



Alaska Dog Musher's Association, Inc.

2009 International Sled Dog Symposium

Pioneer Park Civic Center, Fairbanks • October 9–11, 2009

Mark your calendar!

The 2009 sled dog symposium will be Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, October 9–11, at Pioneer Park in Fairbanks.

See registration form on back page.

Organizing Committee

Ami Gjestson, Chair • Bonnie Borba • Amanda Byrd • Scott Campbell • Nancy DeWitt • Kriya Dunlap • Kathy Fitzgerald • Carol Kaynor • Don Kiely • Deb McGrath • Lynn Orbison • Dave Partee • Jennifer Probert • Andy Seitz • Susan Seitz • Ken Severin • Andrea Swingley

Program

Amanda Byrd 458-0888

Audiovisual

Ken Severin 455-6552

Registration

Bonnie Borba 457-1016

Working Dog Trade Fair

Kathy Fitzgerald . . 488-1357 or
322-6132 (cell)

Auction

Jennifer Probert 978-1192

Website

www.sleddog.org/symposium

Enjoy a weekend of informative and entertaining sessions for every kind of musher and working-dog owner, plus our trade fair (admission is free and open to the general public) and annual fundraising auction.

Our exciting program includes sled dog physiologist Dr. Mike Davis of Oklahoma State University speaking about his latest findings on stomach ulcers in distance dogs and sharing his findings on super-conditioning in sled dogs. Dr. Davis conducts some of his research during the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. Keynote speakers Harris and Ginger Dunlap are bringing their internationally-acclaimed presentation on selecting and breeding the right dog for you to Fairbanks. If you have ever considered breeding or developing your own line of dogs, this session will enable you with the tools to succeed in doing so. There will also be sessions about mid-distance strategies, foot care, sled maintenance and repair, mushing history, and more.

The symposium is a great opportunity to get the expert advice you've been looking for. Take a look at the preliminary schedule inside, and watch our website at www.sleddog.org/symposium for program updates, speaker biographies, and more detailed information.

Special events

Friday night movie: *Spirit of the Wind*

You won't want to miss this opportunity to watch a free showing of the digitally enhanced, award-winning movie along with some of the main characters and actors. Attending will be George Attla, Gareth Wright, Merv Hilpipre, Curtis Erhart, and others.

Fundraising Auction

ADMA's auction is a treat for mushers and nonmushers alike. All sorts of great stuff will be put on the auction block, both silent and outcry. Past auction items include sleds, chain-link fencing, dog food, and clothing for dogs and humans, as well as an amazing assortment of artwork, books, gift certificates from local restaurants and merchants, and other nifty items. There will be delicious food and a no-host bar, and you can't ask for better company as you peruse the bounty. Donations of all kinds are welcome! E-mail probertsanford@gmail.com.

Can't come this year?

Missed a previous year? Buy the recordings. Sled Dog Studio has a variety of recordings from past and present ADMA symposia, available on MP3 CD, audio CD, and cassette. These recordings are a great resource for beginner and advanced mushers and skijorers, and anyone interested in the science and strategy of the sport. Whether your interest is recreation, distance, stage racing, or sprint, there's a wealth of expert information on the very latest in nutrition, equipment, health, training, race strategy, technique, and more! Go to www.sleddogstudio.com/symposium.

Comfort Inn offers symposium rate

The Comfort Inn offers a special symposium rate of \$75/night + tax for participants. Conveniently located behind Pioneer Park, the Comfort Inn is dog-friendly and provides a complimentary deluxe continental breakfast to its guests. Call 907-479-8080 to reserve a room and ask for the 2009 sled dog symposium rate.



This year's symposium is cosponsored by the Fairbanks Junior Dog Musher's Association and the Fairbanks North Star Borough Parks & Recreation Department Pioneer Park.

Friday, October 9

12 – 4 p.m. • Main floor and mezzanine
Trade fair setup in civic center

4 – 8 p.m. • Lobby
Early-bird registration and advance registration check-in

Avoid the Saturday morning rush! If you registered in advance, you can pick up your name tag and information packet on Friday. If you're paying at the door, beat the cashier lines Saturday morning by registering Friday night.

2 p.m. – 5 p.m. • Laughing Husky shop
Tour of Laughing Husky sled builder's shop

David Klumb will conduct a tour of the Laughing Husky shop. Topics covered will include selecting wood, cutting and gluing laminates for runners and other sled parts, mortise and tenon joints, and sled layout and assembly for basket, toboggan, and metal runner sleds. Please R.S.V.P. with David Klumb 457-6527 or laughinghusky@worldnet.att.net.

4 – 9 p.m. • Main floor and mezzanine

Working Dog Trade Fair opens for weekend—free and open to the general public

The trade fair opens at 4 p.m. Friday and will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Your favorite mushing equipment suppliers will be there, as well as clothing specialists, sled builders, informational booths, and much more. Visit www.sleddog.org/symposium for a list of participating vendors.

7 – 9 p.m. • Theater

Spirit of the Wind

Join ADMA for a special, free showing of the digitally enhanced, award-winning movie about the life of George Attila, along with some of the main characters and actors. Attending will be George Attila, Gareth Wright, Merv Hilpiper, Curtis Erhart, and others.

Saturday, October 10

8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. • Lobby

Onsite registration and check-in; coffee and bakery items for sale upstairs on mezzanine

Pay at the door if you didn't register in advance; advance registrants can pick up name tags and information packets in the express lanes. Don't forget to buy or renew your ADMA membership and get the club-member discount.

9 – 10 a.m. • Theater

No feet, no dog
Aliy Zirkle

Foot care in any discipline of mushing is essential to a healthy dog and team. Ken will provide information for on the trail foot care, as well as methods for preventing and curing running-related foot issues.

9 a.m. – 12 p.m. • Blue Room

Sled tying
David Klumb

This seminar will feature hands-on stations where participants can practice tying various sled parts together. Both assembly and repair techniques will be shown and practiced.

10 am • Main floor and mezzanine

ADMA fundraising auction—bidding opens

The ADMA auction committee plans to set up tables early so that symposium-goers and trade fair attendees can have all day to check out the goods and bid on items. The auction will wrap up Saturday evening with both silent and outcry bidding.

10 – 10:30 a.m. • Break—Go visit the trade fair! The fair is free and open to the public today from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. • Theater

Metabolic strategy for fatigue-resistance in sled dogs

Michael Davis, DVM, PhD, DACVIM

The capacity for exercise depends on the capacity for supplying and burning fuel, and removing waste products; different types of exercise are limited by different aspects of this process. For sustainable endurance exercise, the capacity to supply fuel to the muscles is usually the limiting factor. The preferred source of fuel is from stores outside the muscle cell, and if exercise is intense enough to require utilization of intramuscular stores, that level of exercise can not be sustained. Recent studies have shown that sled dogs have a remarkable ability to rapidly adapt to exercise by reducing the use of intramuscular fuel, thus providing an ideal strategy for sustaining exercise. Dr. Davis will present possible mechanisms of this strategy, and implications of this strategy to other body systems. The presentation will be followed by discussion with mushers **Sebastian Schnuelle** and **Lance Mackey**

12 – 1:30 p.m.

Lunch, trade fair, and auction bidding

A variety of sandwiches and sweets from will be for sale on the third-floor mezzanine. Take some time to visit the trade fair and to bid on auction items.

12 – 3 pm • Parking lot

Interior Freight Dog Association Weight Pull Competition

Come and see canines pull several times their body weight! In this exciting and inspirational sport, the dogs have 60 seconds to pull a loaded sled 25 feet.

Use of recording equipment and cameras (with or without flash) during presentations is prohibited except by authorized press and personnel.

• This is a preliminary schedule. Speakers, sessions, and schedule subject to change. • Updates posted at www.sleddog.org/symposium. •

Theater presentation audio will be live on the web at www.sleddog.org/symposium/streaming.html.

Saturday, October 10 (continued)

1:30 – 5 p.m. • Theater

There will be a half hour break during the presentation—Go visit the trade fair!

Keynote presentation: Selecting and breeding the right dog for your racing future

Harris and Ginger Dunlap

A look back at the dogs that made the sled dog sport, some basic genetics, and how we developed and used a breeding Selection Index to create our own line. The talk includes our evolving understanding as racing and study molded our thinking and concepts of what was desirable. How we looked for certain characteristics and some successes and disappointments along the way. The application of this talk should be to assist your process in organizing your personal immediate goals, and what breeding processes and science you might employ with your own defined racing canine Selection Index.

5 – 9 p.m. • Pioneer Park Civic Center

ADMA fundraising auction—silent and outcry bidding

Do you need dog food or a good book or a truckload of wood shavings? Maybe a warm hat, a new flashlight, or a box of dog biscuits? You will most likely find it at the auction. Join us Saturday evening for silent and outcry auctions to help raise funds that ADMA will use to support the symposium and other expenses such as trail maintenance and hall repairs. Visit our ever-changing list of auction items on the web (www.sleddog.org/auction/2009), and watch many more items magically appear Saturday night.

Sunday, October 11

8 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. • Lobby

Onsite registration and check-in; coffee and bakery items for sale upstairs

Pay at the door if you didn't register in advance; advance registrants can pick up name tags and information packets.

9 – 10 a.m. • Theater

Mid-distance strategies

Allen Moore and Cim Smyth

Mid-distance racing has long been grouped with its distance racing cousin. While many of the mid-distance competitors also race in the longer 1000-mile races, the strategies, race styles and run-rest ratios are quite different. Cim will present information on what makes this race style different, and how the strategies can keep a musher on their toes.

9 – 10 a.m. • Blue Room

Junior mushing

Cain Carter

Join the 2009 Junior Iditarod winner for an hour of discussion about being a junior musher and training with his stepdad, Lance Mackey.

10 – 10:30 a.m. • Break—Go visit the trade fair! The trade fair will be open today from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. • Theater

Remember when?

George Attla, Harris Dunlap, Merv Hilpipre, Marvin Kokrine, and Roxy Wright

Join these former competitors (or rivals) as they relive their glory days of open-class sprint racing and share some behind the scenes stories.

10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. • Blue Room

Dog mushing during the Northwestern Fur Trade, circa 1700–1850

Thomas "Swanny" Swan

Mushing's practical roots are planted deeply in Canadian soil, with offshoots expanding into Europe and Siberia. Join Swanny for a presentation on the history of dog mushing during this era.

12 – 1:30 p.m.

Lunch (and time to visit trade fair); sandwiches and sweets available on third floor mezzanine

12 – 1 p.m. • Main floor

Demonstrations for junior mushers

Visit stations for hands-on learning about vaccinating, harness fitting, nail trimming, and grooming. Not-so-junior mushers are welcome too.

1:30 – 3 p.m. • Theater

Gastrointestinal disease in sled dogs

Michael Davis, DVM, PhD, DACVIM

Gastrointestinal disease is a frequent complaint in racing sled dogs, and gastric inflammation and/or ulceration has been implicated, either directly or indirectly, as a leading cause of death during training and competition. While few dogs demonstrate overt signs of gastric disease, studies using endoscopy have found a prevalence of 60-70% in dogs competing in ultra-endurance events. This talk will describe in detail the phenomenon of exercise-induced gastric disease, including possible underlying causes and effective prevention.

3 – 5 p.m. • Main floor & mezzanine

Wrap-up and trade fair

Last chance to visit the trade fair, and to chat with fellow participants and organizers. Please let us know what you thought of this year's symposium!

Dogs are not allowed in the civic center without prior approval. Trade fair vendors who wish to bring dogs into the building MUST contact Kathy Fitzgerald at 907-322-6132; others should contact Ami Gjestson at 907-488-5621. • Please remember to turn off cell phones, pagers, and watch alarms during the presentations.

Alaska Dog Musher's Association
 2009 Symposium Registration
 P.O. Box 70662
 Fairbanks, AK 99707

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

2009 Sled Dog Symposium Register NOW! Advance registration must be postmarked by Friday, September 25.

Join ADMA...

...and receive information about our annual sled dog symposium and other activities. Associate membership will get you on our mailing list. General memberships are required if you intend to vote or race in ADMA events. Any ADMA membership qualifies you for discounts on your symposium registration. Memberships run May 1 through April 30. More about ADMA can be found at www.sleddog.org.

Information

Prices are for advance registration only. Fees after September 25 are \$35 for one day or \$65 for both days. Make checks payable to **ADMA** and mail to: **Bonnie Borba, 1740 Snowhook Trail, Fairbanks, AK 99709.** If you are using a credit card, you may fax this form to 907-455-9663 between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. Alaska time.

Refunds will be given for symposium registration, minus a 25% processing fee, if requested by October 2. No refunds for memberships or trail passes. Substitute attendees are allowed with written notice.

Register NOW and save!

Please print legibly and fill in all the appropriate blanks. To register someone with a different address, please use a separate form.

Primary attendee name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Other attendees at same address:

#2 _____ #3 _____

Unless you have a lifetime membership, EVERYONE must renew membership below to get the ADMA member price.	ADMA member	nonmember	subtotal
1-day Saturday admission x _____ attendee(s)	\$25	\$30	
1-day Sunday admission x _____ attendee(s)	\$25	\$30	
2-day admission pass x _____ attendee(s)	\$45	\$55	
2009–2010 ADMA general membership List names of additional family:	\$25 +\$10 each add'l. family member		
2009–2010 ADMA associate membership	\$15		
2009–2010 Jeff Studdert Racegrounds trail pass	\$75	\$75	
Total amount enclosed			\$

If paying by credit card:

VISA or MasterCard # _____

Name on card _____ Expiration date _____

Signature _____ V-code (3-digit #) _____