a Winterfest during the weekend of January 18th-20th, 2008. The Winterfest will feature a Serum Run re-enactment and the second annual Blue Ridge Dryland Challenge, America's only Southeastern sled dog race.

Source:

www.siberianhuskyassist.com

Campaign Started For Dog Mushing Merit Badge

A petition has been started to support the creation of a Dog Mushing Merit Badge for Boy Scouts of America. The goal is to compile 1,000 signatures. As of this writing, 203 supporters have signed the petition.

Source:

www.sleddoggin.com

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THE LAST WOOF



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