

MUSH WITH PRIDE News

Providing Responsible Information on a Dog's Environment * Number 27, Spring 2004



Letter from the President

By: Ken Severin

Fellow PRIDE members,

I cannot tell you how pleased I have been with the last couple board meetings, mainly because the energy seems to be back. Elsewhere you will find a list of the current board members and you'll notice that two are from "not Alaska." Thanks to Dick Westland and GCI they have been able to attend by conference call, in fact, our April meeting was the first international board meeting with attendance from Brisbane Australia (Cathy's comment with jaw on the floor, "you have to worry about koalas and roos while running!!???") and Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, Canada. I'm trying to arrange a general call-in number for meetings, but in the meantime if you want to attend either show up in person, or let me know and I'll arrange a special phone line.

The best thing has been welcoming the new board members Jess Larson, Scott Faulkner, Miriam Cooper, Andy Elsberg, Jeff Szarzi, Blake Freking, & Jennifer Deye. Also, welcome to Hillary Schwafel as the Junior Liaison. I am really looking forward to their contributions, and they already have some tasks that they assure me they will get done (and I will hold them to their word). We have said goodbye to board members Scott Chesney (probably a good thing so we don't have two Scott's on the board!), long time president David Monson, Lynn Orbison, and Bridget Schwafel. Scott will still be our IT guru as well as working on the expansion of the kennel certification program for insurance purposes (thanks to all who sent in the survey, and Scott can use more), David will be an advisor forever, and is helping get PRIDE to be a 501c3 organization (so you can give PRIDE money and write it off!), Bridget is spearheading the junior version of the Sled Dog Care Guidelines, and Lynn is totally committed to her work with the Second Chance League, dedicated to getting dogs out of shelters. Check out scl.petfinder.com for more information.

My goal continues to be getting PRIDE locally significant around the world. We have had lots of debate as to whether to urge members to form local chapters, and to put it mildly, not everyone thinks it is a good idea. That said, we all agree that PRIDE will not survive if it continues to stay in Fairbanks, or even Alaska: Mushing is a world-wide sport with different needs and each PRIDE member, no matter where they are, should promote good sled dog care. Our vice-president, Blake, will be working on promoting PRIDE in Minnesota and some of our potential new board members are interested in promoting PRIDE's goals in countries other than the US. Do let us know about your successes and difficulties in going through the promoting good dog care, and let us know how we can help.

On a personal note, I am honored that the Board has allowed me to be your president for another year, and it will be fun to work with Blake, the first non-Alaskan vice-president to see what we can do about getting PRIDE less Alaska-centric. Come next northern hemisphere fall, I will not be looking for re-election to the board, but I know that the new and remaining board members have the energy and enthusiasm to keep PRIDE active and strong.

Start thinking about board nominations now. With the changes in the bylaws adopted at the September annual meeting, the board now consists of ten members, no more than eight can be from Alaska, so we will need the names of at least five folks who are willing to work hard toward PRIDE's goals. Get their approval, and send their names to us. We are also resurrecting the Lifetime Achievement Award; details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Here's to looking forward to a wonderful summer and thank you for the privilege of serving you.

Happy Tails and Trails,
Ken

Mush with Pride Officers

- ~ President ~
Ken Severin
- ~ Vice President ~
Blake Freking
- ~ Secretary ~
Jessica Larson
- ~ Treasurer ~
Scott Faulkner
- ~ Junior Liaison ~
Hillary Schwafel
- ~ Business Manager ~
Cathy Dimon

Contact

Mush with PRIDE at

907-490-6874

800-507-7433

E-mail:

info@mushwithpride.org

Website:

www.mushwithpride.org

PRIDE Coloring Book in the works!

Miriam Cooper and Hillary Schwafel are working on the artwork for a children's coloring book, based on PRIDE's sled dog care guidelines. They are well on the way and should have a draft by the annual meeting in October. The idea is to expose children to good sled dog care practices at a young age, as well to give them a fun activity. If you have ideas for topics to be included, or rough sketches for these marvelous artists to flesh out, let them know at info@mushwithpride.org, Subject Line MWP - Children's Book.

E-mail List Serve

By: Jess Larsen

The PRIDE e-mail list serve is up and running. For members who would like to subscribe, but didn't get the original notice via e-mail, the instructions for signing up are included here.

The purpose of the PRIDE-L list serve is for discussions directly related to the objectives of Mush with PRIDE, and is for current PRIDE members only. There are other list serves available for more general discussions of sled dogs, racing, skijoring, recreational mushing etc (e.g. sleddog-L, ARDMA-L, skijor-L) and posts appropriate for these should not be sent to PRIDE-L.

If you would like to participate in PRIDE-L, you will need to subscribe via the PRIDE-L list serve web page:
<https://www.uaf.edu:8025/mailman/listinfo/pride-l>. Besides including instructions for subscribing, the web page also gives a basic description of the list serve and access to discussion archives.

After subscribing, you will automatically be sent a Welcome message, which includes a more detailed description of the PRIDE-L objectives and rules.

If you are having trouble subscribing, please let me know via e-mail at faust@gi.alaska.edu. Type "PRIDE-L help" in the subject line so that I can find it easily among all the spam I get. Be patient if I don't respond immediately!

Insurance Survey

By Scott Chesney

We did get a few responses to the survey from the last newsletter. Before we can get much further, we need to get more surveys to get a better picture of PRIDE members' dog yards so that underwriters can begin to develop a pricing model. Please take the time to answer these few questions. You can respond by email to info@mushwithpride.org (Subject line MWP – Insurance Survey) or mail it to: Mush with PRIDE, PO Box 84915, Fairbanks, AK 99708.

1. How many dogs are in your household? _____
2. What are their predominant breeds? _____
3. Are there any wolf hybrids in your household? Yes No
4. How many dog bite incidents have you had in the last 5 years? _____
5. Do you have a perimeter fence around your dog yard? Yes No

Lifetime Achievement Award

Nominations for the 2004 Mush with PRIDE Lifetime Achievement Award are open. The award is presented to a musher who has exemplified the goals and spirit of PRIDE throughout his or her career.

PRIDE's goals are to (1) establish guidelines for proper sled dog care and treatment, (2) facilitate communication among mushers about the treatment and care of sled dogs, (3) educate young people about sled dogs and mushing, (4) enhance the care of sled dogs by developing improved husbandry and veterinary practices, (5) promote public understanding about the care, treatment, and traditional modern uses of sled dogs, and (6) welcome and assist new mushers.

An award nominee need not have contributed to the sport in all of these areas, nor does he or she need to be a PRIDE member. Rather, though the care of his or her own dogs as well as through public service of one or more of the types listed above, a nominee should be able to serve as a role model for the mushing community. Past award recipients have been Mary Shields, Roxy Wright-Champaine, Tim White and Dr. Dominique Grandjean.

include a brief letter (no more than 500 words) describing why the nominee should be considered for the award. Send to Lifetime Award 2004, Mush with PRIDE, PO Box 84915, Fairbanks, AK 99708 or by e-mail to info@mushwithpride.org, Subject line: MWP – Lifetime Award 2004

New Board Member Biographies

Jeff Szarzi - I live in Homer with my wife, here I am a teacher at an alternative high school. Mushing has become a therapeutic outlet for me. I have been running dogs since 1993. Like a lot of mushers I started skijoring and ended up with a 24-dog kennel and the fever to be on the runners racing. In the last few years I have focused more on a smaller kennel and dog care. I now have 14 dogs that I run for fun and compete in short races on the Kenai. Living on the southern Kenai Peninsula I feel that I am on the fringe of the dog mushing information in the state. My goal as a board member for PRIDE is to educate others about sled dog care and practices, and to make a connection with PRIDE and this part of the state.

Miriam Taylor-Cooper - Miriam has lived in Alaska for about eight years and has been running dogs for seven. She had always been active hiking and skiing with her pet dogs, but when she discovered that a simple harness and some ropes would take them even farther into the woods, she never looked back. Miriam noticed there wasn't much information available for recreational mushers who just wanted to have fun with their teams and enjoy the outdoors. To provide an outlet for these mushers, she started the Alaska Recreational Dog Mushers (ARDM) in December 2002, and says the group has been having a blast ever since.

Scott Faulkner - Scott Faulkner moved to Alaska four years ago to work with youth at a summer camp. Scott has owned dogs for most of his life. Through the camp experience he realized the value of dogs in youth work. He currently uses his kennel of Mackenzie River Huskies (from Northern Quest Kennels) to teach church youth groups and scouting troops. Scott, his wife, Amy, and daughter, Heidi live near North Pole, Alaska. Scott is a sawyer at a local sawmill. He builds dogsleds and sells carts and scooters from his home. Scott is excited to be an active part of an international organization. He endeavors to promote the establishment of local chapters throughout the world.

Andy Elsberg - I come to dogs from a background in guiding and outdoor education. I got started as a handler for a friend who was running the Quest. After a few years of running his dogs I started putting together my own team, at first a few skijor dogs, then, after I met my wife Shannon Brockman, a sled team that's become 42 dogs. We focus on distance racing and trips. Coming into this with an outdoor background is a bit different than coming in from a dog background. I really like sled dogs and working with them and traveling with them. I'm not that interested in the rest of the dog world. I think what I bring to the board is a positive distance racing perspective. I respect that everyone has different goals with dogs and want PRIDE to be inclusive of hardcore racers and weekend recreationalists. I think the most important thing we can do is help show that a positive training and living environment for your dogs will help you have more fun and get better performance out of your team.

Watch for more biographies in the next newsletter...

We need nominations for board members!

The PRIDE annual meeting will be held October 9, 2004 in association with the Alaska Dog Musher's Association's Annual Sled Dog Symposium. One of the items of business will be installing new board members who will be elected by mail ballot in August and September. There are five board seats open, and the following people have been nominated to this point. If you would like to be on the PRIDE board, or know someone who would, contact PRIDE as soon as possible. At this point nominees include:

Jessica F. Larson - I am a recreational skijorer who has a small, 2-mutt kennel (one who pulls and the other who gets tangled in the lines). I have been skijoring and recreationally mushing for about 7 years now. I am looking forward to building a very small dog team for recreational mushing purposes in the future. I am helping with PRIDE because I believe in excellent dog care, no matter how big your yard is or how professional your dogs are! I also believe that it is important to preserve our right to enjoy dog-sports, and educate those who are unfamiliar with mushing-related sports.

Jennifer Deye - I am a member of the Class of 2004 at the Veterinary Medical Center of the University of Minnesota, studying large and small animal medicine with special interests in sports medicine, surgery, and genetics. I have been racing our Siberian Huskies since 1989 in sprint and distance events including the 1998 Jr. Iditarod. I hope to help PRIDE expand beyond its Alaska beginnings to become a national and international influence in sled dog sports.

Martha Taylor - Martha and her husband Rod are owners of Uncommon Journeys Ltd., a dog sled tour business near Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, Canada. She believes "that there are several Canadian dogsledding organizations that (she and Rod) would be able to inspire to be a part of the PRIDE membership. Because of our business, we travel to various regions in Canada to enhance awareness of mushing in the Yukon. It seems a natural fit to include PRIDE's information during our 'talks'. Striving for excellence in dog care is something that we are passionate about and I hope to be able to spread the word!"

PRIDE Is Pleased to Welcome Jacqueline Maillet as Newsletter Editor!

Canadian born, now living in Australia, Jacqueline has been part of gig racing (scooters & rigs) down under since 1996. She has been editor of NEGRC's "TRAIL magazine" and VSDRA's "Victorian Musher", and looks forward to taking on the task as editor of Mush with PRIDE. She hopes PRIDE will help to complement and continue the existing knowledge base of this canine sport worldwide. (Those initials stand for Northern Exposure Gig Racing Club and Victoria Sled Dog Racing Association! Be sure to send ideas and articles to Jacqueline c/o info@mushwithpride.org, subject: MWP - newsletter)

Mush with PRIDE Board of Directors

Even number seats expire October 2004, odd numbered seats expire October 2005

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Scott Faulkner (AK, Treas.) | 6. Jess Larson (AK, Sec) |
| 2. Ken Severin (AK, Pres.) | 7. Andy Elsberg (AK) |
| 3. Miriam Taylor-Cooper (AK) | 8. Jennifer Deye (MN) |
| 4. Vacant | 9. Jeff Szarzi (AK) |
| 5. Blake Freking (MN, VP) | 10. Iris Wood (AK) |

Kennel Inspection Program Update

After much discussion the board has made two important changes to the Kennel Inspection Program (details can be found at www.mushwithpride.org). First, you no longer need a veterinarian to conduct the inspection. The exact term used for the inspecting person is "a governmentally certified animal care professional." The reason for this is that it is very difficult (and expensive) to get a vet in many remote locations. Keeping the individual "governmentally certified" assures some oversight. Second, the inspecting individual, at their option, can have \$20 of the \$25 inspection fee that goes to PRIDE be donated to an animal care organization of their choice. This may encourage the inspector to work for a smaller fee, and will help promote animal care.

Mush with PRIDE Order Form

Membership ☐ New ☐ Renewal \$ _____
\$15, individual; \$20, family or club; \$5, youth under 18; \$10, associate; \$100, business; quarterly newsletter & a copy of Sled Dog Care Guidelines & Equipment Guidelines included with membership. PRIDE membership year starts October 1st. (Those received on or after June 1st are good through the following membership year)

Sled Dog Care Guidelines Quantity _____ \$ _____
Basic sled dog care and training advice from dozens of the most respected mushers. Includes information on dog yards, feeding and watering, training, husbandry, puppies and more. 36-page book. \$5 each or \$3.50 each for 10 or more.

Equipment Safety Guidelines Quantity _____ \$ _____
Based on a survey of experienced mushers, covers the basics of safe equipment choices and use. Includes chapters on dog gear, lines, sleds & rigs, skijoring, dog yards, traveling, etc. 36-page book, \$5 each or \$3.50 each for 10 or more.

Rookie Distance Mushing Video..... Quantity _____ \$ _____
Professionally edited video based on a PRIDE rookie distance-mushing workshop in Alaska. Experienced distance racers and veterinarians discuss kennel safety, husbandry, nutrition, goal setting, qualifying races, paperwork and race rules, and checkpoint procedures. 6 1/2 hours. \$30 NTSC (U.S.) format, \$40 PAL

Mush with PRIDE Patch Quantity _____ \$ _____
Navy on sky blue background, gold highlights, \$5 each

Jon Van Zyle 1995 "Mush" Poster Quantity _____ \$ _____
PRIDE edition signed by Iditarod winners Swenson, Butcher, Buser, King, Swingley. 13"x24" full color. \$85

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Prices include postage in the U.S. If ordering from outside the U.S., please include an additional 15% for postage (except on memberships). Please include payment with your order, and allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery. Mail orders to: Mush with PRIDE, PO Box 84915, Fairbanks, AK 99708 USA.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Country: _____ Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Questions? Call 1-800-507-7433 or e-mail info@mushwithpride.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mush with PRIDE will include any upcoming educational events in the newsletter.

To submit your event, send the event name, location, dates, times, and contact information to PRIDE by e-mail at info@mushwithpride.org or by mail at PO Box 84915, Fairbanks, AK 99708.

July 29 and September 9, 2004, 6-8:30pm Alaska Daylight Time

Mush with PRIDE Board Meeting – **All PRIDE members welcome in person or by phone**

Room 300 Natural Science Building, University of Alaska Fairbanks

Phone dial in is available, contact Ken (fnkps@uaf.edu) for information

October 8-10, 2004

Alaska Dog Musher's Association Sled Dog Symposium, Pioneer Park, Fairbanks Alaska

Info: P.O. Box 70662, Fairbanks, AK 99707, Phone: 907/457-6874, Fax: 907/457-6875, adma@sleddog.org, www.sleddog.org

October 9, 2004

Mush with PRIDE Annual Meeting

Pioneer Hall, Pioneer Park, Fairbanks Alaska

Contact: info@mushwithpride.org

Seppala Heritage Grant Established

The Iditarod National Historic Trail, Inc. is administering a new grant to help youth, junior, or rookie mushers get to the start of the Iditarod. The individual applying should have demonstrated a commitment to work with, train and race sled dogs, as well as generosity of spirit, courage, integrity and love for the dogs, land, and people of Alaska. For more information contact Dan Seavey (907-244-3158, seavey@seward.net) or visit

www.iditarod.com/04press-pdf/04seppalagrants.pdf

Looking for help with PRIDE Video

Mush with Pride is producing a new video to promote dog sled health and care. The approximately 30 minute video will feature video clips from dog yards and on the trail. The educational video will be available for individuals, schools, and organizations desiring to learn about mushing (and related sports) as well as proper dog care.

To contribute video (all formats accepted) please contact: Scott Faulkner, scottinalaska@lycos.com

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Membership in Mush with PRIDE is open to all. Rates are \$15/individual, \$20/family or club, \$10/non-voting associate member, \$5/youth under 18, \$100/business (includes four business card ads in the newsletter. Members receive the newsletter, 36-page *Sled Dog Care Guidelines*, and a ballot for elections. Memberships begin on Oct 1 each year. Those received on or after June 1 are good through the following membership year. **Your continued support is much appreciated.**

PRIDE stands for "Providing Responsible Information on a Dog's Environment." Mush with PRIDE provides information to mushers, the public, and the media about the proper care and training of sled dogs. We believe that modern sled dog owners are proud of their dogs as canine athletes that are bred and trained to do what they love – run as part of a team. Mush with PRIDE aims to keep them doing what they love and doing it well. The organization includes a wide variety of mushers – recreationalists and professionals, long-distance and sprint racers, weight pullers, skijorers, freight haulers – as well as sled dog veterinarians and other concerned citizens.

Officers and Directors: Ken Severin, President; Blake Freking, Vice President; Jessica Larson, Secretary; Scott Faulkner, Treasurer; Cathy Dimon, Business Manager.

ATTENTION: RECREATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DOG MUSHERS

I HAVE 2 WHEEL SCOOTERS AND 3 WHEEL CARTS. 20" ATV TIRES, POWDER COAT PAINT, ALL WHEEL BRAKING. \$550 FOR SCOOTER. \$750 FOR CART.

PLEASE EMAIL SCOTT FAULKNER FOR PHOTOS AND MORE INFO. SCOTTINALASKA@LYCOS.COM

Thank you GCI!!

For hosting the Mush with PRIDE website & providing teleconference capabilities for board meetings.

Visit our website at:
www.mushwithpride.org

Visit us on the web at www.mushwithpride.org

Information Tidbits:

The Mush with PRIDE First Aid Manual is in print! All current members of Mush with PRIDE will be receiving their copy in the mail in the coming month. New members will receive the Sled Dog Care & Equipment Guidelines along with the First Aid Manual. Members that are renewing their membership will receive their copy of the First Aid Manual when they renew.

When e-mailing to info@mushwithpride.org please use a subject line of "MWP - (topic)"

For example:

MWP - membership

-or-

MWP - kennel inspection.

This will let me know that the e-mail is legitimate. The address is receiving hundreds of junk e-mails every week that are just deleted without opening.

If you paid a membership fee at the 2003 Symposium, your membership card will be sent to you as soon as they are received from the printers. And, patches have been ordered. If you paid for a patch at the booth, you will receive it as soon as we get them.



MUSH WITH PRIDE
PO Box 84915
Fairbanks, AK 99708-4915 USA

Visit us online at www.mushwithpride.org
Send e-mail to info@mushwithpride.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!