

The Chinook Quarterly is back!

We took a bit of a hiatus because of the work and time needed to revamp the website. Now it's time to bring the CQ back in a new, easier to maintain format so we can get you all the information and stories you are looking for in one place. We are always looking for articles, stories, poems, etc. from COA members (that's you!). Submit to communications@chinook.org or ask questions about how you can help the club and this publication.



Bashaba Mackenzie Bryson by Dean Campbell

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 a 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. I would like to thank immediate past President Karen Hinchy for her years of service as President and to outgoing Secretary Karen Schiller who has been on the board in various positions for many years. I would like to welcome Taylor Scanlon to the board who will now be serving as Secretary.

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, or learning a board position in a committee role.

Currently we have several openings on the board...

This includes Health & Genetics chair and Regional Activities chair. If you are interested please contact me at president@chinook.org to learn more.

I wish to share with you some very exciting news that the board has been busy working on - changing the Chinook Owners Association to a 501c. For those of you who are not aware, a 501c organization is basically not-for-profit, which allows the organization to do things not readily available to us now. I ask that you all 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)

How I Found Chinooks

By Martha Bernier

My husband, Rick, was walking our 2 year old rescue black lab mix, Arya (yes, we are Game of Thrones fans), at Hampton Beach about 3 years ago. While walking the boardwalk, he met a gentleman walking his two dogs. They stopped to talk and let the dogs meet each other. During their conversation my husband learned that the two dogs were Chinooks. He instantly fell in love with their gentle demeanor, soulful eyes, and beautiful colors.

I had been bugging Rick for a while to get a second dog. I had never had two dogs at once. Our two children were grown, so I felt we had the time to love and care for more than one dog. Rick was hesitant for many reasons, but most especially because Arya is a very nervous, high-strung dog. She is totally unlike any other black lab mix we had in the past. He was concerned that Arya, although she was fine with other dogs at the dog parks, may not like having another dog sharing the attention at home. She tended to be very possessive of the house and us at home. She, to this day, still hates the mailman and UPS drivers.

A few months after Ricks's chance meeting with the two Chinooks, I started mentioning a second dog to him again. He said that he would consider another dog if we could get a Chinook. He had already been researching them on his own. Everything he read seemed to fit our lifestyle. We like camping, kayaking, bike riding, hiking, skiing (cross-country and downhill), taking walks, running, etc. We had just begun skijoring with Arya. Rick would ski ahead and Arya would chase after him pulling me along.

I think my husband thought that I would send out a few applications, hear nothing back, and that would be that. Little did he know, I sent out a good 10-12 applications to breeders all over the country. I heard back from some saying that they were not having litters for a while, and others that had just sent off their pups to their new homes. One breeder, from across the country called. We were in the process of trying to figure out if it would be feasible to drive cross-country, pick up a pup, and drive all the way home. Then, one day, just after our morning walk with Arya I got a phone call from Cindy Mattson of Blue Sky Chinooks saying that someone had backed out and one of the pups was up for adoption again. When I told my husband about the call, I could not tell if he was excited or just in shock. We had been told it could take a year or two to get a Chinook pup, yet this was only a few months after I sent out all the applications. I was ecstatic!! We jumped in the car and flew down to Burlington to meet with Cindy and get a look at the pup that was available. Little Poppy was only 6 weeks old...



She was silver with tawny legs and paws, and the cutest tiny tawny eyebrows. We were both instantly in love and I'm pretty sure Poppy liked us too. Any reservations Rick had were gone the moment he met her and I was just head over heels excited. The next two weeks were agony, waiting for the moment we could drive back down to pick up Poppy and bring her home with us. I did drive down a week before we picked her up for good, just to see and play with her again.

Finally, the day had come, to drive to Burlington and pick up our beautiful 8 week old puppy.

We had decided to rename Poppy. We tried to make her new name meaningful, at least to us. She became Blue Sky Lexis Ciara or Lexi for short. Rick will sometimes call her Sexy Lexi. He thinks it's funny, and I guess I do to. Lexis means "defender of the people". She has turned out to be a big sweetheart with a very deep bark. She always sticks close to us, so to others it does appear that she is our protector. Little do they know that she is a big marshmallow. Ciara means "dark haired" in Gaelic. She started out as a beautiful silver color, and now she is a dark grey. But, in the Chinook world, she is considered to be very dark because the tan, tawny, golden coloring is most common.

The ride home was so wonderful. I had this adorable, cute, 8 week old pup curled up on my lap looking up at me with the most amazing blue eyes. We were bonding. We drove to a park where my daughter and her fiance met us with Arya. We let the two dogs get acquainted with each other on common ground. They played nicely together for over half an hour. Then, we loaded each dog in a separate car, Lexi with us and Arya with our daughter, and we all drove home. Once there, we let the dogs play in the front yard, then we opened the gate to the back yard and let them play there for a bit. Finally, we opened up the door to the porch and house. They both ran in and kept playing. Arya did not get possessive of her yard or house at all. I think she thought we brought home a new toy for her to play with. The two dogs got along great.



Lexi was born April 19, 2016 and we picked her up 8 weeks later to become part of our family. We were very lucky that the 100th anniversary of the Chinook dog celebration was the following January 2017. We decided to go to the 2 day celebration and learn about the history of our new pup and meet other Chinook owners. We had a great time and we met many very nice people who we still keep in contact with, either on Facebook's Chinook Fun Spot or at unofficial fun gatherings.

We were also extremely lucky with the roommate that shared our cabin. As it turned out, we were sharing a cabin with Alan and Hayden. Hayden is Lexi's father. We, of course, had met and knew Sky, Lexi's mother, on several different occasions, but we had only met Hayden once very briefly on the day we took Lexi home. Alan and Hayden could not have been better roommates for the 2 day Chinook event. On the very first night, I guess Hayden felt comfortable enough with me to jump up onto my cot and curl up next to me. He stayed with me for some time before going back to Alan and his bunk. Hayden is so sweet.

We also went to the Chinook Specialty last spring, 2017. Again, we were lucky that it was being held close by and we could attend. We reconnected with many of the people we met at the 100th celebration and again met a few more Chinook's and owners. I had never been to a "Specialty" and

did not know what to expect. I had a blast. The people and pups were all so friendly. I have hardly ever watched dog shows on TV, nevermind showing my own dog. I did not know anything. I received a training lesson about 5 minutes before going into the ring from Jess Maurer. I had to borrow a show collar from Tom and Ira. I had so much fun. Lexi, of course didn't know what to do either, but the Judge was very kind to us.

Over the last year, we have gone to many other informal Chinook meetups where the dogs can run and play off leash. We never expected that getting a Chinook pup meant that we were joining a wonderful community of friendly people and dogs. Our first 2 years of being Chinook owners have flown by. We are having so much fun.

Lexi is the sweetest, happiest pup. She loves you all the time. She knows when you need an extra cuddle or a big sloppy kiss on the face. If either of us walks into a room where she is laying down, we hear; "thud thud thud..." as her tail wags fast and furiously because she is so happy to see us. When waiting to come back inside from the backyard, Lexi lays on the futon and waits patiently. Arya sits by the sliding door looking in, making sure she will be let back into the house.



When I go to let them both in side, Arya jumps up about 3 feet in the air in excitement. Lexi does the Chinook hop, as we call it. She barely gets a foot in the air and jumps backwards. Lexi is also the first dog we have owned that tells us exactly what she wants. She sits and whines until we get it for her. Sometimes she needs water in her bowl, so she sits near her bowl and whines. Sometimes she wants a snack, so she sits by the refrigerator and whines. She has whined in our faces as we watch TV until we get up and follow her. She brings us to what she wants by sitting by the item or hitting it with her nose. And, of course, I love hearing the Roo Roo.

We are so in love with our Chinook and we are looking forward to the next stage of Chinook ownership, breeding Lexi. We are just waiting on hip test results. Keep your fingers crossed!!

Working the Working Dog

By John Habermehl

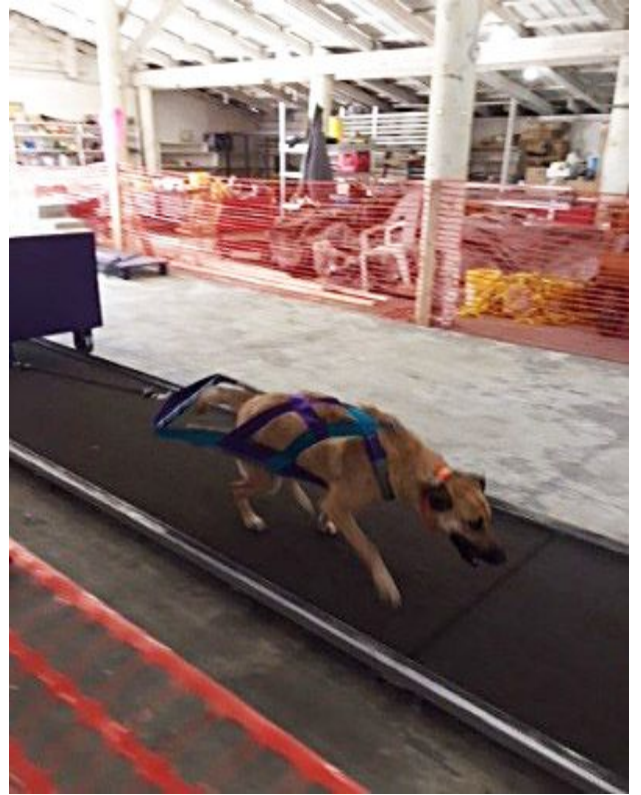
Vickie Bunting, Sierra & I went to our first show in April, 2017. We competed in Conformation, with the help of Patti Richards who loaned us a show lead & gave us pointers. MJ Crance gave us additional pointers, loaned us Sky's weight pull harness, and encouraged us to try weight pull. Sierra pulled like a champ and the audience said she made it look soooo easy!

Sierra seems to really get a thrill out of weight pull and looks forward to her 'pay checks' at the end of each pull.

Her first pull on rails, in April, 2018, she pulled 2280 pounds, which was a qualifying pull and earned her 20 points toward her grand champion weight pull title.

"Her pull equaled 34 times her body weight!!!"

She earned her first weight pull title on wheels in September 2017. Her qualifying pull (which is eight times her weight) was 560 pounds. She went on to pull 920 pounds!



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!

United Rally Obedience 1

URO1 'PR' GreatMountain Grey Ghost - Carol & Roger Carlson

URO1 UWP 'PR' Tokatakiyas Red Ghost Carrig-Mtn - Vickie Bunty, Carol Carlson, Carol Suiter

United Rally Obedience Excellent

UWPCH CA URX4 GRCH UROC 'PR' Skyland Harper of GrtMtn - Denise Reed & Steve Kramer



United Weight Puller

UWP CH 'PR' Bashaba Ellam Qaralii - Karen Hinchy

Champion

CH 'PR' Snook Nook Kala - Jean Bouteiller, Mat McDonnell
CH 'PR' Hurricane Elizabeth in the Rain - Ginger Corley

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, 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
Barkerville Cora Anne	Excellent		
Barkerville Denali Reuben	Good		
Bashaba North Brother Mtn		Normal	
Bashaba Phoenix		Normal	
Bashaba Precious Ramotswe	Good	Normal	
Bashaba Sweet Sawyer	Excellent		
Bashaba Woktek		Normal	
Blue Sky Apollo		Normal	
Blue Sky Freyja	Good	Normal	
Blue Sky Lexis Ciara	Good	Normal	
Desert Sol Argos		Normal	
Desert Sol Kiara		Normal	
Desert Sol Roxy Reynolds		Normal	
Desert Sol Ursa Nivalis	Good		
Fox Meadow Bashaba Guld Ek	Fair	Normal	
Frontier Pure of Heart	Excellent		Elbow: Normal
Frontier Still Water Runs Deep	Good	Normal	Elbow: Normal
Granite Hill Great Mtn Dirigo		Normal w/ BO	
Hurricane Scarlett Johansen	Good		
Bashaba Kayla		Normal	
Laughing Mountain Aspen Seeley	Good	Normal	

Laughing Mountain Blue Ivy	Good	Normal	
Laughing Mountain Everest	Fair		
Laughing Mountain Jackson Kodiak	Good		
Laughing Mountain Koa	Good		
MountainThunder Arctic Blast	Good		
MountainThunder Augustus McCrae	Good	Normal	
MountainThunder Terra Tomah		Normal	
Rain Mountain Hu Ka Makani	Fair		Elbow: Normal
Rain Mountain Toutle Endurance	Good	Normal	
SeaBreeze Auten		Normal w/ BO	
Sirius Rising Jon Snow	Good		
Sirius Rising Nymeria	Fair		
Sirius Rising Samwell Tarly		Normal	



Bashaba Sweet Sawyer, Bashaba Some Kind of Blue & Bashaba Arya Nymeria by Jennita Reefhuis (Kucik)

Litter Basket

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

Dam	Sire	Due Date	Location	Kennel	Litter Name
Daybreak Great Mountain Downeast Sky	Wachusett's Bjorn	5/6/2018	Burlington, MA	Blue Sky Chinooks	Summer Breeze
Forever Greene An Affair to Remember	Skyland Harper of Great Mountain	7/13/2018	Vermont	Forever Greene	
Granite Hill GreatMtn Dirigo	Bashaba Indiana	8/12/2018	Maine	GreatMountain Chinooks	
Rain Mountain Kenai Swift	Bashaba Wojtek	10/1/2018	Edmonton, Alberta, Canada	Swiftrun Chinooks	Swiftrun Summer Litter



Summer Breeze Litter - Blue Sky Chinooks

Rainbow Bridge

Doonerak – 7/7/2002 to 9/19/2018

GrCh CS-ATCH Lighthouse Mystic Seaport GCG TT TDI RN OA OAJ MXP AJP THD

By Patti Richards

Forever Greene Chinooks

AKC Breeder of Merit

AKC Breeder with Heart

How do you write about a friend who did everything with you and for you for over 16 years? Aside from all of her accomplishments, Doonerak was my best friend. Through happy times and very sad, hurtful times she was always there to let me cry into her fur or jump around and be silly.



As a Therapy dog she worked with Children. Children with emotional issues, learning disabilities and Autism. When we would drive up to one of the schools that we worked at she would literally drag me to the door. She didn't even want to stop to do her business before we went in. She convinced a little girl, who was so afraid of dogs that she wouldn't come in the room the first day, that dogs were gentle and loving. She worried about a little autistic boy, who had a meltdown one day, so much that the teachers allowed me to bring her to the door of the safe room to see that he was okay. When he saw Doonerak he stopped screaming and held out his arms for her to come to him. She sat in a chair next to a child who had shut down and would not do his work. They looked at each other for several minutes and then the little boy picked up his pencil and did his work, while she remained next to him. She achieved the highest agility titles in AKC of any Chinook and earned her CS-ATCH in CPE Agility. She ran her retirement run at 13.5 years old and not only finished the course but qualified and got a 3rd place. That run is on YouTube should you be interested, [click here to see it](#).

Doonerak also worked as a model for In the Company of Dogs catalogs. She is in every catalog wearing an embroidered collar. She was in many issues multiple times modeling everything from sweaters to dog beds. She was also the cover girl for two issues.

She raised 19 pups of her own and then helped raise two litters each with her Daughters and just three days before she passed, gave final instructions to her Great Great Grandpups. She cuddled them and slept with them and we watched as she silently taught them something. Just before each one went home they went and sat by her and they looked at each other for a minute or two.

I have no idea what passed between them but I am reasonably sure it was "you be a great dog and remember I love you".

She passed away in my arms as it should be. I miss her terribly but she lived a long happy life filled with fun and many accomplishments.

The Communications Chair (Jon Jolly) and Committee (Martha Bernier, Chris Appoldt, & Kristy Jolly) 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 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.



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