

The Bridge

SAN FRANCISCO SAMOYED RESCUE

SUMMER 2006



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Tricks of the Season

Reprinted with permission from Stacy's Wag'N'Train Summer 2006 newsletter

Summertime is a good time to improve a few key commands for your dog. This is a time when many people travel with their dogs, visit parks, and go hiking. It's a time when, unfortunately, many dogs get lost when they visit new places - so improving your dog's recall is very important. The key to making sure your dog comes to you reliably when you call her is to practice it and make sure it is VERY rewarding for your dog! If you've already started teaching the recall, make a resolution to practice at least ten times a day. I like to start the day with ten super good treats in my pocket (in a baggie if they're soft, smooshy, and greasy), and randomly throughout the day when my dog is not too distracted I'll call him to me. When he comes, I'll do a "gotcha" - that is, I take his collar gently in my hand and say "I got you!", and then I'll feed him one of those super treats while praising him like he just won the Westminster Dog Show. Sometimes, instead of feeding him a treat, I'll have one of his favorite toys on hand (right now it's a miniature green squeaky soccer ball!) and toss it to him for a game when he comes to me.

If your dog does not yet come to you even in the house, you can start by showing your dog the treat (food or toy) and then running a few steps backwards (look behind you first to make sure you're not going to trip on anything!). After you've practiced this a few times, be sure to call your dog's name just before you make the first move. After a few more times of practice, put the treats on a shelf or table and take a few steps away, then call your dog as you run back towards where the treats are. When you

dog gets to you, do a "Gotcha" and praise her, and then get out the treats and continue your "jackpot" reward with those. For more advice on training a recall, see Melissa Alexander's excellent ClickerSolutions website.

One other "trick" that's good for summer is to teach your dog drink water on command. You're not really teaching your dog to do anything new, of course, you're just teaching your a new cue that tells her, "there is water available over there." Start with capturing - wait until your dog is about to be drinking some water, and quietly say, "Drink water!" as she starts, and praise her when she's done (drinking water is its own reward for a thirsty dog). After a few days of this, you can start saying "Drink water" and pointing towards the bowl as she starts to approach it. You may think this is a pretty dumb trick, but it will help you cue your dog to drink water when the timing is critical - like when you know you only have a brief moment at a rest stop, or there may not be another opportunity for a while on your hike. If you do travel or hike a lot, you may want to teach your dog to drink out collapsible water bowls or even straight from sports bottles or water fountains! One other trick for you - since you always carry an extra "poopy bag" (right?) you can use that as an impromptu water bowl.

Stacy Braslau-Schneck, CPDT CAP2

Stacy's Wag'N'Train

www.wagnttrain.com

San Jose, CA

Hot Weather Cooling Tip

Here's a tip submitted by SFSR member Joey Jones. She says Merlin, an SFSR rescue, loves his new cool spot!

Just passing along something that's proven very popular with everybody at our house. Merlin, as you may know, likes to party in the water dish, and dig holes. He also doesn't do well on hot days. We bought an inexpensive wading pool, and gently drilled a couple of holes in the bottom (no more than a few will do the trick). We filled the pool, tossed in a few rubber dog toys (and a Kong bone), and watched him entertain himself. Now, we've added a cheap plastic ring sprinkler (only for dogs who go after the water, not the sprinkler). As you can see, he's one happy puppy.

Drilling the holes means the water slowly drains, so it doesn't get mucky or grow mosquitoes. We fill the pool chest-high on the dog, and when it empties, we move it to another spot - so it also deep-waters our lawn and trees. Landscaping and dogs are getting along great together, and Merlin's rarely digging holes anymore. Merlin has lots of water available, and he rarely parties in the water dish, so he and Abby have plenty of water available. It also tires out the puppy—when he's done playing, all he wants to do is nap! If you know anyone with a dog who needs a hobby and likes water, feel free to pass along this tip. -- Joey

SFSR Board Members

Interested in being on our board?

Contact Terri Ducay

650-776-6462

Contact rescue@sfsr.org

We have a vacancy on our nonprofit board.

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SFSR is an affiliate of National Samoyed Rescue (NSR). NSR believes that there should be verifiable standards for rescue groups, so NSR collects information about each affiliate group's procedures and verifies each group's references. Feel free to contact NSR if you have questions - nrsboard@samoyedrescue.org or visit www.samoyedrescue.org.

San Francisco Samoyed Rescue Calendar

The annual SFSR membership picnic is being moved to September 24th at Oracle Park.

**Come
meet other
Sammy owners
in your area!**



All members are welcome.

If you plan to attend, please contact Lisa Paningsoro by email: dolci_sf@yahoo.com (reference SFSR in the subject line) or call and leave a message at: 415-479-2863.

I Want to Help, But I Can't Foster. What Else Can I Do?

Here are some ideas:

- Help transport dogs from shelters, to vet appointments, etc.
- Help with phone calls to prospective adopters, follow up with adoptive families, etc.
- Put SFSR in your will or as a beneficiary on your insurance policy.
- Hold a garage sale for SFSR.
- Sell See's candy bars to family, friends, neighbors, or coworkers.

SFSR Wish List

- Printing for newsletter
- Very urgent need for foster homes
- Folding metal crates—L & XL
- Training sessions for rescued dogs
- Grooming tools
- Medications: heartworm preventative, anti-inflammatories, antibiotics, flea preventative, etc.

To donate or volunteer, contact Beverley for info:
408-993-0877 or andalora@pacbell.net

A New Easter Celebration

This story provides a wonderful glimpse into the workings of rescue. It is reprinted with permission of the author, a member of Northern Illinois Samoyed Assistance (NISA). We hope to bring you more stories about rescue work throughout the US, to emphasize the fact that Samoyed rescue is not just a local effort, and how rescue groups work together to save dogs.

Hi all,

If you've never done this I highly recommend that you try it sometime, the feeling you get is awesome.

Late Thursday evening I got an email, forwarded to me from a fellow rescuer of Dobies, "begging for one more driver" to complete a 6-leg transport from Kentucky/Indiana to Wisconsin, scheduled for Saturday. All that was needed was the last final leg to pull this off. Several 4-legged lives were at stake here.

I could feel the anguish behind the words so

I hit reply and asked which Saturday, since my 22nd and 29th were booked solid. The answer immediately came back, Saturday April 15. And another question: what did I drive. Answer: A full-sized Ford van with three permanent crates and room for more.

I responded, "sure I can do it." Where do I meet the transporter? Hinsdale – good. As long as it's not Chicago proper anywhere, I'm fine with it. Another question: Are YOU sure you can handle the entire load in one vehicle? I would pick up two adult female Labs, two 6-month old mixes, four small Lab puppies and three kitty cats. I can handle that and they can each have their own crate except for the puppies, I'll keep them together so they feel secure.

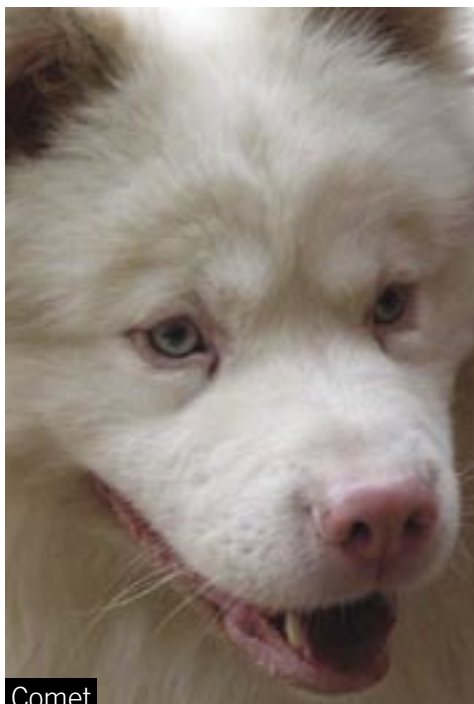
Is local water coming with the dogs or should I bring some bottled water? Answer: Ummm, no one's ever asked this before. I guess bring bottled, I don't know if water is being sent.

I arrived early at Wild Oats Market (I misjudged my time) so I put the sunguard in the front window, called the driver who would meet me to tell her where I parked and grabbed a book.

About 15 minutes later a white Explorer pulls in beside me, packed to the gills with plastic crates. I quickly opened my doors and the crates so I can pour water in the buckets. First a young yellow Lab (she'd had puppies at some point), a black adult Lab (another puppy machine), then two - NO - I see three 6-month old mixes (someone can't count—good thing my crates are big enough to accommodate two medium-sized dogs) and lastly four adorable black Lab puppies about 12 or 13 weeks old. Awww, they were soooo cute with their beady lil' black eyes and they were sooooo scared. Lastly, we grab the three kitty carriers and park them on top of the middle crate and bungee them down. WATER, oh wow, were they parched. When Labs drink fast, the water shoots out of the corners of their mouths, so I have to wonder how much do they actually swallow. (Thank goodness for our dainty Samoyeds.)

Loaded, ready to roll. Wait, I promised the transport coordinator pictures. Got a couple shots of Tammy sitting in the rear of my van, but only the yellow Lab can be seen. Black dogs simply disappeared in shadows. Time to hit the road. Called the next driver, who is

Samoyeds Available for Adoption



Comet

Name: Comet
Breed: Samoyed
Sex: Male
Age: 2.5 years

Comet came into SFSR last year as a stray from a Bay Area shelter, filthy and terribly matted. We don't know his history, but it is clear that this boy was unsocialized and abused. Comet is shy with new people and situations, but he has come a long way in learning to trust people. Comet would not be good with kids or in a very busy household. His ideal family would be calm, patient, and full of love, but also able to be unemotional and consistent with his training. Once he gets comfortable with you, which doesn't take long, Comet is a cuddler and thrives on attention. He is good with cats and with other dogs. He is an albino Samoyed, which means his skin is completely pink—he has no dark pigment anywhere on him. Comet is a smaller male Sammy, weighing about 45 lbs.



Sheba

coming from Wisconsin, to let her know I was headed her way.

Sailing up 294, the two 6-month olds that we bunked together in one large crate are wrestling and humping up a storm. Having a good time and totally oblivious to what tomorrow could have been for them. WHOA!!!! Humping!?!?! Oh my I sure do hope that, awe geeesh, that's not a female in heat!! Nope, back to wrestling and one is chewing a bone.

Got to the right McD's faster than I thought, so ordered up a burger at the drive thru and pulled around back over by some trees and a fair amount of grass. Called the driver that's meeting me and said don't rush I'm going to eat while I wait.

Would like to potty the critters but I know I can't lift the yellow or black females back up into the van. Ummm, better wait on the 6-month olds too, with two in one crate and only two hands, so I would need a third hand to put on a slip lead. I'll wait.

Talk about a tranquil half hour of sheer joy. Music, a burger, sharing fries with the stow-away extra dog and just thinking about things

in general. The van doors are all open with a nice breeze blowing in, the dogs are sniffing up a storm, and sometimes a woof would erupt from the adult black Lab as she saw the ducks or geese down by the water behind us. Hmm, hunting Lab? How in the world did she end up at, oh never mind we all know the answer to that question.

Julie arrived and quickly pottied everyone. Then once again we transferred precious cargo to her van. As we did so Julie kept saying, "wow these are such really nice dogs and we don't have much at our shelter. They'll find homes fast." Another picture of Julie beside her van and we each head our separate ways.

I gave the transport coordinator another quick call to let her know the Kidz were headed home. Melanie says, "I have to laugh at all my concern about the size of your van. Tammy said the dogs were traveling in a Cadillac of vans for all the space and comfort they had. She even said you provided crate pads and water buckets, talk about limo style service. Most of all, thank you, the whole transport was on the verge of collapse when I got your email in the wee hours Friday am. You know of course what

would have happened to all the dogs had that been the case."

Twelve precious souls received a stay of execution and a second chance to find new loving families the day before Easter. It sure gave Easter a new meaning for me. I'm 61 and this was by far the best Easter I've ever celebrated!!!

All I can say is try it sometime. The feeling is truly awesome!!

Hope the E.B. was good to all of you too,
Jean in Chicago

Name: Sheba

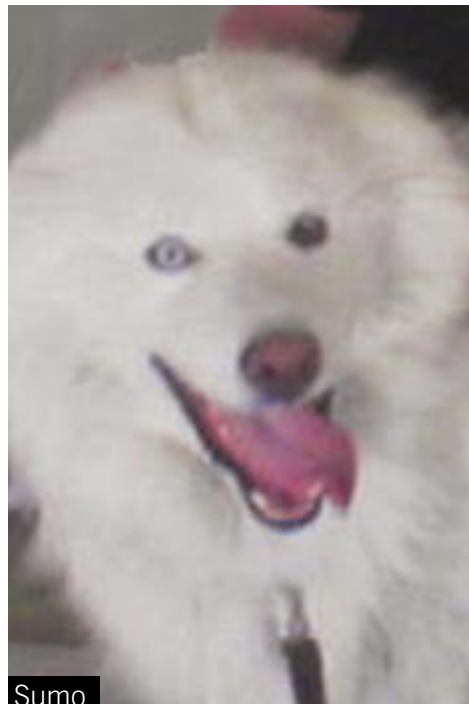
Breed: Samoyed-mix

Sex: Female

Age: 10 years

- Good with other dogs
- No cats
- Good with children - unknown
- Very friendly and outgoing

Sheba is a laid-back dog, content indoors or out. But if you rattle a dog leash, she'll come running. She loves her walks and impersonates a much younger dog with both the spring in her step and the distance she can walk. You would think that she was a two-year-old. Sheba is a good dog who gets along well with other dogs of all shapes and sizes. No cats though. She is up to date with all, spayed, and microchipped.



Sumo

Name: Sumo

Breed: Samoyed (possibly some Siberian Husky)

Sex: Male

Age: 1-1.5 years

- Good with other dogs
- Cats unknown, but may be ok (does not have a high prey drive)
- Good with kids
- Very friendly and outgoing
- Has basic obedience training, is house-trained

Sumo is bi-eyed, having one blue eye and one brown eye. This is an unusual trait for a Sammy, so it's possible that Sumo has some Husky in his background. But other than his eye color, Sumo is all Sammy in look and personality!

Visit our web site at <http://www.sfsr.org> for the most up-to-date list of dogs available for adoption. For info, email rescue@sfsr.org.

Thank You for Supporting Samoyed Rescue!

Enclosed is my donation check, made payable to SFSR in the amount of:

\$10.00 \$25.00 \$50.00 \$100.00 Other _____

I'd like to volunteer to help SFSR! I would be interested in helping with:

Phone calls Newsletter Fundraising Fostering Computer work
 Web site Transporting Advertising Other _____

No experience required! All you need is a willingness to help and a desire to learn.
Please consider volunteering—just a few hours a month can be a great help in our efforts to rescue Samoyeds!

Name : _____

Address : _____

City : _____ State : _____ ZIP Code : _____

Email : _____ Phone : _____

This donation made in memory of: _____
(person or pet)

This donation made in memory of: _____
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Comments: _____

Mail to: **SFSR** **c/o Jeanne Foreman, Treasurer** **P.O. Box 6852, San Carlos, CA 94070**

All donations to SFSR are tax-deductible.

SFSR is an all-volunteer 501(c)3 nonprofit. At least 75% of donated funds are directly used for care, treatment, and upkeep of rescued dogs. The remaining amount covers operating expenses, including printing and mailing of the SFSR newsletter, dog transport, office supplies, literature printing, purchase of fundraising merchandise, web site hosting costs, etc.

Raw Meaty Bones Results in Clean and Healthy Teeth

This article is provided by an SFSR member for informational purposes only. SFSR does not advocate any particular feeding program for your dog. Check with a veterinarian if you have questions about whether raw meaty bones would be appropriate for your dog.

Don't they need kibble to keep their teeth clean?

Dogs don't get cleaner teeth by eating kibble, any more than you will by eating cookies. Those crunchy little nuggets provide almost zero teeth cleaning benefits for big sharp teeth. Ever looked at your dog's mouth about an hour after eating her doggie bits? All that goop is still smushed between her teeth, fermenting away. One of the most immediate benefits most people see with a raw diet is sweet breath and whiter teeth. Often this difference will be seen within days. One of the most common reasons people bring their pets to a vets' office is for dental concerns.

Will raw bones harm their teeth?

Anything is possible. My old Phoebe (German Shepherd mix) has a broken canine tooth, which does not bother her at all. Who knows how it broke? Certainly, if you feed nothing but kibble and your dog never chews on anything hard, you will avoid ever having a chipped tooth—maybe. Of course by feeding kibble you may get decaying, yellow teeth and poor gum health too, which can cause heart problems, suppress immune response and compromise kidney functioning. Take your pick!

I am absolutely amazed by the bones my dogs can eat and pass out the other end in small, crumbly droppings. I feed them beef ribs as recreational bones rather than beef

leg or knuckle bones. Large, weight bearing bones such as these are inherently harder and it's possible over time that they might chip a tooth. You can safely feed rib bones to large dogs or beef neck bones to smaller dogs for recreational chewing purposes. Smaller bones like beef necks might be a quick meal for a large dog, but it would be a recreational bone for a small dog. Your dog will let you know which is which! Rule of thumb: if they eat it up, it's nutrition. If they gnaw on it for hours without really ingesting it, that's recreation.

You should do periodic checks of your dog's teeth and watch out for signs of discomfort or sudden unwillingness to chew. Look for signs of uneven or excess wear. Some dogs have thinner or softer enamel and it may be smart to give them more ground raw meaty bones (RMBs) or softer RMBs rather than feeding big beef femur bones. I have given my dogs large raw bones to chew on for many years and no dog in my care ever had dental problems as a result. Now, by combining the sheer cleaning power of gnawing on bones with the benefits of a raw food diet, they have even better dental health as well as overall health and no cleaning bills too!

Excerpt from Raw Dog Food, by Carina Beth MacDonald, 2004

I have been feeding my two rescues (Lucy & Cubbii) a raw diet for a little over two years now. Similar to human diets, there are many variations to feeding raw as well. You basically have to find what works for each pet (yes, cats do eat raw too!). I am not going to go further into this topic other than focusing on the benefits of

feeding raw meaty bones to your pets for dental health. If you fed your dog RMBs a few times a week, I believe over a short period of time you would notice a difference. I remember when we first adopted Lucy four years ago she had a lot of tartar on her teeth and the vet recommended daily brushing. I could never really get a toothbrush in her mouth (she just wanted to eat the toothpaste) to brush her teeth and it didn't make sense to me how a nylon bristle brush was going to eliminate that tartar build up without having to have a teeth cleaning procedure performed. I started to feed a variety of RMBs (lamb necks, ribs, pork necks, chicken necks & turkey necks). Her teeth are absolutely beautiful. We recently visited our new vet and he recommended we start brushing Lucy's teeth again because although most of the tartar has been eliminated through diet, there's still evidence of tartar along the gum lines. He recommended using any toothpaste that contains Oxidase as that ingredient would work its way under the gumline to promote healthier gums.

For more information about feeding raw, I would recommend you read Carina's book.

You can also learn more at the following websites:

www.sfraw.com

(click on the "already a member" and go to the F.A.Q. section to learn more)

www.feedthis.com

(click on the Basics area)

by Lisa Paningsoro, Co-President, SFSR

URLs & Sammy Lists to Visit:

National Samoyed Rescue

www.samoyedrescue.org

SamsRock Email List

www.samsrock.org

Samoyed Health List

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/samhealth>

"The Cherished Samoyed"

This beautiful Samoyed print,
by Annie Reid,
is available as a rescue fundraiser from

National Samoyed Rescue:
www.samoyedrescue.org

First in a series of four.



SFSR ADOPTION INFO:

For information about dogs for adoption, or dogs you think need SFSR's assistance, contact our Rescue Coordinator, Paul Gamlin. He can be reached at rescue@sfsr.org or by calling 650-364-4462.

SFSR BRIDGE UPDATE:

If you'd like to receive The Bridge as a PDF file via email, please send a note with your email address to rescue@sfsr.org. Indicate whether you want to receive it in addition to or in place of receiving one through the mail.

Please share your rescue stories with the rest of the organization. To highlight your rescue success in The Bridge, please send your story, with a picture of your Samoyed, to:

Rescue@sfsr.org or andalora@pacbell.net

or

San Francisco Samoyed Rescue

Beverley Andalora, Newsletter Editor

P.O. Box 6852

San Carlos, California 94070

Comments and suggestions about how we can improve the newsletter are always welcome.

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