

# SAM - O - GRAM

September, 1999

Volume 6, Issue 9

## Who's Who

### Officers:

President:	Bob Sencenbaugh	223-8238
Vice President:	Carolyn Bateman	750-1740
Recording Secretary:	Steve Baugh	438-7235
Corresponding Secretary:	Jane Reller	665-2843
Treasurer:	Julie Beatty	360-9782

### Board of Directors:

Linda Kitzman	794-7136	Thalia Peletis	933-0392
Heidi Nieman	660-1472	Michele Schmitt	770-2167

### '99 Committee Chairpersons:

All Breed Match:	*** Volunteer Needed ***
Awards:	Mary Lloyd 688-4684
Breeder Referral:	Martha Lageschulte 451-1737
Breeder's Showcase / Public Education:	Jane Reller 665-2843
Cheer:	Debbi Sencenbaugh 223-8238
DSA Liaison to SCA:	Debbi Sencenbaugh 223-8238
Historian/Librarian:	Bob Sencenbaugh 223-8238
Hospitality:	Mary Lloyd 688-4684
Membership:	Denise Baugh 438-7235
Program:	Carolyn Bateman 750-1740
Local Specialty - 2000:	** Volunteer Needed ***
2001:	Bob Sencenbaugh 223-8238
Sam-O-Gram:	Carol Beatty 360-9782
Sammy Rescue:	Thalia Peletis 933-0392
Specialty Match:	Deb Castro 220-7536
Tournament:	Andi Mast 450-7712
Ways & Means:	Heidi Nieman 660-1472
Working Dog:	Nancy Golden 838-5271
	Denise Baugh 438-7235
	Michele Schmitt 770-2167

### Newsletter Deadlines: Last Monday of the Month

Sep 27 (Oct)

Oct 25 (Nov)

Nov 29 (Dec)



*Denver Samoyed Association, Inc.*

## Do Dogs Smile?

*By Peter Emily*

Why is veterinary dentistry the hottest thing going? Veterinarians have found something new that helps them improve the health of your pet.

More and more vets are realizing that dental problems are real and out there. And, as with people, preventive dentistry -- keeping the teeth and gums clean now -- is cheaper and easier than damage control later. At one time, the standard procedure was to wait until teeth were so bad that the only solution was to pull instead of repair. But then, most veterinarians didn't know any better. They regularly received only one hour of training in dental care in college.

Today, everyone's promoting good dental care. I help the American Kennel Club promote good dental care for dogs. The veterinary magazines all write about new techniques. Veterinary colleges are devoting more time to the subject. And more new products are being developed specifically for dogs and cats.

We've come a long way since my last article in Good Dog! four years ago. But the

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## Membership Meeting Minutes

### Membership Meeting Minutes - 8/16/99

#### Present:

Steve Baugh	Linda Kitzman
Denise Baugh	Tom Lisec
Carol Beatty	Mary Lloyd
Julie Beatty	Doris McLaughlin
Nancy Golden	Michele Schmitt
Bob Sencenbaugh	Debbi Sencenbaugh

Guest: Lisa Peterson

-Meeting was called to order by Bob Sencenbaugh

Minutes from July 1999 were reviewed and approved as written.

#### **-President's Report, Bob Sencenbaugh:**

The nominating committee has been established for officers and board members for the next millennium. They are as follows

Michele Schmitt, Chair  
Deb Castro  
Denise Baugh  
Kris Schopfer, Alternate

#### **-Vice President's Report, Carolyn Bateman**

Not present

#### **-Recording Secretary's Report, Steve Baugh:**

No report

#### **-Corresponding Secretary's Report, Jane Reller:**

No report

#### **-Treasurer's Report, Julie Beatty:**

General Fund: \$6557.84  
Rescue Fund: \$6152.35  
Raffle Fund: \$361.05  
King Soopers certificates available

#### **-Committee Reports-**

All Breed Match-No Chairman. Inactive Committee

Awards-Mary Lloyd  
No report

Breeder Referral-Martha Lageschulte  
Not Present.

Breeder's Showcase/Public Education-Jane Reller  
Not Present.

Cheer-Debbi Sencenbaugh  
Cards were sent to:

Sterling Clark (illness)  
The Youngs (Cheer)  
Kent Dannen (2 surgeries)

Please call or email me if you hear of someone in need of "Cheer"

#### DSA Liaison to SCA-Debbi Sencenbaugh

Ballots for Officers and BOG are due to the Teller by Sept 1.

1999 National-Premiums are out- you should have them by now. If not I have an email address you can access them. **Remember entries close Sept 1.** Also reservations for banquets, etc. and one nights hotel stay charges (if you do not keep you room). There are a few

people looking for rooms and giving away rooms on Samfans...

There is no Veteran Sweeps this year (due to time constraints). Host group is looking for ring stewards and help with the working events (esp herding). Also both entries and grooming help for the Rescue Parade. I can put you in touch with appropriate people. There was a warning for Lyme disease epidemic in the Wisconsin area and a post encouraging people to start treating their dogs for ticks and fleas before they leave for the national. I have those posts to pass around and will also forward by email. Also there are posts about "Sammy Beannie Babies" for sale as a fund raiser for the Host group... I also have a picture of the Samfans Rescue Quilt... those tickets need to be in to Lori Elvira by Sept 7<sup>th</sup>.

Historian/Librarian-Mary Lloyd  
"Puppy Puzzle" available.

Hospitality- Denise Baugh  
No report

Membership-Carolyn Bateman  
Not present

#### Local Specialty 2000-Bob Sencenbaugh

Completed the forms and submitted them to AKC. We still do not have a contract with Naomi Rigas, however she has asked us to copy and use the contract she sent to Carol Beatty for her Skips. W submitted an ad to the SCA bulletin. Linda Kitzman (trophy chair) has started collecting for trophies, the list will be distributed during the meeting, please contribute if you can. Carol Beatty (advertising chair) is collecting any ads you would like to place in the catalog.

Local Specialty 2001  
No report

#### Program-

Tonight Lisa Peterson gave a presentation on "Agility, Paws-itive fun with your dog!" This program was well received and was complete with a hand out. There were several helpful suggestions, including a section on "Build it yourself!"

Sam-O-Gram-Thalia Peletis  
Not present

Sammy Rescue-Deb Castro/Andi Mast  
Updates to the dogs available for adoption as listed in July Sam-O-Gram: "Baby" and Sassee" have been adopted, "Sammy" is now referred to as "Todd" and we now have another male, "Stanley" (11 mos.) available.

Additional details for the stained glass Samoyed head fundraiser for DSR.  
Purchase price-\$85, Size- approx. 7.5" X 9". Also: a stained glass Samoyed puppy head will be available shortly. VERY cute!! Purchase price-\$85, Size- 6" X 6"  
A portion of the purchase price will benefit Denver Samoyed Rescue. Please call Sue at "The Whole Cat", 303-871-0443 to order. Watch for pictures of this lovely artwork in an upcoming Sam-O-Gram.

There was some question as to how many dogs there actually are, including those in foster homes.

(Continued on page 3)

# SAM-O-GRAM

## Membership Meeting Minutes

(Continued from page 2)

### Specialty Match-Heidi Neiman

Registration starts at 8:00, Judging starts at 9:00  
Obedience will be held before conformation. Need help with set-up and registration. Jane is bringing jumps. Pot-Luck picnic- The club will provide meat, cheese, and bread for salads. Need more people to bring drinks, also side salads, chips, condiments, and desserts.

### Tournament-Nancy Golden

No report. Some members would like to see the scores posted, including the name of the judge. This is not possible this year because anonymity was mentioned for judges. In the future initials or a signature will be discussed. This might help the learning experience, but could reduce the number of people willing to judge.

### Ways & Means-Steve and Denise Baugh

No report. Get your t-shirts, good for changing oil, lawnmowing etc. \$3.00 for a t-shirt! We will not order or print any new material for a while. The Internet is possible for nationwide sales, and we do have an excellent logo.

### Working Dog-Michele Schmitt/Mary Lloyd

Herding- Several members are participating in the herding and getting herding certificates. No plans until the end of September, then possibly a presentation of herding in the spring. Dogs have a good time too! Bob will do weight pulling, possibly on Thursdays at 7:00 pm after dinner. As soon as next week at Bob's house. You may have to help unpack. May want to set up a cart track and get folks out to explore the exciting world of carts. Watch "Ben-Hur" before arriving.

Therapy dog interest could generate a program. There are several people, including the guest speaker, with experience in therapy dogs.

### **-Old Business:**

No new information on a new meeting location.

The suggestion was made to purchase generic trophies for use after special events like 2001. These trophies could be recycled, and possibly raffled later.

Supported entry at the 2000 Plum creek show. A lot of concerns, including too much puppy showing, judge selection, and attendance. The sled-racing schedule is short, and difficult to compete with. Possibly have a supported entry at another time, possibly June or July. Our Judges names for 2001 were given to Plum Creek people, and they were left off the list because they were forgotten. Now we must pay air fare for both.

### **-New Business:**

The September meeting is scheduled for the middle of Nationals. A motion was made to move the meeting forward one week, and still comply with the bylaws. The motion was seconded, and passed to meet on the second Monday, in the third week of the month.

Searching for a date for another Casino night in September or October.

### **-Barks and Growls:**

Samoyed Club of Houston Specialty-

Wintermists' Just Bearly "Kodi" won Best in Sweepstakes under Ms. Linda Allen and Ch. Echos To Die For "Puffin" won Best of Opposite Sex under Mrs. Irene Bivin.

Houston Kennel Club –

"Puffin" won Best of Breed under Mrs. Mardee Ward-Flemming.

Beaumont Kennel Club-

"Kodi" won Best of Winners and "Puffin" won Best of Opposite Sex under Mr. Roy Stenmark.

Galveston Kennel Club-

"Puffin" won Best of Breed under Dr. Robert D. Smith.

Buckhorn Valley Kennel Club-

Saturday-"Puffin" won Best of Breed under Mrs. Patti Long-Smith and a Group 3 under Mrs.

Margaret S. Walton

Sunday- "Puffin" won Best of Breed under Mrs.

Margaret S. Walton and a Group 4 under Mr. Chuck Mulock.

## Empowered Action Seminar

The Akita Club of America and the American Kennel Club's Public Education and Canine Legislation Departments  
Invite You to Attend an "Empowered Action" Seminar

Thursday, 23 September 1999 at 4 p.m.

ACA's National Specialty Show

Continental Divide Room, Holiday Inn-Denver Northglenn  
Denver, Colorado

The AKC Public Education and Canine Legislation departments invite you to attend this free two-hour program at the 1999 Akita Club of America's National Specialty Show. Find out how you can have a direct impact on issues that affect you as a dog owner. Be our guest and join us to discuss:

- Ways all dog fanciers can educate the public (and public officials) about the world of purebred dogs and responsible dog ownership.
- The wealth of AKC public education resources and free materials that are available to all fanciers.
- How to prevent unfavorable canine legislation before it develops.
- Issues dog fanciers could encounter on the local and state level and appropriate plans of action they can take.
- Methods for establishing mutually beneficial relationships with lawmakers
- Techniques for effectively combating undesirable bills.

Free materials and videos will be available, and light refreshments will be served. No registration is necessary. We look forward to meeting you! For directions, contact the Holiday Inn at 303-452-4100.

## 1999 Rescue Quilt Raffle

The 1999 rescue quilt is completed and a photo is posted on the Samfans home page at <http://www.samfans.org/fundraisers/quilt99.html>

It's in beautiful shades of brilliant blue, a log cabin design, with stars overstitched with silver metallic thread. It is truly a work of stitchery art!

For those not familiar with this project, this is the third year a group of quilters from around the world have sewn quilt squares which are representative of the National theme. This year the theme is "Northern Lights". Last year's quilt raffle was extremely successful with over \$3,000 raised to support rescue groups. We hope to exceed last year's total and your help in promoting this project is appreciated.

Drawing to be held September 25, 1999

If you would like to sell raffle tickets in your local area, please print out the order form located on the Samfans website, or contact Carol Black at [cabblack@aol.com](mailto:cabblack@aol.com) to obtain an electronic version. Or, keep a list with all the required information. Then, send your order form to Lori Elvera , along with total funds.

All mail orders must arrive at Lori's home before September 7, 1999.

Ticket Prices (US Funds Only)

1 for \$1.00  
6 for \$5.00  
18 for \$15.00  
24 for \$20.00

Please make checks payable to Lori Elvera and note on the check that it's for the Rescue Quilt Raffle.

Mail ticket order to:

Lori Elvera  
3017 Oak Meadow Drive  
Flower Mound, TX 75028-7625

### INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

Number of Tickets \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

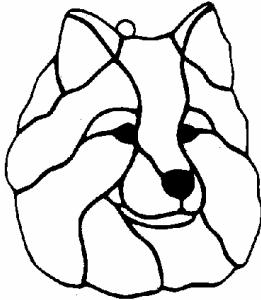
Print Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Town/City \_\_\_\_\_  
State/Province \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Evening Phone Number:  
Area Code \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

GOOD LUCK AND THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SAMOYED RESCUE!

Questions:



## DSR Fundraiser



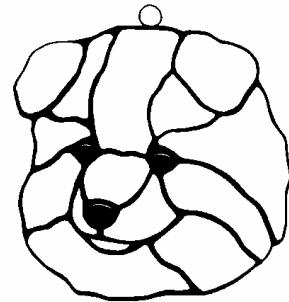
**The adult Samoyed is made of white opalescent art glass. It measures 8 1/2" high by 7 1/2" wide.**

**The puppy is also made of white opalescent art glass and has raised muzzle and ears giving it a slightly three-dimensional look. The eyes and nose are made of black glass nuggets. It measures 5 1/2" by 5 1/2".**

**Purchase price is \$85 each.**

**A portion of the purchase price will benefit Denver Samoyed Rescue.**

**To order please call Sue at "The Whole Cat",  
303-871-0443 to order.**



# SAM - O - GRAM

## DSR Success Letters

### "Mandy"

Mandy lives up in the Evergreen area and as a sweet, young thing she decided it might be fun to get to know "the Elk boys" a little better... Deb Castro

Dear Mrs. Castro

Thank you, thank you, thank you for helping to find me! I really thought being out in the woods was kind of scary. Samoyed Rescue has been so helpful, I'm told. I'm exhausted right now and can't wait to sleep even more! I just wanted to get a quick note off before the parents discover I can type, they'll have me writing the Christmas letter!

Your Permanent friend,  
Mandy



### "Kenai"

August 05, 1999

Debbie -

Thank you so very much for the extraordinarily good care your organization provided for Kenai over the past seven months or so. Before I was aware of your existence my (her) options seems so grim (or at least unpalatable) and we ended up meeting the nicest group of people.

Even if Kenai had been adopted out I was always certain she would have had a good home. I am, however, thrilled that things worked out so she could rejoin our family. I think her adjustment period lasted only a short time and she is doing fine.

If the Wlodareks represent the quality of all those in your organization, you have put together a wonderful group. Keep up the great work.

Thanks!

Scott, Sophia, Marilyn & Natasha

## Tribute

### CH. Denka's Sir Collins (5/31/86 - 8/21/99)



To my big gentle boy,

With your passing, a wonderful and exciting chapter in my life has closed. I have no doubt now that you are enjoying the company of your brother Yukon, and sister Bunny. I also know that my mom is spoiling all of you rotten!

Because of you and your brother Yukon, I met my dear friend Kathi Metter. Because of you, I've enjoyed the thrill and challenge of seeing you obtain an AKC Championship. Because of you, I've met some wonderful people who love their dogs as much I love mine.

Because of you, I know first hand what unconditional love and devotion means. I will miss you greatly.

Love,  
Thalia

## Do Dogs Smile?

(Continued from page 1)

biggest dental problem for dogs is still periodontal disease. Every animal, from man to dog, gets plaque buildup in the mouth, and is susceptible to periodontal disease. Keeping the mouth clean through regular cleanings, brushing the teeth, and other preventive measures, can keep you and your dog from having root canals to save the teeth.

Let's take a quick look at the basics. All periodontal disease is caused by plaque. Plaque is a mixture of bacteria plus food debris and mucinous cells (like mucus). It forms a milky-white film on teeth and gums. As the plaque gets into pockets under the gumline, the bacteria eats away at the bone which holds the teeth. That's periodontal disease, or periodontitis. That's not good.

Plaque, when mixed with the saliva in the mouth, turns into a hard, white substance called tartar, or calculus. There's actually a chemical reaction between calcium carbonate in the saliva and the plaque, which causes tartar to stick to the teeth like cement. It's that rough part you can feel on the inside of your teeth with your tongue. Anti-plaque toothpastes work to remove plaque before it can mineralize or harden.

Gum disease in dogs is very common. Some studies have shown that as many as 80% of dogs over the age of 2 or 3 have either gingivitis or periodontitis.

Gingivitis is inflammation of the gum tissue itself, without the involvement of the deeper supportive structures of the tooth. Gingivitis can lead to periodontitis, which does involve the supportive structures. If left without treatment, gingivitis can lead to bone loss, loosening of teeth, and eventually, loss of the teeth. It all begins with plaque buildup by lazy owners. Gum disease can be more severe in smaller dogs. Size of the dog is the key here, not breed. The smaller the dog, the thinner the bone which holds the tooth. Bacteria doesn't have as far to go to eat through thin bone, compared to the thicker bone in larger dogs.

Where the bone is thinnest -- the front teeth -- is where the least resistance to periodontal disease occurs in small breeds. As bacteria approaches within 1/2 mm of the bone, it starts to eat away at the bone. This is called resorption of the bone. This continues until the bone is between 1-1/2 and 2 mm thick. That's when the teeth get loose and fall out. Since small dogs don't have more than 1-1/2 to 2 mm of bone thickness to start with, they're obviously starting at a disadvantage, and have little room to spare. Take care of those teeth!

The other problem with small breeds is that they live longer than larger dogs. The longer the dog has periodontal disease, the more damage will occur.

As you can see, dental home care is important for all dogs, and critical for smaller dogs. The best way to prevent periodontal disease is to get rid of plaque before it becomes tartar. The best way to do that is through the basic, mechanical action of brushing your dog's teeth every day. This reduces the amount of bacteria in the mouth, which also has the added benefit of keeping the breath smelling sweeter. (And we all know what that's about!)

Brush your dog's teeth with a toothpaste made for dogs. People toothpaste is designed for people to spit out. Dogs can't do that, so you need one that's safe for the dog to swallow.

You might ask, "How can I get my dog to accept the toothbrush?" My no-fail method is to get the dog used to the toothbrush ahead of time. Take some garlic salt, mix it with water, and dip an old toothbrush into it. Hold the brush, and let your puppy or dog lick the brush -- or even chew on it. The dog will realize the toothbrush is good, and tastes good, too. He won't be scared, and will let you brush daily. Introducing a toothbrush is a process of building confidence and trust. Treat your dog with respect and don't force him. Gentle encouragement works best. Don't violate his confidence in you.

The second best thing you can do for your dog is to have his teeth cleaned by the vet. Your veterinarian will give him some anesthesia, and then do a major scaling and cleaning. Like your dentist, your vet will scrape all of the plaque buildup from above and below the gumline, then polish the teeth.

In the last few years, there have been a number of new products for dental care of dogs. Some are great, and really help. Others help a bit, but don't replace brushing. Most products that claim to be good for keeping teeth clean may help the area above the gumline, but do no good for the most critical area: below the gumline. Be careful not to be taken in by these claims; read the fine print on the package. You'll probably see an asterisk that refers to tiny print somewhere that says "above the gumline."

Brushing works just as well as these chew products. Better, in fact. Check out my mini-reviews to find out what works, and what doesn't.

The second biggest problem when it comes to dogs and their teeth is that hard chews can break the teeth, leading to infection inside the tooth. That's called endodontic disease. Dogs can break their teeth surprisingly easily, just from crunching down on hard rocks, cow hooves and other tough substances.

Here's the problem. It seems that God was a little mixed up when He/She made the dog. The dog has this great need to chew on hard things to exercise the gums. But the upper 4th premolar and the lower 1st molar -- the carnassial teeth -- are where the dog does all of his forceful chewing. Unfortunately, because they are so heavily used, and because the 4th upper premolar has a front cusp that's very long, sharp and pointed, it's extremely vulnerable to fracture when very hard objects are chewed. But because they are chewing teeth essential for eating, the dog can't afford to lose them. Every effort must be made to save them.

When the dog chews a stick or a rock, he chews between that 4th premolar and the lower 1st molar. The dog chews in an up and down motion only, unlike people, who chew by moving one jaw to the side. This up and down movement against a hard object causes the object to slide off to the side of the tooth, breaking the tooth. This exposes the pulp tissue inside the tooth in a big way. It doesn't take much of a "slab fracture" to expose the pulp, which leads to endodontic disease. That means root canal therapy, for several hundred dollars.

Get in the habit of looking in your dog's mouth to check that 4th premolar. Counting from the fang, it's the 4th tooth back, (not counting the fang) -- a very large tooth. If that tooth doesn't have a sharp point, look inside and see if it's

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## Do Dogs Smile?

(Continued from page 6)

rough. If you can see pulp tissue, get your dog to a veterinary dentist as soon as possible. The tooth will get infected, a big abscess will develop, and you may even see some swelling under the eyes. The moral of the story: dogs shouldn't be allowed to chew on rocks, bones, or those extra-hard nylon or ceramic bones from the pet store. Cow hooves, because they're as hard as rocks, are death to the 4th premolar. So what's safe for your dog to chew on? The choices are limited. Kong (R) toys, made of rubber, are fine. Even better is the Dental Kong (R), a special toy I co-designed that's made by The Kong Co. It's made of rubber, and has grooves and lips that actually help clean and massage below the gumline as your dog chews. You can also put doggy toothpaste on the grooves for even more cleaning action. A similar product is sold by vets as the C.E.T.-5 Dental Exerciser, from the VRx Products Division of St. Jon Labs, Harbor City, CA.

Gumabones(R) from Nylabone (R) are also soft enough to provide the necessary chewing exercise (masticatory harassment) without causing broken teeth. They help keep the area above the gumline clean, too.

Soft rope bones can also help satisfy the need for chewing without damaging teeth. But claims of flossing action are ridiculous. Dogs don't need to floss, just brush. In fact, forced flossing with a rope bone can cut the gums, and lead to a dog who won't let you brush. (In people, flossing is an effective means of cleaning below the gumline and between the teeth. Dogs have very few teeth that are as close together as people's teeth, but the under-the-gumline area is critical for both. Flossing just isn't necessary for dogs.)

For (almost) safe chewing, rawhide works fine. Let me clarify. Rawhide, particularly rawhide strips, are safe for the dog's teeth, and provide the chewing thrill dogs enjoy. The problem is that as the dog chews, the rawhide softens. If the dog breaks off a piece of rawhide, it can be inhaled, causing

the dog to suffocate. Or, if swallowed, it can cause an intestinal blockage. Always supervise your dog when he is eating rawhide and other chewable objects. (Even if the dog is choking, you may not be able to save him. That happens.)

Rawhide strips are less likely to cause choking than the rawhide knuckle bones. There's simply less to get stuck. The best kind of rawhide strips are only available from your veterinarian. They're C.E.T.(R) Chews from VRx Products. They take rawhide strips and add two enzymes that are triggered by saliva. These enhance a naturally-occurring defense mechanism, and helps keep teeth cleaner.

There are also two sprays on the market that are really terrific. Both help kill bacteria in the mouth, while one (MaxiGuard) can actually heal damaged gum tissue. To recap, the bottom line is simple: Your dog's mouth needs the same basic care you give your own mouth -- regular brushing, and regular visits to the vet for a cleaning. Hard foods and chews can help keep plaque down above the gumline, but the hard-to-get area under the gumline is the most critical part to keep clean. To avoid broken teeth, don't give your dog anything really hard to chew.

*Peter Emily, DDS, AVDC (hon.) is a member of the American Veterinary Dental College, advisor to the board of the College of Veterinary Dentistry, and Director of Animal Dentistry at Colorado State University School of Veterinary Medicine. He is a member of the faculty of the Veterinary School of the University of Missouri, and Director of Exotic Animal Dentistry at the Denver Zoological Garden. Dr. Emily is an AKC Working Group judge, spokesman for the AKC on dental matters, and author of numerous articles and books on veterinary dentistry. He's also a dentist with human patients. Dr. Emily is co-authoring a book on animal dental care.*

-This article is reprinted from the January/February 1995 issue of Good Dog!(R) Magazine.

## Dr. Peter Emily Rates Dental Care Products

Dog food: Dry dog food really does help keep the plaque down on teeth. But it only helps in the area that's visible, not in the all-important area just below the gumline, where it does nothing to prevent gum disease.

The truth is, anything you put in the mouth will break off some of the tartar simply through a scraping action. Plaque is continually removed as your dog chews ... but redeposited as soon as he stops chewing. The only way to remove the plaque that causes gum disease (in the sulcus, or pocket, below the gumline) is by brushing or a cleaning by a veterinarian.

Tartar Check(TM) Biscuits: These new biscuits from Heinz Pet Products are supposed to reduce tartar buildup above the gumline by 45%. They do very little for the critical tartar below the gumline. They contain sodium hexametaphosphate for tartar control.

Milk-Bone and Other Biscuits: These claim to reduce tartar, but the fine print always says above the gumline. Brushing does that best, and everything the dog eats does it to some degree. The area of concern is below the gumline, where

the nasty bacteria and plaque hide, rotting away the gums and bone. Don't buy these products just for their tartar control benefits. It's minimal. Brush the teeth instead -- you'll get under the gums, too.

C.E.T. Products from VRx Products: Available at the veterinarian's office. Some products also sold in pet stores and discount stores under the St. Jon label. C.E.T. toothpaste is excellent, containing enzymes that help clean the teeth. A C.E.T. toothbrush is designed specifically for use with dogs.

C.E.T.(R) Chews: These are excellent. They're beefhide strips, flavored with poultry and beef digest, and laced with the C.E.T. enzymes that help get the plaque out. The mechanical action coupled with the enzymes helps keep the teeth clean. But of all the things you can get for your dog, this is one of the best. Be sure to monitor your dog for choking, though.

Chew-eez(R): These rawhide strips from the supermarket are fine, but don't have the enzymes found in the C.E.T. rawhide chews. The label on Chew-eez now talks about the  
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## Dr. Peter Emily Rates Dental Care Products

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teeth-cleaning benefits. But that's above the gumline. While these do have a mechanical cleaning action, it's nowhere near what's necessary to get everything clean. Be sure to monitor your dog for choking.

**Knotted Rawhide Bones:** Forget these things. The dog will try to swallow the knot and choke. Teeth cleansing is better with flat rawhide strips anyway. Always give rawhide under strict supervision.

**Chopped rawhide treats:** Safe for the dog, because they are quickly chewed down to small granules. But they don't provide much chewing exercise, or mechanical action against the tartar. Dogs follow the carnivore rule of eating: Grab anything that's in a small-enough piece to swallow without choking, and wolf it down. They don't generally bother much with chewing. There's actually a good reason for this. A carnivore traditionally ate a predigested diet of food -- what was in the stomach of his prey. That explains why dogs just wolf it all down. Unlike cows, they don't have to re-chew and ruminate the food to break it down. Unlike people, dogs don't have to chew to mix food with saliva to help break it down. In the dog's view, anything that's small enough to swallow and get past the windpipe is OK. With rawhide, the continual chewing is to try to get the food (rawhide) into smaller bits to swallow. That continual chewing gives the needed exercise and helps keep the teeth clean.

**Cow Bones:** Dogs have been chewing animal bones for centuries, so in theory they should be safe. But I've seen slab fractures on the teeth of wolves. So, be judicious when giving your dog bones. The key seems to be the size of the bone and how dense it is. Big, round knuckle bones are safer than small, thin femur bones because the dog can't get the whole bone in his mouth. The wider the mouth is open, the less force is put on the teeth. It's fine for the dog's teeth to slide off the side of the bone -- but not for the teeth to crunch straight down on a small, hard object. If you give your dog a bone, give one he can't get in his mouth. And don't give a cow hoof -- they're too small and too hard.

**Hill's Prescription Diet(R) t/d(TM) dog food:** This is a new food, available only from veterinarians. It's been in development for many years. It has a patent-pending formulation and process that's unique among pet foods. Canine t/d uses an oversize kibble, shaped like a big ball, that contains fiber strands. As your dog bites in and crushes the food, the food scrubs along the tooth surface up to the gumline. Think of it as a large Shredded Wheat (R) ball, cleaning your teeth as you chew. Hill's states that, in its tests, Prescription Diet t/d produced 19% less plaque accumulation and 32% less tartar accumulation, compared to Purina(R) Dog Chow(R). There was 10% less plaque accumulation and 15% less tartar accumulation than Dog Chow and weekly toothbrushing with a C.E.T. toothbrush and a toothpaste.

Their ads in the vet journals claim that the product is "As effective as weekly toothbrushing for the reduction of plaque, stain and tartar." Well, yes, perhaps, but remember, they're talking about above the gumline. Nothing your dog eats is going to eliminate gum disease

because this food does nothing for the area under the gum.

**Because this food helps keep the teeth clean, yes, it's probably a good solution to part of the problem, especially if your dog won't let you brush his teeth. But it's no substitute for the mechanical action of a toothbrush cleaning the teeth and under the gums. Also, a cleaning by a vet will still be needed.**

**Canned Dog Food:** Not so good, because it doesn't give the chewing pleasure that dogs need. Dogs on canned food need soft chew toys to provide the exercise of the supportive ligaments that dogs get from chewing.

**Rubber chew toys:** If it's poor quality rubber, the dog can chew off bits of rubber and choke. If those bits manage to get past the airway, they may obstruct the bowel. Use cheap toys only under supervision and examine toys periodically. If a piece of it breaks off, take it away, and watch the dog. Better yet, use a high-quality toy (see Kong).

**Kong(R):** Kong toys (also sold under the Tuffy(R) label) use the best grade of rubber available. In fact, they've recently upgraded to a new space-age rubber that's even better quality. For safety, the Kongs are the best. For teeth, they're soft and safe and won't break the teeth. Be sure to match the size to your dog. And note that there are red and black varieties. The black ones are incredibly durable, for power chewers. Some dogs may not enjoy chewing rubber, though, but may enjoy playing with these oddly-bouncing toys. (You can also stuff treats in the middle to get the dog to chew.)



**Dental Kong(R):** This is one of the few things that really helps above and below the gumline, although nothing can take the place of the mechanical action of the toothbrush. This soft, durable toy actually helps clean below the gumline. It does an excellent job of cleaning there, as it has fine ridges that get up under the edge of the gum tissue. The Dental Kong also has a rope that helps clean the back teeth as the dog chews. Get the appropriate size for your dog. If your pet store doesn't stock the Dental Kong, have them order it for you.

**Plastic bones:** Soft plastic bones, such as the Gumabone (R), don't create as many broken tooth problems as hard plastic bones. As far as cleaning, the soft bones give a soft sense of chewing, and give masticatory harassment -- exercise of the periodontal ligaments, which are the supportive tissues of the tooth. The Gumabone gives good resistance and good dental exercise. As for hard plastic bones, stay away. They have a nasty tendency to cause broken teeth.

**Cotton rope bones:** These do no harm. They will mechanically remove some debris from the teeth, and the dogs enjoy chewing them. (Be sure to supervise your dog with any rope -- some dogs try to swallow them whole.) Some companies suggest that playing with their nylon or polyester filament rope bones helps your dog floss. Dogs don't need their gums flossed. In fact, flossing can actually damage the gums.

(Continued on page 9)

## Dr. Peter Emily Rates Dental Care Products

(Continued from page 8)

Dogs' teeth only touch in one or two places (unlike your teeth), and their teeth are narrow, not broad like yours. People need to floss to get between teeth and under the gums. But for your dog, a toothbrush reaches 90% of the surfaces that need to be cleaned. The toothbrush doesn't always reach the far back teeth, which is not a big deal. Chewing on a cotton rope bone can help clean those back teeth.

**Toothpaste, Mouthwash and Plaque Rinses for People:** While these products for people have some benefits for people, they're all designed to be used, then expectorated. (That's a good word meaning "spit out.") Even Lassie hasn't learned the trick of holding liquids in the mouth and spitting on command. Because these products all use chemicals and detergents to do their work, they can upset the balance of the gut if swallowed. Stick with products specifically for your dog.

**People Toothbrush:** Since you'll be the one operating the toothbrush, it's fine to use one designed for people. Pick a soft, nylon brush. Oral-B and Butler make good ones. Use a smaller child's size for smaller dogs. C.E.T. makes toothbrushes specially designed for use with dogs and cats, and those are excellent, too.

**Teeth Cleaning Pads:** Petrodex makes one that works just fine, but the pads don't get under the gumline. And frankly, an old nylon stocking wrapped around your finger works as well. The only difference is that the nylon doesn't have the teeth-cleaning enzyme.

**Finger Brushes:** These fit onto your finger tip, and let you brush your dog's teeth almost without your dog knowing it. The bristles are a bit too large to effectively get under the free margin of the gingiva (the gumline). A toothbrush is better, but finger brushes are second best. And, if they let you get the job done easily ...

**Electric Toothbrush:** The Interplak is great, better than anything you can use, if your dog will tolerate the electric motor noise. The Braun is also good. Both run the bristles of the brush in a circular motion for more effective cleaning, especially under the gumline. You don't even need toothpaste for it to work well. Whether your dog likes it or not, get one for yourself, with a second brush head for your dog. Your dentist will smile at your gums and you may save yourself a load of expensive grief both for you and your dog!

**About Doggie Breath:** Imagine how your breath would smell if you didn't brush your teeth for years! That's because of the huge buildup of plaque. Remember, 80% of plaque is bacteria. In fact, there are 400 different strains of bacteria that have been found in the mouths of all mammals. Some produce odor, others cause decay, which is where gum disease comes from. This is a direct result of plaque. If you want to eliminate odor, eliminate the disease and the plaque. The only way is daily brushing. Dogs' teeth are easier to brush than your own. Dogs generally form most of their plaque on the outside of their teeth. But occasionally they form plaque on inside surfaces as well. It's tough to brush inside there, so concentrate on doing the outside surfaces, and take your dog to the veterinarian periodically to clean the inside surfaces.

**Chlorhexidine Rinses:** These rinses are available only by prescription for people, and useful in cutting plaque by reducing bacteria. Use in animals doesn't require a prescription. Chlorhexidines are polybiguanides, developed in World War II as anti-malarial drugs. In Europe, especially in France, they've been used as oral hygiene rinses for periodontal disease. Recently, they've reduced the concentration down to where it kills the bacteria and doesn't taste horrid: 0.12% is the smallest concentration that works. Chlorhexidine gluconate or digluconate works better than chlorhexidine acetate.

**C.E.T.** makes a rinse that's chlorhexidine gluconate. It's more effective, but still has to be kept in contact with the gums for the same amount of time. Better still, C.E.T. sells a gel through veterinarians. It has some binders that cause it to stick to the gum tissue, keeping it in contact long enough to be effective. It's called CHX gel.

**Oramed:** There's a new product veterinarians can get called Oramed (from PACHE in Denver, (303) 477-1919). It contains 1.2% chlorhexidine gluconate as an antibacterial, deoxy delta glucose and lysine as an antiviral, and potassium sorbate as an antifungal. This product covers the whole spectrum of organisms that can cause oral infections, and can be used daily, as well as for helping heal diseased gums.

**MaxiGuard:** Here's a terrific product that kills the bacteria, keeps the breath smelling sweet, and can actually help heal the gum tissue. You still have to keep after the plaque, though. It's called MaxiGuard, and it's available through your veterinarian. MaxiGuard comes in two forms: a spray and a gel. MaxiGuard contains zinc ascorbate plus the amino acid cysteine. Sulfamino acid potentiates the zinc to make it kill bacteria. It does this by rupturing the bacteria's cell membrane. Zinc also helps heal the gum tissues, revitalizing the lost collagen component in them. It also breaks down bacteria that creates mouth odors. Of course, unless you brush, the odors will come back again, because the thing that caused the odor (plaque) is still there.

The product contains vitamin C powder, which must be mixed into the spray or gel to activate it. (Your vet may do that for you.) The spray should be refrigerated to keep it fresh, and does have a bit of a "vitamin C" tang to it that your pet may not appreciate when you spritz a little in his mouth.

The gel has no taste, so is a little more readily accepted by dogs. (And the spray noise won't scare them.) You can just put a little gel on your finger and rub it along the gums, so it's easy to use. (The manufacturer only sells through veterinarians, who can call (816) 248-2215 to find out where to order it.)

**Oxyfresh:** This product has been touted extensively by multi-level marketers for people and pets, but its efficiency is not a proven thing. The active ingredient is stabilized chlorine dioxide, which is an oxidant. I'm not convinced that it does anything for the teeth. For people, as a rinse, it's probably safe. But remember, the dog laps it up and swallows it. Is it safe if swallowed? Why haven't there been any clinical studies to prove the claims of curing or healing tissue? I'm reserving my opinion about Oxyfresh until I see some scientific studies.

## As I See It

This month's column is partly personal. As you all know there has been some controversy over a bid submission for the 2001 SCA National Specialty. In the July issue of the Sam-O-Gram, a group of DSA members posted a letter to officially disband the group, DSA and Friends. Several things were written about the other group. As I am the chair for the other group; (Rocky Mountain Samoyed Fanciers) which submitted a bid for the 2001 National Specialty, I took this letter as if it were written to me.

There were several inaccuracies in that letter and I would like to set the record straight on what transpired.

First – I requested the original and only copy of a bid packet from SCA. That alone would indicate that Debbi & I originated the idea of a 2001 bid submission from the Denver area.

Second – I brought the project to DSA; as I was the president of DSA I felt they should have the right of first refusal. DSA voted not to become involved; not once but twice.

Third – After DSA voted not to become involved, and before I could call a meeting; Nancy Golden called a meeting (without trying first to contact me) at one of the November shows. As a result most of the people who had agreed to work with me backed out of the project. Debbi and I decided to continue trying to help the effort, but would not chair the event under these circumstances.

Fourth – Only after the committee (known as DSA and Friends) had worked on the project for six months; and with three weeks till the deadline; and they were still not ready to submit a complete bid, did Debbi & I decide to contact the original group and try to submit a completed bid. SCA deserved an alternative!

Fifth – No member of DSA and Friends was contacted; a small group of DSA and non-DSA members put together a complete bid in three weeks. In doing so we learned that some of the information given to DSA and Friends by members of their core committee, was inaccurate and designed to lead the group in a particular direction.

How does this effect DSA, and why am I bothering to mention it at all; well it seems as though several of the members of DSA and Friends are trying to punish DSA to get back at me. This is wrong. Last month we had Lisa Peterson present a program on agility, in finalizing the plans with Lisa we missed the deadline for the Sam-O-Gram, we made several phone calls and sent e mails to DSA and non DSA members to invite all to the meeting. We even posted it on The Working Sam list. While we received many emails from people out of the area wishing they could come, the turnout from DSA was terrible.

As I See It - we have several choices here. We can come together as a club and work toward a common goal, the betterment of the Samoyed breed, or you can try to punish me by punishing DSA. This will only hurt our club. Remember that you as an individual really count, don't be swayed by how others feel or act.

In closing let me submit this, written by an unknown author:

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered – forgive them anyway

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish ulterior motives – be kind anyway

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies – succeed anyway

If you are honest and frank, some people are going to try to cheat you – be honest anyway

If you spend years building, some people will destroy it overnight – build anyway

If you find serenity and happiness, some people will be jealous and scorn you – be joyful anyway

The good that you do today, they will often forget tomorrow – do good anyway

You give the world the best you have and sometimes it won't be enough – give the world the best you have anyway

Because you see, in the final analysis, it's between you and God – it was never between you and them anyway



## 1999 – 2000 Schedule of Events

Date	Organization	Event	Location	Contact	Conf. Judge (if Show)
Sep 18-19	Continental Divide Herding	AKC Herding Test & Trial	Hudson, CO	Barbara Witte	11704 Capehart RD Springfield, NE 68059
21-25	Samoyed Club of America "Northern Lights"	National Specialty	Oconomowoc, WI	Robin Barkhaus Show Chair	Joan Luna (Breed) Don Hodges (D) Anne Rogers Clark (B) L Blackbourn (Sweeps) Pat Griffin (Futurity) Ed Haas (Obedience)
23	AKC Canine Legislation & Public Education Dept	AKC Empowered Action Seminars	??	Stephanie Pier 919-233-3720	Sdp@akc.org
23-25	Helena Montana KC (1) Helena Montana KC (2) Yellowstone Valley KC Electric City KC	Show – Close 9/8	Helena, MT	Onofrio	V L Lyne G J Heitzman C P Herendeen B D Alderman
25-26	Grand Valley KC	Show – Close 9/8	Grand Junction, CO	Onofrio	E E Bivin I Bivin
26	Council Bluffs KC	Show – Close 9/8	Omaha, NE	Onofrio	G Johnson

# SAM - O - GRAM

## 1999 – 2000 Schedule of Events

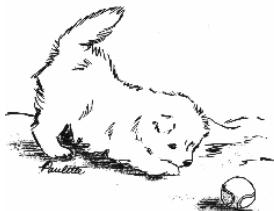
Date	Organization	Event	Location	Contact	Conf. Judge (if Show)
Oct 2-3	Sunflower KC of Olathe	Show – Close 9/15	Gardner, KS	Onofrio	N A Koonts A L Woolf
3	Rocky Mtn Sled Dog Club	Match - Conf & Obedience	ACC - Littleton, CO	Al Valletta	
9-10	Rio Grande KC Sangre De Cristo KC	Show - Close 9/22	Santa Fe, NM	Onofrio	V A Harvey H M Fisher
15-17	Chaparral KC Mesilla Valley KC El Paso KC	Show – Close 9/29	Alamogordo, NM Las Cruces, NM	Onofrio	N D Simmons F W Schwartz L A Reasin
16-17	Lawrence Jayhawk KC	Show – Close 9/29	Lawrence, KS	Onofrio	P A Gellerman K S McFarlane
22-24	Rapid City KC	Show – Close 10/6	Rapid City, SD	Onofrio	S J Hubbell J A Brown J C Parker
29	<b>Samoyed Club of Austin</b>	<b>Specialty – Close 10/13</b>	<b>Austin, CO</b>	???	K W Mackai
Nov 5	Tri-State KC of Tulsa	Show – Close 10/20	Tulsa, OK	Onofrio	D O Hutchinson
11-13	Oklahoma City KC Mid-Del Tinker KC Town & Country KC	Show - Close 10/27	Purcell, OK	Onofrio	M V Beam Lt Col. W H Pede N/A
13-14	Evergreen KC Flatirons KC	Show – Close 10/27	Longmont, CO	Onofrio	V A Harvey H M Fisher
20-21	Tucson KC Greater Sierra Vista KC	Show – Close 11/3	Tucson, AZ	Bradshaw Onofrio	J Roppolo C P Herendeen
20-21	Cornhusker KC of Lincoln Nebraska KC, Inc	Show – Close 11/3	Lincoln, NE	Onofrio	L Sinclair J Sinclair
27	<b>Minuteman Samoyed Club</b>	<b>Specialty—Close 11/10</b>		<b>MB-F</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Dec 3-4	Yuma KC	Show – Close 11/17	Yuma, AZ	Bradshaw	A Rubenstein A D Hussin
4-5	Southern Colorado KC	Show – Close 11/17	Pueblo, CO	Onofrio	S E Wallis N D Simmons
10-11	Panhandle of Texas	Show – Close 11/20	Amarillo, TX	Onofrio	N/A Jo Ann Dutton
11	<b>Metro Atlanta Samoyed</b>	<b>Specialty – Close 11/24</b>	<b>Atlanta, GA</b>	<b>MB-F</b>	<b>N/A</b>
12	Clovis Portales KC	Show – Close 11/24	?, NM	Onofrio	D F Carmody
Feb 5 2000	<b>Samoyed Association of Madison</b>	<b>Specialty – Close 1/19</b>	<b>Madison, WI</b>	??	<b>N/A</b>
5-6	Hobbs New Mexico KC	Show – Close 1/19	Hobbs, NM	Onofrio	N/A
11	<b>Denver Samoyed Association</b>	<b>Specialty - Close 1/19</b>	<b>Denver, CO</b> <b>Denver Stock Show Coliseum</b>	<b>Bob Sencenbaugh Show Sec 970-223-8238</b>	<b>Don Hodges K. Metter (Sweeps) K. Dannen (W Sweeps) N. Pollack (Obedience)</b>
12	Plum Creek KC	Show – Close 1/26	Denver, CO	Onofrio	N/A
13-14	Colorado KC	Show – Close 1/26	Denver, CO	Onofrio	N/A
Mar 4	<b>Greater Milwaukee Samoyed Fanciers</b>	<b>Specialty – Close 2/16</b>	<b>Milwaukee, WI</b>	???	<b>J L Ronald C M Pischke (Obed)</b>
4-5	Garden City KC	Show – Close 2/16	Garden City, KS	Onofrio	N/A

#### **WEIGHT PULL TRAINING AT THE SENCENBAUGHS!!**

- ★ Bob and Debbi held their first weight pull clinic at their new house on August 26th. They plan to continue these Thursday night pulls up to the National. The charge will be \$5.00 a dog. Possibly, they might have a sanctioned pull just before the National. Their new address is 7050 Weld
- ★ County Road 5. Here are the directions: I-25 to Hwy 52 (Dacono, Firestone, Frederic) - go WEST on Hwy 52 for TWO miles - turn NORTH on
- ★ County Road 5 and go ONE mile- and YOU'RE THERE! (7050) Go up the driveway and park behind the house.

Denver Samoyed Association  
c/o Thalia Peletis  
8885 West Clifton Avenue  
Littleton, CO 80128-5324

# SAM - O - GRAM



National Dog Week  
Sept 19 - 25



**September 13, 1999 Meeting Reminder: Littleton Hospital - 7:15 PM**

(Meeting will be held one week ahead, due to National Specialty)

- Program : Round table discussion on training for winter season activities, primarily sledding, skijoring, and weight pull. There will be an opening statement from each of the panel and then questions. The panel will include Geoff Abbott, Bob Sencenbaugh and Lori McAllister.
- Nominating Committee to report to the membership
- Call Julie Beatty in advance, to order your grocery certificates!

## Denver Samoyed Rescue Report

no HOME, all ALONE

**August Placements: 2 (0 referrals) Year to Date Total: 13**

As of 08/25/99, we have the following Sammies available for adoption:

Female (Tasha) 18 mo. House/Outdoor Foster Home

Comments: Smaller in size. Wolf looking face, big ears. OK with older children and most other dogs. NO cats!

Responds to basic obedience commands. Rides nicely in the car. Very sweet. Strong alpha.

Why: Colorado Spring shelter, L&F.

Male (Todd) 7 yr. ?House?/Outdoor Boarded

Comments: Cute! 50# Seems to do well with other dogs. Has been shaved. Rides nicely in the car. Needs some people attention. VERY focused on people!

Why: Adams County shelter, stray.

Male (Bear) 18 mo House/Outdoor Boarded

Comments: Nice dog, still very puppy – needs a leader! Learns quickly, eager to please.

Needs to be an only dog (strong alpha)

Why: Owner surrender, too much dog.

Male (Stanley) 11 mo House/Outdoor Owner

Comments: Puppy! OK with kids and other dogs. Not sure about cats. No obedience training. Does chew if given the opportunity. Has had a "bad haircut"!

Why: Owner moving.

The following Samoyeds are available at area shelters:

None at the moment

If you know anyone who might be interested, please call one of the Rescue Committee members. Thanks!