

Denver Samoyed Association

# SAM-O-GRAM

December 2025



## WHO WE ARE

### OFFICERS

#### President

Martha Lageschulte ..... 303.929.9064

#### Vice President

Terry Walb ..... 303.204.1453

#### Recording Secretary

Lorrie McAllister ..... 720.308.2019

#### Corresponding Secretary

Tammy Linnert ..... 303.908.4541

#### Treasurer

Pam Buhl ..... 303.915.1725

### BOARD

Donna Dannen ..... 720.219.9955

Linda Kitzman ..... 303.794.7136

Rodney Martin ..... 970.396.0284

Julie Morris ..... 303.594.0399

### COMMITTEES

#### Agility

Terry Walb ..... 303.204.1453

#### Awards

Kristi Schopfer ..... 303.838.9848

#### Cheer

Donna Dannen ..... 303.670.8053

#### Colorado Legislation Liaison

Pam Buhl ..... 303.915.1725

Lorrie McAllister ..... 720.308.2019

#### Concurrent Specialty '26

Linda Kitzman ..... 303.794.7136

#### FastCAT

Tammy Linnert ..... 303.908.4541

#### Historian/Librarian

Donna Dannen ..... 303.670.8053

#### Hospitality - Holiday Party

Tammy Linnert ..... 303.908.4541

#### Hospitality - Summer Picnic/Match

Linda Kitzman ..... 303.794.7136

#### Information Technology

Terry Walb ..... 303.204.1453

JoDee Putnins ..... 303.358.1511

#### Local Specialty '25

JoDee Putnins ..... 303.358.1511

#### Public Education - Need volunteer

#### Sam-O-Gram

Martha Lageschulte ..... 303.929.9064

#### Social Media

Lori Elvera ..... 720.344.4562

Pam Buhl ..... 303.915.1725

#### Denver Samoyed Rescue

Sue Wangerin ..... 720.879.8741

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

What a successful 2025 DSA shared! So many events were held, with the membership working cohesively as a team.

We held our Agility and FastCAT trials that we have perfected, and our Specialty that continues to grow and gets more attention from exhibitors out of the area. We held our annual picnic with a B-match in conjunction that we haven't had for several years.

The wonderful Summer Social get-togethers were a great addition for the club members. And the Rail Bike day in Erie was another fun event.

Thank you to all of the members that have worked so very hard for the club - none of these events could have happened without your volunteering.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Holiday Season!

Martha Lageschulte  
DSA President



**Meeting Date and Location for  
December Holiday Brunch and Awards Party!**

**Sunday, December 14, 2025**

**The Den at Fox Hollow**

**13410 W. Morrison Rd., Lakewood**

**DSA November Membership Meeting -  
Monday, November 17, 2025**

**Natural Grocers, Denver, CO**

Meeting called to order 6:45 pm

Present: Cathy An, Tamara Barach, Carolyn Bateman, Pam Buhl, Jan Cherne, Donna Dannen, Lori Elvera, Dan Elvera, Linda Kitzman, Martha Lageschulte, Tammy Linnert, Greg Linnert, Cheryl Martin, Rodney Martin, Lorrie McAllister, Julie Morris, Joe Morris, JoDee Putnins, Connie Rudd, Kris Schopfer, Terry Walb

**President: Martha Lageschulte**

No report.

**Vice President: Terry Walb**

No report.

**Recording Secretary: Lorrie McAllister**

Minutes from October meeting were approved. Donna Dannen moved, Martha Lageschulte seconded.

Minutes from January had a motion on steward's compensation for the DSA specialty that was incorrect. It was corrected: \$30 for obedience and rally stewards, \$35 for 1 day conformation steward, \$75 for both days conformation.

**Corresponding Secretary: Tammy Linnert**

Colorado Kennel Club is conducting "Meet the Breed" at the February shows. DSA will participate, and this will count towards our public education requirement.

**Treasurer: Pam Buhl**

General Fund: \$25,564.89  
Rescue fund: \$10,520  
CD: \$21,281.37 We earned \$381.71 between 4/15-10/14. CD renewed on 10/14/25 at APR 3.7%  
King Soopers Rewards for 3rd Quarter = \$306.86 which is higher than 2nd Quarter.

Terry Walb put insurance policies and certificates on Google Drive.

**Board:**

No report.

**Committees**

**Agility: Terry Walb**

Contracts signed, entries open 11/19. New show secretary.

Pam Buhl mentioned that we need insurance certificates for set up days going forward.

**Awards: Kris Schopfer**

Please fill out the form promptly. The form is also on website.

**Cheer: Donna Dannen**

Sent card to John McAllister for recent arm surgeries.

**Designated Specialty: Linda Kitzman**

Linda Kitzman/Pam Buhl submitted request to SCA for a Saturday concurrent specialty in conjunction with Flatirons Kennel Club. When the SCA board approves the application, then it goes to AKC for approval.

**Legislative Liaisons: Pam Buhl, Lorrie McAllister**

No report.

**FastCat: Tammy Linnert**

No report.

**Historian/Librarian: Donna Dannen**

Nothing new.

**IT: Terry Walb**

Reported that Wix unused subscriptions have been cancelled. Saves \$168.

**Hospitality/Holiday Party: Tammy Linnert**

We're at Fox Hollow again. 12/14/25, 10 am-1 pm. Closes 12/3. Worker coupons go to Tammy.

**Local Specialty 2025: JoDee Putnins**

JoDee Putnins is doing the walk-through on Wednesday; Lori Elvera will be starting décor after that. Time to be determined. Grooming will be available after setup on Friday.

JoDee thanked Terry Walb for her extensive help this summer.

Cheryl Martin suggested we develop a printed list of items at specialty: check in, check out. Lori Elvera mentioned the inventory list is already on the Google drive. It needs to be updated.

Set up: We created a schematic of the building. Per the fire department, we need space to walk behind ring to exit.

Pam Buhl is picking up a jump Friday morning and will return it Sunday.

On Wednesday we need help unloading mats from trailer. If we wait until Friday, they're stiff.

**Local Specialty 2026: Lori Elvera**

"Run for the Rosettes" is the theme.

**Sam-O-Gram: Martha Lageschulte**

Needs need input by first of month.

**Social Media: Lori Elvera and Pam Buhl**

No report.

**Rescue: Sue Wangerin**

Rescue has been busy. We had a 10 month old male Sammy who was adopted from Foothills Animal Shelter. Big Bones Rescue had a Sammy mix. Sue sent a referral and the DSR applicant adopted it. Old Business

**Old Business**

No reports.

## **New Business**

Cookie Hayden's daughter Tiffany called Martha Lageschulte and said they have some Samoyed collectibles. Pam Buhl will check out.

## **SCA 2027 Additional DSA Specialty**

Lori Elvera reported that in 2027, the SCA national will be in Rapid City, South Dakota. It's possible DSA could hold a specialty in conjunction with the national. There are many restrictions and requirements. Great potential for entries, but superintendent, building costs, hotel costs and facility availability are uncertain. We discussed the need for more information, but interest was weak.

Cheryl Martin is interested in planning for the Parade of Lights next year. We have had difficulty to get 12 people and dogs to participate. If we want to proceed, we need to reach out in August.

## **Voting for 2026 Board**

Connie Rudd and Joe Morris are tellers for voting. Tammy Linnert did ballots.

**President:** Martha Lageschulte

**Vice President:** Linda Kitzman

**Treasurer:** Terry Walb

**Recording Secretary:** Donna Dannen

**Corresponding Secretary:** Tammy Linnert

**Board of Directors:**

Dan Elvera

Sue Wangerin

Tamara Barach

Lorrie McAllister

## **Hospitality**

We need a place for hospitality supplies: 16 boxes, coffee pots etc. Sue Wangerin is willing to store, but she can't move heavy stuff. We will need for our specialty, then some for the agility trial.

## **Barks 'n' Growls**

**Pam Buhl:** At the Colorado Springs Kennel Club shows Appa (Queen City's Dancing in the Moonlight) was BOB/OHBOB all 3 Days, earning her Grand Championship on Saturday. She was awarded OH Reserve Best in Show on Friday, OH Group 2 on Saturday, and OH Best in Show on Sunday. Shimmer earned her FitB title, and Juno just needs me to send her paperwork in for her FITB.

**Cheryl Martin:** Charity earned her FCAT at the SCA national.

**Donna Dannen:** Growl—Mikaela dumped coat and will not show at DSA.

**Lori Elvera:** Miles been absent for a year. On Saturday at the Pueblo shows, he took BOB OH and OH group 1; then he went on to OHBIS!

**Terry Walb:** Travis was entered at the agility trial on Saturday; it was supposed to be for exhibition only, but she forgot to tell the judge; he won 1st place at his first trial!

**Heidi Nieman and Brielle Bolena:** Brielle earned 3 Best Juniors at the Arizona shows recently. Nessie got 2 BOB's, 1 Best in Specialty Show, Owner Handler Best in Show, and finished her Silver Grand Championship. Eira earned an Award of Merit and Best in Working Sweeps at the AZ Specialty, 2 Selects, 1 Best of Opposite Sex, and a BOB and Group 3—plus she earned her Grand Championship!

Adjourn: Donna moved, Julie Morris 2nd.

## **Correspondence from Sunday's Judge Cindy Hutt forwarded from Pam Arnold**

Good Morning Pam!

Please express my heartfelt thanks to everyone in the DSA for asking me to evaluate the entries on the Sunday Specialty day 2025. It was an honor to place my hands on every Samoyed entered, I loved every minute. My final decisions were tough to make because of the high quality I found within each entry!!!!

Also what a great Judges gift!!!! I will be using them all in my future travels! Plus the t shirt is great! I know there will be continued DSA success for generations of breeding!

Cynthia Hutt #95461

Forever Samoyed breed ❤️

## **DSA November Board Meeting - Thursday, November 20, 2025**

### **Zoom**

Meeting called to order 7:06 pm

Present: Martha Lageschulte, Lorrie McAllister, Tammy Linnert, Donna Dannen, Julie Morris, Rodney Martin, Terry Walb, Linda Kitzman

### **President: Martha Lageschulte**

Lorrie McAllister discussed IRS Form 990, which nonprofit organizations are required to file each year. DSA's last report filed with the IRS was in 2023. That 990 was completed by Heidi Nieman. The address on file is Pam Buhl's address, so it's possible we did not receive a reminder from the IRS. Regardless, DSA needs to fix this problem and make sure the Form 990's are up to date. Martha Lageschulte will reach out to Pam Buhl to discuss IRS form 990 for 2024 in next few days. Lorrie McAllister will upload the 990 forms from 2022 and 2023.

### **Vice President: Terry Walb**

No report.

### **Recording Secretary: Lorrie McAllister**

No report.

### **Corresponding Secretary: Tammy Linnert**

No report.

### **Treasurer:**

No report.

### **Board:**

No report.

### **Agility Trial: Terry Walb**

100 entries were received on the first day. Online entries filled in 15 minutes—we're still accepting mail entries and will resume online entries after several days. It's unusual for a trial early in the new year to fill so quickly. Bev Brinson is the new trial secretary who replaced Helen Hittesdorf.

### **DSA Specialty 2025: JoDee Putnins**

Pam Arnold verified that Christie Martinez will attend DSA 2025!

Terry Walb shared information from Dougco about upcoming changes. We'll be working for a new person, but it's unknown who. RV rates will increase for '26.

Terry forwarded the Dougco email to the board. Small clubs will not be able to schedule more than 6 months out. It's possible you could get more time if you need to get approval from parent club. DSA typically reserves a year ahead.

Fire Department reviewed our plans for the rings and layout at the specialty. Our contract with Dougco requires a schematic of rings.

## **Concurrent Specialty June 2026: Linda Kitzman**

Linda Kitzman reported on the concurrent specialty planning. Andrea Floyd of Flatirons Kennel Club was notified that we want the pavilion area on Saturday in the morning and that the specialty will be concurrent. There is an FKC planning meeting this coming Wednesday.

Judges: we do not have a judge's liaison for the June 2026 show, which complicates DSA choice of judges. Linda Kitzman suggested that since Martha Lageschulte is already on the judging panel for FKC, and is judging other breeds, she could judge our concurrent specialty.

Any dogs that a judge co-owns cannot be shown at any shows that weekend. Dogs that are not co-owned by a judge that is on the panel, but not judging that breed, can be shown; i.e. the Martin's can show dogs that Martha does not co-own at the concurrent and other shows.

We discussed whether the Board could make the decision about the specialty judge, or should we include the members.

- Who is on the FKC judging panel and is qualified to judge Samoyeds
- When is our deadline to tell FKC our judge choice
- We want membership input, but time is short
- As soon as possible we will list the judges on the FKC panel on WhatsApp and ask for judge preferences.
- Because of time constraints, the DSA board will make the final decision
- We can use membership preferences to request that FKC assign the other top three choices for Sammies on the other days at the show
- DSA board will hold an emergency meeting to make the final decision

FKC judging panel (names in bold can judge the working group):

### **Martha Lageschulte, Karen Hynek, John Ramirez**

Azalea Alvarez (not qualified to judge Sams)

### **Marissa Clark, Carolyn Herbel, Pam Schroeder**

Martha Lageschulte is willing to judge our specialty.

### **Barks'N'Growls**

We discussed including more Barks'n'Growls from members not attending the meetings. Lorrie McAllister suggested that we encourage members to send in their Barks ahead of time if they're not going to be at the meeting so we can celebrate their accomplishments. Tammy Linnert will include this with the reminders about upcoming meetings.

Adjourn: Lorrie McAllister moved, Terry Walb 2nd; 7:56 pm



**TREASURER'S REPORT, ENDING 11/30/2025**  
**GENERAL FUND**

**INCOME**

**Agility Trial**

Entry Fees 12,133.00

Miscellaneous 100.00

**FastCAT Income** 9,145.10

**Local Specialty**

Banquet 511.23

RV Parking 270.00

Silent Auction 105.00

T-Shirts 929.75

Towels 234.20

Trophies 2,521.21

**Membership**

Dues 554.00

**Specialty Match**

Entry Fees 90.00

**Ways & Means**

Grocery Certificates 936.16

Unused Trophies 20.00

**TOTAL INCOME** 27,549.65

**RESCUE FUND**

**INCOME**

Donation to DSR 550.00

Investment Income 404.42

**TOTAL INCOME** 954.42

**EXPENSES**

Charitable Donations

Samoyed Rescue 1,000.00

**TOTAL Charitable Donations** 1,000.00

Credit Card Fees 8.52

Rescue Misc Grooming 370.00

Veterinary Services 1,251.73

**TOTAL EXPENSES** 2,630.25

**OVERALL TOTAL** -1,675.83

**EXPENSES**

**Agility Expense**

Entry Refund 231.00

Food & Beverages 191.15

Judge's Fees 3,174.93

Recording Fee 2,546.50

Rental Equipment 1,100.00

Rental Fee 975.00

Secretary Fees 1,391.69

T-shirts 376.05

**Bank Charges**

Service Charge 22.00

**Coupons Used** 489.00

**Credit Card Fees** 262.63

**FastCAT Expenses**

AKC Applications 140.00

Hospitality 281.51

Jackets 280.17

Park Rental 200.00

Ribbons 238.56

Supplies 144.83

**Hospitality**

Holiday Party 74.00

**Insurance**

Liability and Property 600.00

**Legislation**

Dues 75.00

Political Action Committee 100.00

**Local Specialty Expenses**

Application Fee 275.00

Food & Beverages 25.50

Local Specialty Banquet 127.00

Trophies 3,178.51

Rental & Cleanup Fees 931.68

Decorations 452.93

Rental Equipment 300.00

Ribbons 2,234.81

**Miscellaneous**

State Periodic Report 25.00

Supplies 87.49

**Sam-O-Gram/Web**

Ecwid Store 540.00

**Summer Social-Park Rental** 80.00

**Summer Social:Food & Beverage** 129.57

**Taxes Preparation :Federal** 500.00

**Trophy Donation** 50.00

**Website Design** 214.73

**Zoom Subscription** 174.53

**TOTAL EXPENSES** 22,220.77

**OVERALL TOTAL** 5,328.88

# ***FAST & FURIOUS***

## **AKC Fast CAT Event**



HOSTED BY  
THE DENVER  
SAMOYED  
ASSOCIATION

Entries open  
**JANUARY 16<sup>th</sup>**

Premium list &  
registration link  
coming soon

***Save the Date!***

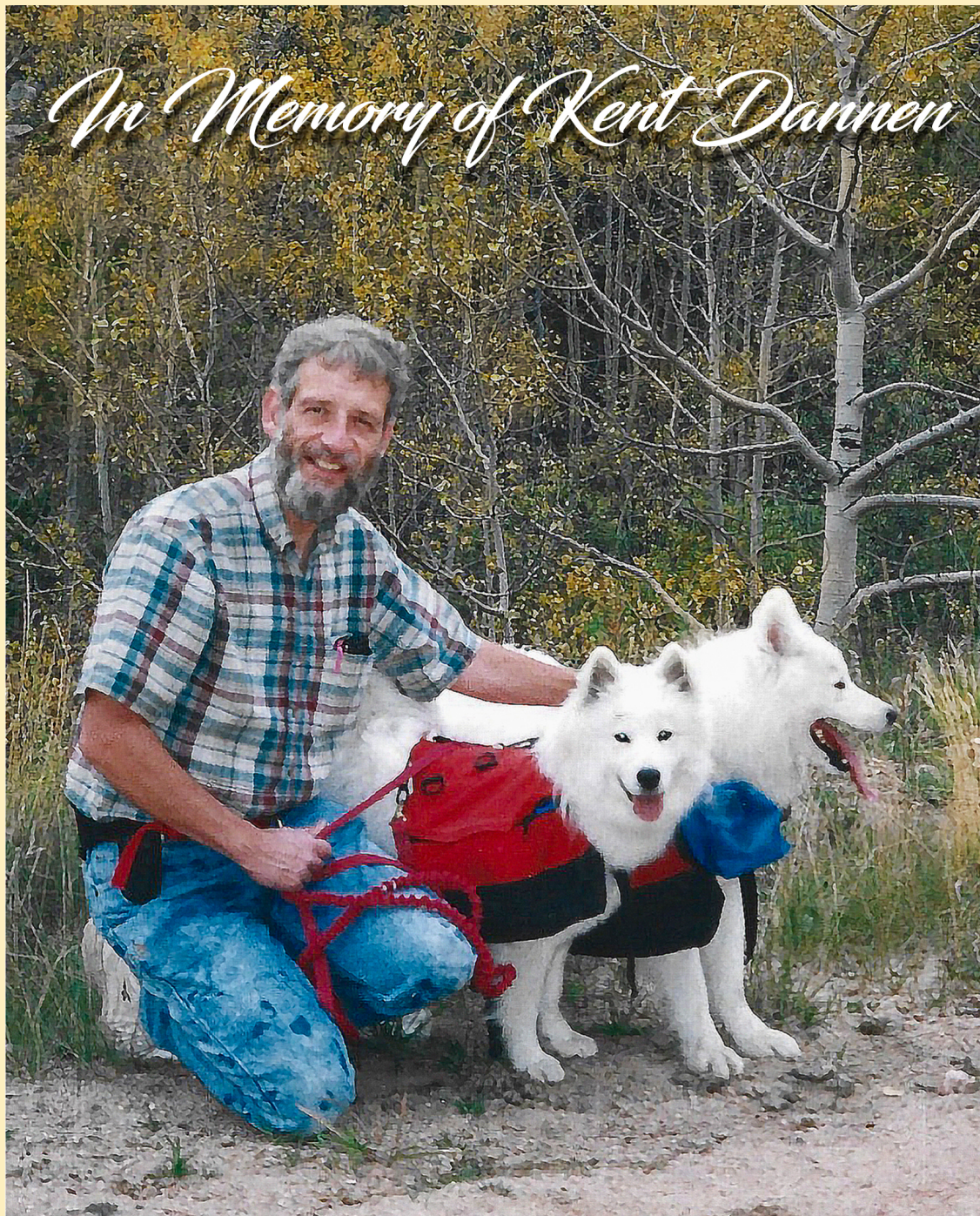


**SATURDAY** Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> &  
**SUNDAY** Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026  
9am–3pm



**ARAPAHOE PARK**  
4450 Indiana St.  
Golden, CO, 80403





*In Memory of Kent Dannen*

Photographer, nature and outdoor writer, seminary graduate, Samoyed lover, Kent Dannen was an extremely varied and complex person. He wrote extensively about the natural world, our place in it, and the stewardship that it requires. He was heavily influenced by the writings of John Muir, the famous conservationist who campaigned for the creation of Yosemite National Park. Muir looked at the natural world as God's creation for which humans have responsibility. Kent wrote as often about dogs as he did about the natural world. Several of his books were about the care and responsibility of pet ownership. Newspaper and magazine articles were often about the question of "Do Dogs Go to Heaven?" Kent believed that they do. He also co-authored Rocky Mountain National Park hiking guide books, Colorado wildflower guides, and Reader's Digest travel books to places of natural beauty. Kent's writing and photography appeared in well known publications such as Audubon, Nature, National Wildlife, National Geographic Traveler and the American Kennel Club Gazette. He is remembered in the dog world for the calendars he photographed of several dog breeds, especially Samoyeds. Kent participated in the creation of the Samoyed Club of America's Working Samoyed program, and wrote extensively about the bond created when one works with his or her animals. This bond was most important to Kent as he trained and showed his favorite breed until his passing in 2024.



## A Step Ahead: How Genetics May Help Prevent Cruciate Ligament Rupture in Dogs

### A Familiar Injury with Surprising Roots

If you are a sports fan, or one of the thousands of people who will tear an ACL in your lifetime, you understand how devastating a knee injury can be. A single wrong step can lead to painful surgery, costly treatment, and a long road to recovery.

Dogs face the same risk.

Just like humans, dogs rely on a complex system of ligaments to stabilize the knee. One of the most important is the cranial cruciate ligament, or CCL, which serves a similar function as the anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in people. When this ligament ruptures, the result is pain, instability, and limited mobility.

Certain breeds, such as Labrador Retrievers, Rottweilers, and Newfoundlands, are especially prone to this condition. Others, like Greyhounds, rarely experience it. This difference raises an important question. Is the cause purely physical, or does a dog's genetic makeup play a role?

### From Inheritance to Injury

Dr. Peter Muir, a researcher at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, has spent years investigating this issue with funding from the AKC Canine Health Foundation. His research confirms what many suspected. Cruciate ligament rupture is not simply an injury. In many dogs, it is a heritable disease.

"The first question we needed to answer was whether this is an injury or a disease," Dr. Muir explained. "Historically, it was considered an injury. But the evidence increasingly shows it is a disease with genetic roots."

That finding changed the landscape of treatment. If the condition is heritable, then it may be predictable. And if it is predictable, it may also be preventable.

### A Tool for Targeted Prevention

Dr. Muir and his team set out to take the next step. Could they create a genetic risk test that would predict a dog's likelihood of developing cruciate ligament rupture?

In Labrador Retrievers, the answer is yes.

By studying data from more than one thousand Labradors, the team developed a polygenic risk test for the breed. This test analyzes thousands of genetic markers to estimate a dog's risk of developing cruciate ligament rupture. The success of this test represents a major advance in veterinary care and could pave the way for personalized prevention.

Dr. Muir is now working to develop similar tools for other high-risk breeds, including Rottweilers and Newfoundlands. One of the challenges is recruiting a large enough sample size to map the breed-specific genome effectively.

### Why It Matters

Cruciate ligament rupture is not typically fatal, but it can be life-altering. It often leads to expensive surgery, months of rehabilitation, and reduced quality of life. In severe cases, dogs may never fully recover.

Dr. Muir believes that widespread use of genetic screening could transform how veterinarians manage orthopedic risks. If high-risk dogs are identified early, they can be monitored more closely and treated with greater care.

The Labrador Retriever polygenic risk test is currently available through the University of Wisconsin–Madison. While early adoption has been slow, Dr. Muir is optimistic about the future.

"Cruciate rupture can disable a dog for a long time," he said. "Even for the average owner, most would agree they would rather have a dog that never experienced it."

## DENVER SAMOYED RESCUE

### DSR Fundraisers:

Microchips - \$20 for members, \$35 for non-members. Cost includes chip and enrollment fee.  
Make an appointment with Pam Arnold - [davepamarnold@msn.com](mailto:davepamarnold@msn.com)