



SAM-O-GRAM

Denver Samoyed Association

Volume 27, Issue 03

March 2020

Who We Are

OFFICERS:

President:

Heidi 'Scooter' Nieman 303-717-0799

Vice President:

Pam Buhl..... 303-915-1725

Recording Secretary:

Donna Dannen..... 303-670-8053

Corresponding Secretary:

Lori Elvera..... 720-344-4562

Treasurer:

Thalia Peletis..... 303-933-0392

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Martha Lageschulte... 303-929-9064

JoDee Putnins..... 303-358-1511

Kristi Schopfer..... 303-838-9848

Terry Walb..... 303-833-2890

'20 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Agility:

Terry Walb..... 303-833-2890

Awards:

Kristi Schopfer..... 303-838-9848

Breeder Referral:

Pam Buhl..... 303-915-1725

Cheer:

Jan Cherne..... 303-980-1970

Colorado Legislation Liaison

Pam Buhl..... 303-915-1725

Lorrie McAllister..... 720-308-2019

Designated Specialty:

Archived

Historian/Librarian:

Donna Dannen..... 303-670-8053

Hospitality:

Specialty Match

Volunteers Needed

Local Specialty

Martha Lageschulte... 303-929-9064

Terry Walb..... 303-833-2890

Heidi 'Scooter' Nieman 303-717-0799

Holiday Party:

Rick Morales-Brewick. 303-802-7785

Linda Kitzman..... 303-794-7136

Local Specialty '20:

Pam Buhl..... 303-915-1725

Program:

Volunteers Needed

Public Education:

Rachel Paulson..... 303-935-0701

Sam-O-Gram/Web Site:

Thalia Peletis..... 303-933-0392

Sammy Rescue:

Thalia Peletis..... 303-933-0392

Sue Wangerin..... 303-467-9829

Specialty Match:

Kristi Schopfer..... 303-838-9848

Pam Buhl..... 303-915-1725

Rick Morales-Brewick. 303-802-7785

Supported Entry:

Archived

The True Story of Togo: Siberian Husky Sled Dog Hero of 1925 Nome Serum Run

By William Hank

Mar 06, 2020 — via www.akc.org



In the winter of 1925, a deadly outbreak of diphtheria in the remote port of Nome, Alaska, threatened the lives of the 10,000-plus living in the area. Children were especially at risk, and Nome's isolation created a nightmare scenario. An antitoxin was located, but the nearest point which the serum could reach by rail was Nenana, located 674 miles from Nome. With a blizzard approaching, air travel was ruled out. Officials determined that the only way to deliver the serum in time was via sled dog teams.

A relay of 20 teams was assembled, including that of Leonhard Seppala, Alaska's most venerated musher. Amazingly, in just

five and a half days, the "Great Race of Mercy" was completed and the lifesaving serum was delivered to Nome. While the lead dog of the 53-mile final leg, Balto, would become famous for his role in the run, many argue that it was Seppala and his Siberian Husky lead dog, Togo, who were the true saviors of the day. All told, the 12-year-old Togo and Seppala traversed an astounding 264 miles, compared to an average of 31 miles each for the other teams.

For years, Balto, who also came from Seppala's kennel, was celebrated, even earning a statue in New York's Central Park. However, those in the know regarded Togo as the serum run's unsung hero. Over time, with the help of historians, Togo began to garner the recognition he deserved. In 2001, Togo received his own statue in NYC's Seward Park. In 2019, his story was retold in the riveting Disney+ movie *Togo*, starring Togo's own descendant Diesel as the namesake Siberian. Most recently, Togo was featured in the AKC Museum of the Dog exhibition "Mush! A Tribute to Sled Dogs From Arctic Exploration to the Iditarod," on view now through March 29th, 2020.

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Special points of interest:

Inside this issue:

Be sure to attend the March Meeting! See page 8 for the agenda!

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Membership Meeting Minutes

DSA Meeting Minutes, 2-17-20

Members present: Scooter Nie- man, JoDee Putnins, Jan Cherne, Julie Morris, Kris Schopfer, Lori Elvera, Donna Dannen, Linda Kitz- man

President, Scooter, called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Due to the absence of many mem- bers who became sick after the CKC shows, we had an abbreviat- ed meeting, and waiting for Linda Kitzman (who was called in to make a quorum & who was also sick).

Scooter read the applications of several names who were up for membership to DSA.

Calla Compton: Calla was attend- ing her second meeting and this was her 2nd reading for an Individ- ual Membership

- Sponsored by Kris Schopfer and Pam Buhl
- Calla is an SCA member.
- She owns one Sam: Maverick: GCH T-Snow Star's the Need for Speed
- Calla has interests in every fac- et of the Samoyed breed from Conformation to working

APPROVED

Also 2nd readings were applica- tions for:

- **Joe Morris:** sponsored by Thalia Peletis and Martha Lageschulte APPROVED
- **Butch Walb:** sponsored by Thalia Peletis and Lori Elvera APPROVED
- **Kent Cherne:** sponsored by Thalia Peletis and Martha Lageschulte APPROVED

First reading for one new applica- tion was a Family Membership for **Scott and Linda Diets**

- (The Diets' are former mem- bers whose membership had lapsed)
- They have had Samoyeds for 32 years. They currently own GCH McKinley and Lakota, bred by Martha Lageschulte. They are not SCA members. Interests are in Conformation and "Pets."
- Sponsored by Martha Lages- chulte and Jan Cherne

Discussion and nominations for SCA 2021 non-regular class judges:

4-6 month Puppy ; Peewee; Puppy Sweeps; Veteran Sweeps; Working Sweeps

NOMINATIONS:

- Susan Davies
- Carole Ann Hartnagle
- Cindy Fawcett
- Lori Garza
- Sherry Webster
- Pam Landers
- Andrea Dunkle
- Jennifer Brown
- Mary Elliott
- Karen McFarlane
- Jimmy Moses
- Nancy Simmons

Discussion about Club logo for items we offer since we have not done this for awhile

Jan Cherne: Motion to adjourn
Scooter: second

The meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Dannen
Recording Secretary



**Please
welcome
our newest
club members!**

Calla Compton

Joe Morris

Butch Walb

Kent Cherne

**We are thrilled
you joined our
club!**

Rock Around the CLOCK

Denver Samoyed Association

Back-to-Back Specialties

November 28-29, 2020



SATURDAY

Regular & Non-Regular Classes
Erica Flahaut

Puppy, Veteran & Working Sweepstakes
Shanan Streweler

Obedience
Susan Oviatt-Harris

Rally
Beth Bailey

SUNDAY

Regular & Non-Regular Classes
Judi Elford

Puppy & Veteran Sweepstakes
Karen Brooks-Hodges

Junior Showmanship & Pee Wee Class
Karen McFarlane



The True Story of Togo: Siberian Husky Sled Dog Hero of 1925 Nome Serum Run

(Continued from page 1)

From Rambunctious Pup To Legendary Lead



The Norwegian-born Seppala first arrived in Alaska in 1900, when most sled dogs were burly Alaskan Malamutes or mixed breeds. Under the employ of the Pioneer Mining Company, Seppala began making a name for himself as one of the strongest mushers in Nome. Around that time, the first known Siberian Huskies in America were brought to Nome by Russian fur trader William Goosak. Those dogs, topping out around 50 pounds, would surprise by taking third in the annual All-Alaska Sweepstakes race in 1909.

That summer, English musher Fox Ramsay imported 60 of the finest specimens he found in Siberia to Nome. In 1910's All-Alaska Sweepstakes, an all-Siberian team driven by musher "Iron Man" Johnson took first place in what remains a course record. Clearly, there was something to be said for these smaller, yet scrappy, Siberians as stellar sled dogs.

While whelping records from the era are scant, it's generally accepted that Togo was born in 1913 to a dam named Dolly, who is regarded as a foundation bitch in the breed's development. At the time, many of the Nome's finest sled dogs were found in Seppala's kennel. As a

puppy, Togo suffered from health problems, and Seppala saw no use for the undersized, seemingly unfit dog. However, after being given away to a neighbor, Togo flung himself through a glass window and escaped back home. It seemed to Seppala that he was stuck with the incorrigible pup.

As Togo grew, he became captivated by the working sled dogs surrounding him. Still too young for a harness, he often got loose to

run alongside teams training with Seppala, much to his owner's anguish. His penchant for mischief led to a mauling when he ran up on a team of much larger Malamutes. Exasperated, Seppala decided to do what he did best with his dogs. He put a harness on the 8-month-old Togo and hooked him into the team. Togo ultimately ran 75 miles that day and worked his way up to lead on his first-ever time in a harness. Unwittingly, Seppala had found himself the perfect lead dog for which he had always yearned.



Togo & the 1925 Nome Serum Run

Over the years, Togo became known across Alaska for his tenacity, strength, endurance, and intelligence as Seppala's prized lead dog. Togo led Seppala's team in races and excursions long and short, and dog and man became inseparable. During this time, Seppala himself won the All-Alaska Sweepstakes in 1915, 1916, and 1917.

By the time the diphtheria outbreak struck in 1925, Togo was 12 years old and Seppala 47, both seemingly past their primes. However, with the fate of Nome in the balance, locals knew the aging yet experienced duo was their last, best hope. As deaths from the disease mounted, the decision to act was made. A multi-team dog sled relay was arranged to deliver 300,000 units of serum, already en route to Nenana by rail, the remaining 674 miles to Nome. On January 29th, Seppala and his 20 best Siberians set out from Nome with trusty Togo at the helm, to meet the westbound relay and retrieve the vital serum. Among those not selected by Seppala was Balto, whom the musher felt was yet unprepared to lead a team.

With temperatures hovering around -30 degrees, Seppala and his dogs made incredible time in their mad dash east, covering over 170 miles in just three days. All the while, the outbreak worsened back in Nome. Officials decided to add more teams to the relay, unbeknownst to Seppala. After cutting across the treacherously frozen Norton Sound to save time and distance, Seppala miraculously ran right into the team of Henry Ivanoff, one of the relay's late additions, which was carrying the serum westward. The two teams nearly missed each other on the trail, but, thanks in part to the dogs, the connection was made. Naturally, it then fell to Seppala and Togo to bring the serum back towards Nome.

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The True Story of Togo: Siberian Husky Sled Dog Hero of 1925 Nome Serum Run

(Continued from page 4)



On the return trip across the Sound, the team became stranded on an ice floe. The quick-thinking Seppala tied a lead to Togo, his only hope, and tossed the dog across five feet of water. Togo attempted to pull the floe supporting the sled, but the line snapped. Amazingly, the once-in-a-lifetime lead dog had the wherewithal to snatch the line from the water, roll it around his shoulders like a harness, and eventually pull his team to safety.

Back on land after covering a near-impossible number of miles, Seppala and his team eventually made the serum handoff in Golovin, just 78 miles from Nome. Late additions to this final stretch of the relay included musher Gunnar Kaasen who, against Seppala's instincts, had chosen Balto to lead his team. On February 3rd, 1925, Kaasen and Balto rode into Nome to a hero's welcome. The serum had arrived, and the town had been saved.

The Legacy of Togo

While Kaasen and Balto were given much of the glory, it was Seppala and Togo who insiders knew had truly saved the day. In the years following the serum run, Seppala made trips to the Lower 48 states with his heroic sled dogs. Seppala traveled all the way to New England and took on a team of local Chinooks in a friendly sled dog race. With Togo in the lead

in what would be his final race, the much-smaller Siberians triumphed.

Ultimately, Seppala and New England musher Elizabeth Ricker chose to open a kennel of Siberians in Poland Spring, Maine. It was there that Togo lived out the rest of his days in dignity and serenity. The indomitable dog was finally put to rest in 1929 at the age of 16. In 1932, Seppala returned to Alaska, whereupon the kennel closed and the dogs were delegated to friend Harry Wheeler. According to the Siberian Husky Club of America, all of the breed's registered dogs of today can trace their ancestry to the dogs from the Seppala-Ricker kennel or Harry Wheeler's kennel.

Over the years, more and more began to recognize Togo as the serum run's true hero dog. Eventually, in 1983, his mounted body was given a place of honor at the Iditarod Race Headquarters in Wasilla, Alaska. Most famous among modern dog sled races, the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race is held each year in March, with parts of the route traversing the same 1925 serum run trails taken all those years ago.

Seppala himself passed away in 1967 at the age of 89. A fitting tribute, the Leonhard Seppala Humanitarian Award is given to the Iditarod musher each year judged to have taken the best care of their dogs. As for his thoughts on Togo and the "Great Race of Mercy", which changed the course of his own life and dog sledding forevermore, Seppala summed it up thusly in his unpublished autobiography before his passing:

"Afterwards, I thought of the ice and the darkness and the terrible wind and the irony that men could build planes and ships. But when Nome needed life in little packages of serum, it took the dogs to bring it through."

References & Further Reading On Togo:

Leonhard Seppala: The Siberian Dog and The Golden Age of Sleddog Racing 1908-1941 by Bob & Pam Thomas

The Cruellest Miles: The Heroic Story of Dogs and Men in a Race Against An Epidemic by Gay & Laney Salisbury

Togo's Fireside Reflections by Elizabeth M. Ricker



Togo's mount was given a place of honor at the Iditarod Race Headquarters in Wasilla, Alaska. Courtesy of R.H. Thomas.

Treasury Reports as of 03/09/2020

General Fund							Grocery Certificate Fundraiser 2020 Profit: \$526.60				
Beginning General Fund Bank Balance											
Beginning General Fund Bank Balance			\$20,166.86	= 12/31/19 General Fund Ending Bank Balance							
Beginning General Fund Outstanding Checks (from 2019)			(\$639.23)	= #2937 - \$618.75; #2945 - \$20.48							
2019 Checks Voided in 2020			\$0.00								
Total Beginning Balance			\$19,527.63	= 12/31/19 Acct Balance History General Fund Balance							
			Calendar Year 2020			Budget Year 2020			Budget Year 2021		
Category	Income	Expenses	Net	Income	Expenses	Net	Income	Expenses	Net		
Agility											
Entry Fees	\$9,834.00	\$130.00	\$9,704.00	\$9,834.00	\$130.00	\$9,704.00					
Food & Beverages	\$0.00	\$310.01	(\$310.01)	\$0.00	\$310.01	(\$310.01)					
Judge's Fees	\$0.00	\$1,902.09	(\$1,902.09)	\$0.00	\$1,902.09	(\$1,902.09)					
Judge's Gifts	\$0.00	\$14.99	(\$14.99)	\$0.00	\$14.99	(\$14.99)					
MACH Bars	\$0.00	\$18.26	(\$18.26)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18.26	(\$18.26)		
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$13.84	(\$13.84)	\$0.00	\$43.84	(\$43.84)					
Recording Fee	\$0.00	\$1,976.00	(\$1,976.00)	\$0.00	\$2,176.00	(\$2,176.00)					
Rental Equipment	\$0.00	\$1,050.00	(\$1,050.00)	\$0.00	\$1,050.00	(\$1,050.00)					
Rental Fee	\$0.00	\$106.25	(\$106.25)	\$0.00	\$725.00	(\$725.00)					
Ribbons	\$0.00	\$53.07	(\$53.07)	\$0.00	\$53.07	(\$53.07)					
Secretary Fees	\$0.00	\$986.65	(\$986.65)	\$0.00	\$986.65	(\$986.65)					
Thank You	\$0.00	\$20.00	(\$20.00)	\$0.00	\$20.00	(\$20.00)					
Agility Total	\$9,834.00	\$6,581.16	\$3,252.84	\$9,834.00	\$7,411.65	\$2,422.35	\$0.00	\$18.26	(\$18.26)		
Awards: Plaques-Tags	\$42.50	\$0.00	(\$42.50)	\$42.50	\$0.00	(\$42.50)					
Credit Card Fees	\$0.54	\$7.09	\$6.55	\$0.54	\$7.09	\$6.55					
Legislation											
Donation	\$0.00	\$200.00	(\$200.00)	\$0.00	\$200.00	(\$200.00)					
Dues	\$0.00	\$75.00	(\$75.00)	\$0.00	\$75.00	(\$75.00)					
Legislation Total	\$0.00	\$275.00	(\$275.00)	\$0.00	\$275.00	(\$275.00)					
Local Specialty											
Recording Fee	\$0.00	\$175.00	(\$175.00)	\$0.00	\$175.00	(\$175.00)					
Rental & Cleanup Fees	\$0.00	\$500.00	(\$500.00)	\$0.00	\$700.00	(\$700.00)					
Rental Equipment	\$0.00	\$250.00	(\$250.00)	\$0.00	\$250.00	(\$250.00)					
Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$19.27	(\$19.27)					
Trophies	\$590.00	\$0.00	\$590.00	\$3,225.00	\$0.00	\$3,225.00					
Local Specialty Total	\$590.00	\$925.00	(\$335.00)	\$3,225.00	\$1,147.27	\$2,080.73					
Misc: State Periodic Report	\$0.00	\$10.00	(\$10.00)	\$0.00	\$10.00	(\$10.00)					
Membership : Dues	\$420.00	\$0.00	\$420.00	\$1,529.00	\$0.00	\$1,529.00					
Public Education: Poster	\$0.00	\$64.98	(\$64.98)	\$0.00	\$64.98	(\$64.98)					
Sammy Rescue: Supplies	\$21.00	\$21.00	(\$0.00)	\$21.00	\$21.00	(\$0.00)					
Sam-O-Gram/Web Hosting	\$0.00	\$233.35	(\$233.35)	\$0.00	\$233.35	(\$233.35)					
Taxes : Tax Prep	\$0.00	\$515.00	(\$515.00)	\$0.00	\$515.00	(\$515.00)					
Trophy Donations : SCA	\$0.00	\$100.00	(\$100.00)	\$0.00	\$100.00	(\$100.00)					
Ways & Means											
Grocery Certificates	\$526.60	\$0.00	\$526.60	\$526.60	\$0.00	\$526.60					
Unused Trophies	\$214.15	\$0.00	\$214.15	\$214.15	\$0.00	\$214.15					
Ways & Means Total	\$740.75	\$0.00	\$740.75	\$740.75	\$0.00	\$740.75					
Grand Total	\$11,648.79	\$8,732.58	\$2,916.21	\$15,392.79	\$9,782.34	\$5,610.45	\$0.00	\$18.26	(\$18.26)		
General Ending Acct Balance			22,428.84	= 03/09/2020 Account Balance History Ending Balance							
Outstanding Checks	\$278.26	\$0.00	\$278.26	= #2975 - \$250.00; #3020 - \$18.26; # 3021 - \$10.00							
Outstanding Deposits	\$0.00	\$15.00	(\$15.00)								
Outstanding Total	\$278.26	\$15.00	\$263.26								
General Ending Bank Balance			\$22,707.10	= 02/28/2020 General Fund Ending Bank Statement Balance							

Treasury Reports as of 03/09/2020

Rescue Fund	
Beginning Rescue Fund Bank Balance	\$33,596.50 = 12/31/19 Rescue Fund Bank Statement Ending Balance
Outstanding Checks (from 2019)	\$0.00
Total Beginning Balance	\$33,596.50 = 12/31/19 Account Balance History Rescue Fund Balance

Rescue Fund	Calendar / Budget Year 2020		
Category	Income	Expenses	Net
Adoption Fee	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$350.00
Credit Card Fees	\$0.00	\$15.83	(\$15.83)
Donations Received	\$160.00	\$0.00	\$160.00
Fundraiser			
Collars & Leashes	\$1,769.84	\$56.59	\$1,713.25
Dog Packs	\$90.00	\$0.00	\$90.00
Grooming Nooses	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$20.00
Microchip Clinic	\$300.00	\$324.00	(\$24.00)
Fundraiser Total	\$2,179.84	\$380.59	\$1,799.25
Miscellaneous			
Licenses-Membership Dues	\$0.00	\$325.00	(\$325.00)
Postage	\$0.00	\$10.85	(\$10.85)
Miscellaneous Total	\$0.00	\$335.85	(\$335.85)
Veterinary Services			
Blood Panel	\$0.00	146.16	(\$146.16)
Cortisol Resting	\$0.00	\$133.68	(\$133.68)
SDMA Test	\$0.00	\$62.20	(\$62.20)
Ultrasound	\$0.00	\$316.00	(\$316.00)
Urinalysis	\$0.00	\$67.92	\$67.92
Veterinary Services Total	\$0.00	\$725.96	(\$725.96)
Grand Total	\$2,689.84	\$1,458.23	\$1,231.61
Rescue Ending Acct Balance			\$34,828.11 = 02/16/2020 Account Balance History Ending Balance
Outstanding Checks	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Outstanding Deposits	\$0.00	\$562.29	(\$562.26) # 261 - \$350.00; # 4401 - \$65; CC - \$147.29
Outstanding Total	\$0.00	\$562.29	(\$562.26)
Rescue Ending Bank Balance			\$34,265.82 = 03/09/2020 Rescue Fund Ending Bank Statement Balance

Grocery Card Fundraisers



King Soopers/City Market/Kroger

Enroll and show your Value Card to receive your discounts & help DSA!



You just need to create an account online, and then select the Denver Samoyed Association as the organization to benefit from your purchases.

Still earn fuel points, still can pay however you choose (cash, check or credit card), just present your Value Card at the checkout stand to receive their discounts & fuel points like normal!



Safeway affiliated stores still use reloadable cards!

Purchase a \$5 reloadable card from DSA and add to amount (reload) on your card at the checkout stand before they scan your purchases.

Pay for the reloaded amount using your credit card, check or cash.
 DSA receives a 5% rebate when we reach \$5000 in purchases.

Contact THALIA (303-933-0392 / t_peletis@msn.com) to learn how to enroll in King Soopers or request a \$5 Safeway card! It is very easy & will benefit your club greatly!

Denver Samoyed Association

DSA members are committed to the protection and advancement of the Samoyed breed.



c/o Thalia Peletis, Editor
8885 West Clifton Avenue
Littleton, Colorado
80128-5324

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.DENVERSAMOYED.ORG

Upcoming Meeting Reminder:

Date: Mar 16, 2020 at **7:00 PM**

Location: Natural Grocers, I-70 & Kipling, Wheat Ridge, CO

Agenda:

- Read membership applications
- Accept additional nominations for 2021 National Specialty Judges for 4-6 Month Puppy, Sweepstakes (Puppy, Veteran and Working).
- Nominate 2021 Local Specialty Judges. We will vote on these judges at the April DSA meeting.

We need a minimum of nine (9) voting members present at this meeting for a quorum.

Denver Samoyed Rescue Report

no HOME, all ALONE As of 03/06/20, we have no Samoyeds available for adoption!

If you know anyone who might be interested, please call the DSR at 303-453-1360, or contact one of the Rescue committee members: **Sue Wangerin, Thalia Peletis, Michele Sottile, Pam Arnold, Deb Castro and Liz Evans**, Thanks!



MANY THANKS TO MANY CLUB MEMBERS

who helped Nashville find his third and final home with this lovely, young couple, who are a wonderful match for this amazing, sweet boy!

