



**June 2011
Newsletter**



Our thoughts and prayers to all of those affected by the devastating fires.

I want to give a tremendous "thank you" to Gery for all his hard work as

President these last few years. It's tough and hard. But, do know you are appreciated!

Denise – Welcome and knowing your

personality this will be a fun and adventurous Year. I'm so glad that I am part of it.

Thank you to all the Board Members past

and present that strive to keep this organization viable. On behalf of all the dogs, woo, woo!

Pets In the Pines Event- contact Gery Allan to help out.
Gery.allan@nau.edu

June 25th Flagstaff @ Wheeler Park. We need volunteers to represent the AZMM. You can sign up for timed intervals. 9-10/10-noon/noon – 2 pm. 2-4. This is a fun event with lots of dogs and dog-friendly people. Or just stop by and sit a spell.

Rescue Roundup-July 20th Madam President Denise will have a booth. And she will be donating a dog Sculpture piece to raffle off. She will have items on display at both events. If anyone would like to participate in the event and help out as well that would be awesome. The Border Collie group puts it on,

but all the other rescue groups will be represented as well. Another great opportunity for us to show people activities they can do with their dogs! Email Denise at covoteforling@commspaed.net

Summer activities for the dogs –
Mending lines that are chewed up.
Fixing harnesses
Repairing dog houses
Get that female fixed!!!!
Repair the quad!
Replace tires on cart!
Sled – repair runners
Sew up hole in ski bids.

Great reading for the summer-
Dogsled Dreams by Terry Lynn Johnson

The Chronicle of a Musher, His Adopted Sled Dogs and their pursuit of an Alaskan Dream

The Final Frontiersman
by James Campbell

**The Yukon Trail by
William Raine**

As always if you have an idea feel free to email me and I can get it distributed. Or if you need to buy or sell some gear, I'm your go-to person!

For those that couldn't make the meeting here are the minutes. While officially they are not-approved we still want to share them with you.

**Arizona Mountain
Mushers
Minutes
May 7, 2011**

Members present: Gery Allan, Denise Edwards, Dave and Shirley Hendricks, Frank and Cheri Engelhardt, Thomas Mangano, Debra Carson, Dave Eckert

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 by Gery Allan.

Treasurers report; Cheri Engelhardt reported that there is \$745.67 in the bank account. The annual insurance is @\$600.00 due in September or October. It is great to be in a position where we can start the season with funds above the amount needed for insurance.

A discussion followed regarding the idea of giving rides as a fundraiser a weekend or a

couple weekends. The limitation is this can not be done on Forest Service land. As an alternative, rides could be done in conjunction with a race. For example, Happy Jack has potential for rides after the race conclusion on Sunday. Another suggestion related to this idea was to consider selling raffle tickets at a weight pull for a dogsled ride. One scenario on how this could work would be to race on Saturday followed by a weight pull in the afternoon and raffle for a dogsled ride. On Sunday, the race would conclude with rides after the race. This would be good to coordinate with Winterfest.

Gery talked with the Mayor about bringing a race back to Kendrick Park. The issues are finding 3,4,6, and 8 mile loops and finding a parking area. The Crowley area is a plus, because of parking availability. The suggestion was made to have a separate meeting to do race planning.

Weight Pull Report; Shirley reported that Gery will bring the trailer to his place. Once the trailer is repaired Shirley will spruce it up. The trailer needs a spare tire, lug wrench, and jack, as well as sandbags for holding in place posts. Dave will

check the size of the tires, as eventually it will need tires. There will be a need to find a place to keep it during the weight pull season.

A discussion followed on the question of whether to continue weight pull or not. A suggestion was made that we do another season of weight pull and then evaluate. Shirley asked members to consider, what is realistic for a practice schedule? The agreement was on the need to plan a seminar in late September and/or early October for interest in weight pull and skijoring. There was also enthusiasm for organizing an event to generate interest in the Phoenix Tucson area. Deborah is interested in doing an Urban Mushing Clinic under the auspices of AMM.

Pets in the Pines will be happening the weekend of June 25th. Gery asked if there was interest in setting up a booth. There is potential for getting donations and names of people interested in the club and activities. One idea was to bring a dog and sled and skijoring equipment. There were interested club members in participating. The Rescue Roundup is July 30th. Denise is looking for other volunteers to be at a booth. Again, there

was support and members interested in participating.

A recommendation was made for a Summer Campout near Gery's place. Gery said he

would scope out a good location. The date of August 13 was suggested.

September 24th was the date suggested for a dogsled seminar that

could include skijoring and cart training.

There was enthusiasm for continuing the annual Veteran's Day Campout.

Officer election: The nominations and voting results are as follows:

President: Denise Edwards

Secretary: Dave Eckert

Weight Pull Chair: Shrlley Hendricks

Newsletter: Deborah Carson

Vice President: Gery Allan

Treasurer: Cheri Engelhardt

Skijor Chair: Dave Eckert

A suggestion was given to make available to members the option of getting a hard copy of the newsletter if they requested this.

Denise indicated that she had a conversation with Bruce Lee, an Iditarod veteran about coming to the Winter Games this coming year. She will continue a conversation with Ann about this possibility.

Meeting adjourned @3:15. Don't stop reading nowwe are on a roll.... Or pull!

Iditarod dreamsAnd some of can only dream: **Handler Wanted - Winter 11/12**
We are looking for a handler for the 2011/2012 season. Position will run from around October to the end of March. The duties include shoveling the dog yard daily, assisting with feedings, occasionally feeding on your own, assisting with kennel and dog maintenance, caring for the kennel in our absence, helping with hooking up and putting away dog teams, and generally helping the dogs and I get ready for race season. Be aware that when I am up in Alaska - likely for 2 to 3 months this winter - you will be responsible for all aspects of caring for the remaining dogs in the kennel (likely 30 - 35 dogs) on your own, as well as looking after the house, yard and yourself. You would need to be reasonably physically fit. That includes being able to carry 25 - 30 lb buckets for fairly good distance; able to wrestle very strong, excited dogs around; able to tolerate and work in very cold temperatures; comfortable with winter driving; and able to get up early in the morning without complaint (Mark already does enough complaining about that). Be aware that this is not as glamorous a job as most people think. There are no days off, the work is hard, the pay sucks, and the weather can be brutal. After the first week, you will be scratched, bruised, stiff and exhausted. Things will only get worse. In exchange you will get - a small monthly stipend, all your meals, your own cabin to live in (bathroom and kitchen facilities are in the house and shared with Mark and I), some scars, to work with some really cool dogs and stories that will last you a long time. We also have great hiking trails and in the winter cross country skis, snowshoes and dog teams to enjoy them. What better way to learn to run dogs than behind a team of Iditarod finishers? Anyone crazy enough to be interested can contact me at NorthWapiti@xplornet.com Karen Ramstead- North Wapiti Kennels

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