

The Chinook Advocate

Chinook Club of America Newsletter



Loyalty Versatility Intelligence Endurance

February 2005

Hello Members,

Now that the rush of the Holidays is over & there is snow on the ground in most places, I hope you are enjoying your Chinook & taking advantage of the cold & snow to learn a few mushing terms, skijor with your best friend, or to just curl up by the fire with a nice cup of cocoa & a good Chinook.

The new year is a good time to look forward and make some plans. As you will see in the reports from the various committees we on your board have been busy. One of the things we have been working on is setting goals for CCA - not just for this year, but for two to five years from now. Of course, becoming the AKC parent club is high on our list. But offering our members continuing opportunities to learn more about health issues, training, breeding and showing were also a priority. We hope to sponsor at least three events this year & two are already planned. We want to offer a variety of events and in that spirit, we hope you will join CCA & the Wollperts (Marra & Neil) at the Midwest Spring Fling in Dayton, OH the weekend of April 23, & in Coeur d'Alene ID Memorial Day Weekend for an AKC Sanction 'B' Match & Chinook Get-Together. The Spring Fling will be a weekend of fun! Besides the opportunity to meet lots of Chinooks & their owners, you can also see demonstrations & try out many activities that are not only fun, but offer opportunities to compete. You can meet the Wollperts - two of the people responsible for rescuing the Chinook from extinction. Marra is also the reason we are able to use the Gem City Dog Club's extensive facilities. CCA would like to thank the Wollperts for their sponsorship in this event & we hope this is the start of a long friendship!

Memorial Day weekend in Idaho is a more formal setting - a Sanction 'B' Match that will be a conformation show for rare breeds. The judge, Pat Trotter, is a well-known & highly esteemed AKC judge & we are very excited that she will be judging the rare breeds. Besides the show, Cheryl Brown of Aspen Creek Chinooks is having the great combination of a barbecue w/a blood draw for the UMO study. What a wonderful way to mix, mingle, eat AND get your dog in the seizure study, all at the same time!

We are still volunteering at AKC events & taking part whenever possible. Our Chinooks are shining in the show ring & the companion events arena. If you haven't tried Obedience, Agility or tracking, why not take a beginner class? You really have nothing to lose and you will find that you & your Chinook make a wonderful team. Watching our dogs excel at something & obviously having a great deal of fun at the same time is very rewarding. If you aren't into shows or trials, how about snowshoeing, skijoring, or bikejoring?. How about a pack hike? Are you in the sunny south? Take your Chinook for a swim or out in a canoe or kayak. There are so many fun things to do with our best friends. Their obvious enjoyment is the reward for making the effort.

Please include the rest of our members in your fun, show experiences or volunteer events. Send us a story & pictures of your adventures. Even send us pictures or stories of your failures, like your Chinook upsetting the canoe the first time out. Describing your experience & the fun you had may encourage someone else to try it. If you volunteer, let the organizers of the event know that you are a member of CCA & are representing your club. We keep the AKC up-to-date on our member's activities. These are the things that will make us stand out when it comes time to choose a parent club for our Chinooks. These activities can be anything related to dogs - a show or trial, of course, but also a town's dog walk to support the humane society, or even a walk-a-thon to support any charity. Getting out with our dogs and doing something worthwhile is always fun. Please be prepared to answer questions about our Chinooks. I find that when people find out my dogs are Chinooks they have a lot of questions. The first one usually being "What is a Chinook?", what a great opportunity to tell of our breed's history, and describe what an unusually sweet & hard working breed they are. Brag a lot, you have a wonderful dog!!!!

Hope to meet up with you and your Chinook soon,

Patti



Lighthouse's Mystic Seaport (Doonerak)
w/sister Sandusky Bay (Sanni) - Bayside
Cluster Dec 2004