

## No winter lasts forever

As Winter comes to an end, we hope you enjoy this issue of the CQ which always has articles and pictures from you, the membership. We are always looking for articles, stories, poems, etc. from COA members (that's you!). Submit to [communications@chinook.org](mailto:communications@chinook.org) or ask questions about how you can help the club and this publication.



Callicoon Cannon Beach (Cannon) by Monica Aden

## Features

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# Letter from the President

By John Habermehl, COA President

Members of the Chinook Owners Association - welcome to your Chinook Quarterly (CQ) and thank you to all the members who have contributed to this issue. I'm looking forward to another great read! I would like to take this opportunity to say how excited I am to be part of the Chinook community and to be on the COA Board as your President.

Recently the COA sponsored an event in Tamworth, NH where we were guests of the Remick Museum for their annual Winter Carnival. All Chinook owners were invited to spend the day and I had the fortunate opportunity to meet many new Chinooks and see many friends. Thank you all who made this event possible. I look forward to meeting many more Chinooks at various events.

## Specialty Announcement

The 2019 COA Specialty this year will be held in Auburn, WA on Friday, June 28. Please go to <https://chinook.org/chinook-national-specialty/> for more information or contact Bench Chairs Brendan and Mary Aldrich at [bench@chinook.org](mailto:bench@chinook.org) for more information.

As mentioned in my previous letter the board could always use members to assist in various capacities within the organization and I encourage members to consider the opportunities available. Opportunities include assisting the 2019 COA Specialty, contributing articles and or pictures for the CQ and/or website, or learning a board position or joining a committee. The COA currently has several openings on the board. This includes Rescue Chair, Working Dog Program and Regional Activities Chair. If you are interested please contact me at [president@chinook.org](mailto:president@chinook.org) to learn more.

The COA continues to move forward with moving to a 501c and are close to a membership review. I ask that you take the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed changes and participate in the voting when the time comes. More to come on this soon... Finally, as an organization, our kennel door is always open. Please feel free to ask questions, voice concerns, or simply talk about your Chinooks on the COA Member forums or contact one of the board members directly. Thank you and enjoy this edition of the CQ!



Tuktu and John (taken by Penthea Burns)

# Adventures of a Bikejoring NOOB

By Jude Griffith

Taika is nearing her 18-month mark, so my thoughts this fall have turned to getting her ready for dog-powered sports. In October 2018, we enroll in an Intro to Bikejoring clinic at the New England Sled Dog Fair. I write Gee and Haw on my hands in Sharpie and off we go to Contoocook, NH.

It was supposed to be a two-hour clinic with a max of six human-dog teams per instructor. Instead it was over twenty teams in one giant group and a run of about one hundred feet and back...but it was a start. The next day, we harness up and ride out. Taika lopes happily along for half a mile. She's all over the road: veering to the side, running over to jump on me, crossing in front of the wheel. I brake a lot; we survive a few tangles; but most importantly, there are moments of beauty and grace and doggie smiles. I am so happy I can't even sleep that night because I can't wait to go back out the next morning. The next morning my bike tire is flat. We don't go out.



I see there is a 3K canicross race the next weekend, so I enter us (I can't even run 0.3K), rush-order a harness and belt, but when the harness arrives, it's too big for Taika. I order Taika another harness, it arrives, but it's too small: turns out I measured her neck incorrectly. I should have measured from the breastbone to the top of the withers, but instead I just measured her .....neck. NOOB.

Time passes. After lots of good advice in the Working Chinooks Facebook group, I eventually call Deb at Windigo to get Taika a new harness. She asks me lots of questions about our activities, and I can't emphasize enough to her that all our activities are entirely theoretical at the moment and that I have no idea what I'm doing ("Okay, but do you think you'll be skiing in deep, slushy snow?" ".....MAYBE? .....after I buy skis?").

*"I write Gee and Haw on my hands in Sharpie..."*

In December I see "newbie-friendly" dryland races posted by the Connecticut Valley Siberian Husky Club. I decide we'll enter the first race. I've forgotten what Gee and Haw mean; we have one harness that's too big, one that's too small, and one that has not yet been made; my bike is a commuter bike with no shock absorbers and thin wheels; Taika has never been trained on any mushing-related commands, so yeah, we're going in hot, and we're going in messy.

The directions to the race site, of course, are geared for people who have been there before, so I allow 75 minutes to get there, 30 minutes to being lost. I arrive at the state forest, the GPS freezes, and we drive around as I start to fondly imagine returning home to nap. Finally, someone with a bike in back and a Dalmatian hanging out the window drives by, and off we go in pursuit. We arrive, park at a big field, surrounded by a cacophony of sled dogs tied out by their vehicles and barking like

maniacs. I take Taika for a walk, or, more properly, a drag, because all she wants to do is run over and play with her new friends. I am the meanest dog owner ever.

After the walk, Taika is inconsolable to be put back in the Jeep as I go off to register. (I can't leave her tied out beside the Jeep because she has chewed through hundreds of dollars of harnesses--I'm a slow learner.) I sign us up for 1-dog, 2-wheels, grab a free chocolate bar, and go back to get Taika and the bike to bring to the registration table/starting line.

I walk Taika over with the bike, like a drunk tied to a demon, as she leaps and pulls and tries to go greet her new friends. Time passes, no one else brings their dogs to the start line, and I start to wonder if we are the only entrants in the 1-dog race. I was hoping she'd be able to see other dogs running as a model. Finally they call everyone over for the 1-dog race, and someone is holding up a big yellow cloth ball with strings hanging down, and there are maybe 7 other people grabbing a string, still no dogs or bikes. I squeeze in, with Taika pulling and leaping, grab a string, and think, "Really? Does the short string go first?" But when everyone tugs, bibs fall out, and we're number 3. Perfect.

I ask someone about the course: is it well marked, are there curves, does it loop back. She stares at me for a moment, and says, "We're at the finish line, it's a straight run. Everyone drives or catches a ride to the start line. Or you can run down."

Huh.

I'm on cognitive overload and the thought of walking an overexcited Taika and the bike back to the Jeep through a gauntlet of bouncing barking Sibes, getting the bike and Taika loaded back up, driving to the start line, unpacking, etc. is too much for my little brain. So we run to the start line.

When we get there, Taika has a big doggie grin, so I am feeling very happy. We wait forever for all the other competitors to get rides. The race begins as teams are released one minute apart. We're in line, Taika lunges toward another dog, the line slips through my mittens, and she jumps on the other dog. We're a hot mess. A volunteer pulls her off, and I cringe to see the other dog now has visible Taika slobber all over his head. NOOB.

The same volunteer holds Taika at the start line, the countdown ends, everyone, including me (poseur), yells, "Hike!" and Taika, who has never heard the word in her life, takes off.

It's an incline, I am pedaling hard, and then we summit, and that is the last time I attempt to aid forward motion. Taika runs in front (or at a slight diagonal) almost the whole way, and as she gains speed downhill and around corners, I feel like the bike is going to slide out from under me, so I brake and keep braking. The dirt road is through towering pines, there is no one else in sight on the road: it's glorious. She is the most beautiful dog in the world, running free, totally untrained, totally joyful. It's all a marvel of genetics and excellent breeding choices.

We near the finish line, and I brake hard because there are dogs all around, and I don't want Taika to charge into them. We cross the line, and DONE! We did it! I am thrilled.

We have exactly the experience I wanted for her: a wonderful run, no fear-inducing crashes, no failed on-bys. Just joy. And despite all my braking and coasting, she finished just three seconds behind the race winner, taking second place.

Thank you, Karen Hinchy of Bashaba Chinooks, for an amazing dog.



# Summer the Chinook

By Mara Parker

Summer has been in my life since June of 2016. She has been nothing but a joy to have since. She is kind to our family, patient with strangers, and loyal to the end. She loves to play with both people and other dogs. I think she is by far one of the most intelligent dogs I have ever known. She can also be a bit of a Diva and act impatient when she wants something. Overall, she is a wonderful, beautiful dog with a great personality.

*“Summer is not just our family pet, she is like the little sister I never had.”*

Summer is not just our family pet, she is like the little sister I never had. She always wants to play with me and never leaves anyone's side. She whines with disappointment when she doesn't get her way, and has tons of energy. Even though she has lots of energy and loves to play, she also loves to cuddle with me every day. I love to lay down with her on her bed and snuggle and cuddle. She loves to curl up with me and would lay there forever with me. I love her soft fur, and when I pet her, she would lay there for hours if I wanted her to. She is so loyal and gentle with me and that's how I know she loves me the same as I do her.

Summer will do anything I ask of her. If I say it's time to play, she jumps up so willingly to do anything I suggest, from chasing balls to being chased, to being the chaser. She gets so happy anytime she sees me. If I am away and she hasn't seen me for a day, she wiggles her entire body in excitement the minute I walk in the door. She can't wait for me to hug and pet her! I hug and kiss her and give her scratches as soon as I see her. Our bond is like no other in the world! Her unconditional love for myself and our family is so nice and I would not trade her for anything! In the end, she is my best friend and I will love her until the end of time!

Mara is one of many young adults in our community that enjoys spending time with her Chinook. If you have a child that would like to write a story, poem, or draw a picture with their Chinook as the subject, please reach out to us at [communications@chinook.org](mailto:communications@chinook.org) so we can publish your child's work in the CQ!



# Wags & Brags

## Chinooks with new UKC Titles

Please join us in giving congratulations to ALL our newly titled dogs and their proud owners. If we missed your big accomplishment, please bring it to our attention so we can be sure to include you in the next CQ!

### Champion

CH 'PR' MountainThunder Enya - Daniela Metz

CH 'PR' Rivertrail Hurricane - Madeleine Ulinksi, Laura Morgan

CH 'PR' Asterion Mabel - Madeleine Ulinksi



### Upcoming Shows

The UKC offers a huge variety of conformation shows and working trials, many combined and offering Total Dog, all over the U.S. and Canada. Complete information is available from the [UKC Dog Events website](#). You can search by using many different criteria such as state, month, activity type, dog club, etc.

If you have additional questions on UKC events, please contact the COA Bench Chair at [bench@chinook.org](mailto:bench@chinook.org), the UKC (269-343-9020), or participate in the COA Events & Awards forum.

# Working Dog

## Chinooks with new Working Dog titles/certificates

The Working Dog Program (WDP) promotes the historic and modern working purpose of the Chinook dog. The COA WDP promotes positive dog ownership by recognizing accomplishments in drafting, service/citizenship, and dog sports. The program encourages the breeding of better Chinooks by honoring the workability of the dogs. For more information, visit the [Working Dog Program page](#) on the COA website.

There are no new Working Dog Titles at this time.

# Health Flash

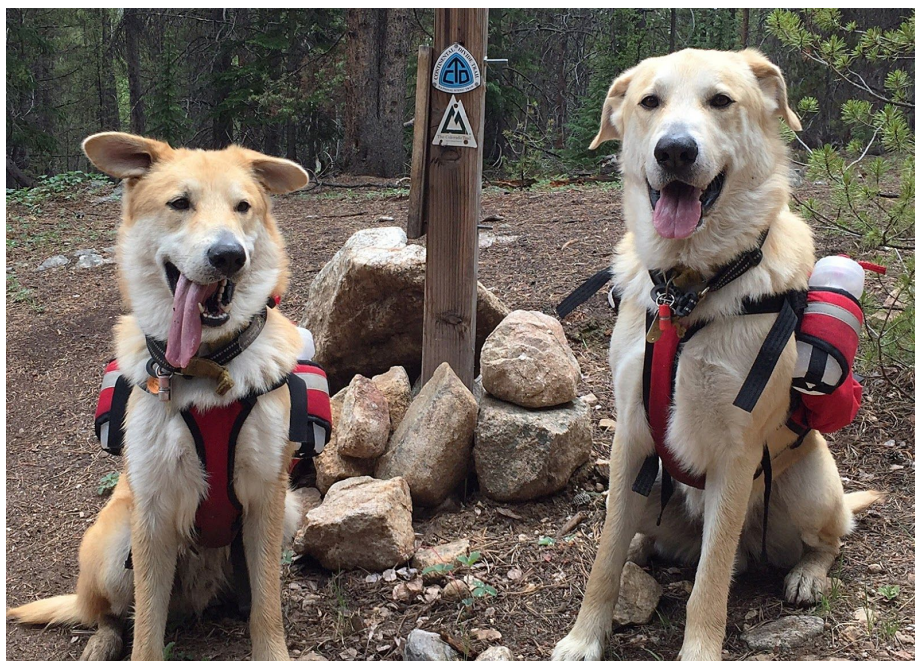
## Dogs with health tests completed recently

The COA would like to thank all owners that have obtained health tests for their Chinooks in the last quarter! All owners are strongly encouraged to submit health tests to the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA), regardless of diagnoses by the attending veterinarian. As you submit results, please ensure you have initialed to make any results public-- the more we know, the easier it is for breeders to work on making the next generation of Chinooks even healthier. Go to the [OFA website](#) for information on these and other Chinooks.

Note: A Chinook receives certification from the Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) if it has obtained both hip and eye health tests, and one additional test - cardiac, elbow, or knee.

Name	Hips	Eyes	Other
Bashaba Kayla	Excellent		Elbow: Normal
Barkerville Tesla	Good		Cardiac: Normal Elbows: Normal
Barkerville Quincy Dirac	Fair		
Bashaba The Chosen One		Normal	
Carrigain Mountain Hyas Talapus		Normal w/ BO	
Desert Sol Ursa Nivalis		Normal	
Frontier Rough and Rugged	Fair	Normal	Elbows: Normal
Granite Hill Climb Every Mountain	Good	Normal	
Granite Hill Morning Hymn	Fair	Normal	
Granite Hill Something Good	Good	Normal w/ BO	
GreatMountain Koda	Mild	Normal	
GreatMountain Rhea	Good		

Hurricane Tonasket Rain		Normal	CHIC qualified
Intervale Ferncroft	Excellent	Normal	CHIC qualified
MountainThunder Arctic Blast		Normal w/ BO	
Rain Mountain Echo of Enati	Good		
Sirius Rising Night's Watch	Fair		
Sirius Rising Summer	Good	Normal	
Spook Nook Grimm	Good		
Spook Nook Kala	Excellent	Normal	
Spook Nook Kaya	Good		Elbows: Normal
Spook Nook Kolt	Good	Normal	
Spook Nook Munjebel	Excellent	Normal	
Spook Nook Nukka	Excellent	Normal	
Spook Nook Nuuk	Good	Normal	
Spook Nook River Song	Excellent		
Wachusett Forsilvra Floki	Good		
Wachusett Gulbrun Finley		Normal	
Wildcat Valley Birch	Excellent	Normal	Elbows: Normal
Wildcat Valley Carter	Good	Normal	Elbows: Normal
Wildcat Valley Dundee	Excellent	Normal	
Wildcat Valley Forest	Good	Normal	
Wildcat Valley Tucker	Excellent		



Wildcat Valley Forest & Laughing Mountain Moonshadow by Mary Berg Malkiel

# Litter Basket

Recent & upcoming litters - <https://chinook.org/litters/>

Dam	Sire	Due Date	Location	Kennel
Hurricane Elizabeth in the Rain	Frontier Time & Tide	11/22/2018	NW Washington	Rain Mountain Chinooks
Desert Sol Kiara	Sirius Rising Samwell Tarly	11/29/2018	Oakland, CA	Desert Sol Chinooks
Snook Nook Munjebel	Granite Hill High Noon	4/7/2019	Willow, NY	Spook Nook Chinooks
Blue Sky Lexi	Bashaba MacKenzie Bryson	4/8/2019	Nashua, NH	Blue Sky Chinooks
Frontier Fire & Rain Dancer	Cloudburst LedgeBac Eclipse	5/10/2019	NW Washington	Rain Mountain Chinooks
MountainThunder Thorny Rose	TBD	6/1/2019	Fort Collins, CO	MountainThunder Chinooks



Sweethearts Litter - Desert Sol Chinooks

# Rainbow Bridge

Honey – 2004 to 2018

Mountain Laurel Honey

By David Kargl

I don't know about "Rainbow Bridge". It's more like a dark cliff when you have to put your dog to rest. I've known it was coming for the last year. Honey had overcome a neurologically generated lack of coordination with steroids but her strength slowly eroded until she couldn't stand herself up any longer and getting herself down was clearly a trial for some months before that.



I'm not the only one who thought Honey was sweeter than her name. I can't take credit for her training having adopted her at 6 years, but everyone who met her was endeared to her gentle, quiet demeanor and beauty. There was a time when she could raise a racket begging in the kitchen by slapping the cabinets with her tail rhythmically, but mostly she silently wagged her way through life. She was a steady undistracted walker, loved to gnaw on a carrot, a blissful sleeper, a clear communicator and made caring for her the greatest joy I'll ever know. I know it will pass but I don't quite know what to do without her.

# Treasury Report

COA  
Balance Sheet Standard  
As of February 28, 2019

	Feb 28, '19
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
TD Bank-Money Mkt	30,224.23
TD Bank-Checking	7,261.85
PayPal WEB	2,243.56
Total Checking/Savings	39,729.64
Total Current Assets	39,729.64
Fixed Assets	
Fixed Assets	566.98
Total Fixed Assets	566.98
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>40,296.62</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Credit Cards	
TD Bank Visa	203.60
Total Credit Cards	203.60
Total Current Liabilities	203.60
Total Liabilities	203.60
Equity	
Restricted Funds	5,540.80
Retained Earnings	33,194.11
Net Income	1,358.11
Total Equity	40,093.02
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>40,296.62</b>

COA  
Profit and Loss Standard  
July 2018 through February 2019

	Jul '18 - Feb '19
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
General Donation	26.50
Chinook Store income	1,119.74
Membership income	2,077.50
Total Income	3,223.74
Expense	
Administrative Expenses	815.37
Committee expense	536.17
PayPal Transaction Fee	96.37
Marketing	238.95
Website	277.24
Total Expense	1,964.10
Net Ordinary Income	1,259.64
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Interest Income	98.47
Total Other Income	98.47
Net Other Income	98.47
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>1,358.11</b>

The Communications Chair would like to thank all that contributed to this edition of the CQ.

Do you have a fun story, informative article, clever poem, Chinook art, photo collage idea, or something else you'd like to share about your Chinook? Submit to [communications@chinook.org](mailto:communications@chinook.org) or ask questions about how you can help the club and this publication. You also can add to [this forum topic](#) any ideas for the CQ.

#### Chinook's Sire



See more photos like this by accessing the [Chinook Historical Archives](#).