



Alaska Dog Musher's Association, Inc.

# 2008 International Sled Dog Symposium

Pioneer Park Civic Center, Fairbanks • October 10–12, 2008

## Mark your calendar!

The 2008 sled dog symposium will be Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, October 10–12, at Pioneer Park in Fairbanks.

See registration form on back page.

### Organizing Committee

Ami Gjestson, Chair • Dale Anderson • Bonnie Borba • Amanda Byrd • Scott Campbell • Kriya Dunlap • Laura Katucki • Carol Kaynor • Don Kiely • Deb McGrath • Lynn Orbison • Dave Partee • Jennifer Probert • Bridget Schwafel • Andy Seitz • Susan Seitz • Ken Severin • Andrea Swingley • Lori Wilson

### Program

Amanda Byrd .....458-0888

### Audiovisual

Ken Severin .....455-6552

### Registration

Bonnie Borba ..... 457-1016

### Working Dog Trade Fair

Lori Wilson .....457-4884

### Auction

Nancy DeWitt ..... 322-5537

### Website

[www.sleddog.org/symposium](http://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 free and open to the general public), the second annual "Best Invention" contest, and annual fundraising auction. Our exciting program includes famous lead dog and distance mushing phenomenon **Zorro** (who will be hanging out on Saturday accompanied by **Lance Mackey**), two keynote presentations, a special film-and-commentator presentation by the UAF Film Archives, panel sessions on the evolution of distance racing and on high-tech sleds, and two sled repair sessions. This 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](http://www.sleddog.org/symposium) for program updates, speaker biographies, and more detailed information.

## Special events

### Yukon Quest Rookie Workshop

The Yukon Quest will help kick off the symposium on Friday with a rookie workshop. The workshop, from 10 AM to 4 PM, is strongly recommended for all rookies of the 2009 Yukon Quest (regardless of experience with other 1000-mile races!), but all future rookies are welcome to join as well. Hear from veterans, veterinarians, and race staff how to train, prepare for and run the toughest sled dog race in the world. See the symposium website, call 907-452-7954 (fax: 907-452-7959) or e-mail [questmanager@mosquitonet.com](mailto:questmanager@mosquitonet.com) for more information or to RSVP.

### 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 [nancy@wildwingsetc.com](mailto:nancy@wildwingsetc.com).**

### Best Invention Contest

Back by popular demand is our second annual Best Invention Contest! Bring in your dog-related invention for a chance to win fame and glory, and maybe some prizes. Entries will be on display at the trade fair all weekend, and winners will be announced on Sunday afternoon. See the symposium website or contact Lynn Orbison at [daisyacres@mosquitonet.com](mailto:daisyacres@mosquitonet.com) or 907-488-9685 for information on how to enter the contest.

### 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. Go to [www.sleddogstudio.com/symposium](http://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 2008 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. A City of Fairbanks bed-tax grant helps fund the ADMA symposium.

# Friday, October 10

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

**10 a.m. – 4 p.m. • Theater**  
Yukon Quest rookie workshop

This workshop is free for mushers who have entered the 2009 Yukon Quest race, and \$25 (separate from the symposium, to be paid at the door) for all other mushers. RSVP to the Yukon Quest (contact information on page 1).

**4 – 7 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.

**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](http://www.sleddog.org/symposium) for a list of participating vendors.

**6:30 – 7:45 p.m. • Theater**

**Hands-on for junior mushers**

**Alyssa Quaile and friends**

Distance musher and former junior musher Alyssa Quaile will give a presentation on responsible dog care, followed by your chance to participate in hands-on sessions. A free presentation.

**8 – 9 p.m. • Theater**

**Mush with PRIDE forum**

This is a free presentation. Please join us for what will tentatively be an open-discussion forum on what we can do to ensure the growth of our sport, fight misperceptions, and ensure proper practices are followed.

# Saturday, October 11

**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.

**Special all-day celebrity visit from the Comeback Kennel**

**Zorro and Lance Mackey**

Here is your chance to pet famous lead dog and distance mushing phenomenon Zorro, who will be hanging out at the trade fair accompanied by 4-time Quest winner, 2-time Iditarod winner, and 2-time ESPY award nominee Lance Mackey.

**9 – 10 a.m. • Theater**

**Conditioning**

**Curtis Erhart**

Follow along with Curtis from early season to peak performance conditioning.

**9 – 10 a.m. • Blue Room**

**Sharing trails**

**Alaska Trappers Association**

Become familiar with proper trail etiquette and signs of other users on multiuse public trails.

**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**

**A season to remember**

**Mitch Seavey**

Listen to Mitch's tales from the trails of the Kusko 300 through the All Alaska Sweepstakes.

**10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. • Blue Room**

**Building the basic toboggan sled**

**Dave Klumb**

This session covers the parts and assembly techniques needed to build a basic toboggan sled. Areas such as hardware, metals, plastics and structural requirements will be discussed, along with shortcuts gleaned from years of sled building.

**12 – 1:30 p.m.**

**Lunch, trade fair, and auction bidding**

A variety of sandwiches and sweets from Marty's Bake Shop is for sale on the third-floor mezzanine. Take some time to visit the trade fair and to bid on auction items. Don't forget to vote for your favorite invention!

**12 – 4 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](http://www.sleddog.org/symposium). •*

*Theater presentation audio will be live on the web at [www.sleddog.org/symposium/streaming.html](http://www.sleddog.org/symposium/streaming.html).*

## Saturday, October 11 (continued)

### 1:30 – 3 p.m. • Theater

#### Keynote presentation: The mind of the bird dog

John Lunseth

With today's prevalence of pointers crossed with huskies, talk often turns to what makes them tick. John will discuss bird dog breeds, the bird dog sports, and conditioning and training techniques used for hunting and competitive field trials.

### 3 – 3:30 p.m. • Break—Go visit the trade fair!

### 3:30 – 5 p.m. • Theater

#### UAF Film Archives presentation

with accompanying commentary by Joe Redington

UAF's Alaska Film Archives will run a series of film excerpts relating to northern dogs and dog mushing. The footage will illustrate the historical use of dogs as racers in interior Alaska, including early ONAC races.

### 3:30 – 5 p.m. • Blue Room

#### Snowmobile and 4-wheeler maintenance

Steve Darby

Learn from one of Fairbanks' top technicians how to properly maintain your equipment at home and make emergency repairs on the trail.

### 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/2008](http://www.sleddog.org/auction/2008)), and watch many more items magically appear Saturday night.

## Sunday, October 12

### 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.

### All day • Main floor

#### Winter Camping Exhibition

Provided by Joe Henderson and others

### 9 – 10 a.m. • Theater

#### High tech sleds

Mark Cooper (Cooper Sleds), Hans Gatt (Gatt Sled), Gar Morey (Outlaw Sleds), and Jacques Philip (Antipode Sleds); moderated by Andrea Swingley

Cutting-edge design and materials bring a whole new level of performance to these sleds. Panel members will discuss how they were developed and why they are such a joy to drive.

### 9 – 10 a.m. • Blue Room

#### Training with a GPS

Jeff Conn

Learn how a GPS works, differences between units, how to use a GPS to pace your team for various training objectives (long, slow, distance, threshold, intervals), and their place in controlling speed in races.

### 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

#### Evolution of distance racing

Mitch Seavey, Brent Sass, Kelley Griffin, Sonny Lindner, and Bill Cotter; moderated by Tammi Rego

From the tried and true methods that have been used over the years to new ideas in dog care and training, panel members will talk about what works in today's long-distance racing.

### 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. • Blue Room

#### Building the basic basket sled

Dave Klumb

Covers various aspects of basket sled construction, including wood selection, mortise and tenon joints, and a tying demonstration. Proper attachment of brakes and drags will also be discussed.

### 12 – 1:30 p.m.

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

### 1:30 – 3 p.m. • Theater

#### Arctic expeditions

Joe Henderson

Joe Henderson will share his experiences of over 20 years of freighting in the arctic with his team of 22 Alaskan Malamutes, including a brief history of dogsledding in northern Alaska and a summary of the methods of travel, training techniques, and gear he employs to travel successfully each winter.

### 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!

### 3:30 – 5 pm • Theater

#### Canine Massage Therapy

Tarika Lea

Learn how to use the Lea Method, the "martial arts of massage," and how to increase your communication and observation skills.

*Dogs are not allowed in the civic center without prior approval. Trade fair vendors who wish to bring dogs into the building MUST contact Lori Wilson at 907-488-2297; 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, Inc.  
 2008 Symposium Registration  
 1760 Snowhook Trail  
 Fairbanks, AK 99709

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**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](http://www.sleddog.org).

**Information**

**Prices are for advance registration only.** Fees after September 26 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 3. 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, <b>EVERYONE</b> 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	
2008–2009 ADMA general membership List names of additional family:	\$25 +\$10 each add'l. family member		
2008–2009 ADMA associate membership	\$15		
2008–2009 Jeff Studdert Racegrounds trail pass	\$75	\$75	
<b>Total amount enclosed</b>			<b>\$</b>

If paying by credit card:

VISA or MasterCard # \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ V-code (3-digit #) \_\_\_\_\_