

Summer is adventure time and we love hearing stories about what you did with your Chinook! This issue features articles about **K9 Nose Work** (Holly's "paws down" favorite activity), an introduction to our **Incoming VP**, info about the **Chinook Sculpture Project** in Tamworth, NH and more.

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, pictures, etc. from COA members (that's you!). Ask questions about how you can help the club and this publication by emailing us at [communications@chinook.org](mailto:communications@chinook.org)



Aspen creek's Awesome Dawson by Charlsy Panzino

## Features

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# Letter from the President

By Daniela Metz, COA President

Dear Members,

This is my first year as your COA President and I am very excited to interact and work with you all these next 2 years!

Please enjoy this Summer edition of our CQ and join me in welcoming our newly elected COA board members, our new Vice President, Marty Wilson and our new treasurer, Rachael Davis. Marty and Rachael have written lovely articles in this issue of our CQ to introduce themselves. We are all very excited to have them both working with us on the COA board.

It has been an exciting summer so far, with a wonderful Chinook National Specialty in Kalamazoo, MI in June. My warmest gratitude to Denise Reed for stepping in as the Bench chair and organizing this Specialty. Please enjoy the show results and pictures posted by Denise. Lots of fun and socializing in Kalamazoo this past June! Unfortunately, I was not able to make it this year but I am looking forward to seeing you all at next year's Chinook Specialty to be held at the East Coast. The Chinook National Specialty is the most important event of the year that we put together for you and your extended families. We are starting to work on it now and I promise you a fantastic venue with great activities, seminars and socializing. You will hear more about our 2025 Chinook Specialty soon!! Lastly, if you are interested in helping us put this next Specialty together, please consider joining our Chinook Specialty Committee! Just drop me a line via email and I will provide you with more information, we'd love to have you part of our Chinook Specialty Team!.

That is all from me for now, please enjoy the rest of your summer and I am sure we are all looking forward to the cooler and colorful days of Fall.

Hugs and slobbery kisses from my furballs to yours,  
Daniela Metz, COA President



With Mystique Pond Kiana and Mystique Pond Malina at Glacier National Park, Montana

# 2024 Chinook National Specialty

June 12, 2024 - Kalamazoo, MI

The 2024 National Chinook Specialty was held in Kalamazoo, MI on June 12, 2024, in conjunction with the UKC Premier Nationals. Everyone that attended had a great time catching up with friends old and new.



National Best of Breed Winner, Forever Green Hiwassee Hazel (Hazel)

## Regular Show Results

**National Best of Breed (NBOB)** - Forever Green Hiwassee Hazel (Hazel) owned by Denise Traber Reed and Todd Reed

**Champion of Champions** - Forever Green Hiwassee Hazel (Hazel) owned by Denise Traber Reed and Todd Reed

**Reserve Champion** - Frontier Harley Lightfoot (Harley) owned by Denise Traber Reed and Todd Reed

**Best of Winners** - Desert Sol Myka (Myka) owned by Mark Turner and Pam Turner

**Best Male** - Desert Sol Zephyrus Will (Zeph) owned by Carol Gifford

**Best Female** - Desert Sol Myka (Myka) owned by Mark Turner and Pam Turner

**Reserve Best Female** - Pacific Skye Dunamis (Dunamis) owned by Jessica Dreyer

## Altered Results

**Altered Best of Breed, Best of Winners, Best Male** - Sirius Rising Samwell Tarly (Sammie) owned by Brendan Aldrich and Mary Glynn Aldrich

**Best Female** - Seabreeze Tomorrow Bella Cre (Bella) owned by Brendan Aldrich and Mary Glynn Aldrich

## Chinook Breed Conservation Program (CBCP) Cross Results

**Best Chinook Cross** - Desert Sol Vitality Keelie (Keelie) owned by Mark Turner and Pam Turner

chesterh Sweetie Award:

In remembrance of our friend Richard Chester Holleran who did so much for our breed:

Pacific Skye Dunamis (Dunamis) owned by Jessica Dreyer

The COA would also like to thank Diana Fowler of Southwind Chinooks for donating her time for event planning, and to John Habermehl and MJ Crance of Sirius Rising Chinooks for donating a leash to the NBOB winner.



# K9 Nose Work

By Rachael Davis

Although I have been lucky to have known several Chinooks over the years, Holly (Frontier Holly GoLightly) is the first to live in my home. Like most Chinooks, she is goofy, spirited, and has more personality than she knows what to do with. This intensely curious girl wants to be part of all the action and my family went into life with Holly expecting plenty of hiking, snowshoeing, and bikejoring. What we didn't expect was that her favorite activity, paws down, would be K9 Nose Work.

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paws down, would be K9 Nose Work

Scent detection training was always going to be in the cards for Holly in our home. I'm a Certified Nose Work Instructor through the National Association of Canine Scent Work (NACSW) in addition to a Certified Professional Dog Trainer. In my career, I haven't met a dog who didn't benefit from K9 Nose Work in one way or another.

I started my own scent detection training journey as a compliment to my behavior training, working primarily with reactive and aggressive dogs. I found that these dogs often had some of the most dedicated owners, however, these teams usually had the fewest options for classes and activities. K9 Nose Work provided an outlet for these intelligent dogs to exercise their brains and allowed their people to work on their observation and handling skills in a safe setting while both ends of the leash had fun. In my 10 years teaching K9NW and all my years as a handler of multiple dogs, Holly may be my best competitor yet!



K9NW begins with teaching dogs to search out treats in boxes. As the dog begins to understand the game, the search parameters change. The dogs learn to search a single room and then multiple rooms in what are called interior searches. Then we move outside to perform exterior searches, and eventually introduce vehicle searches where the dog searches the outside of cars, trucks, boats and more! The dogs learn about working different odor pictures while searching for something they already love which helps build a strong drive for the activity.

Once a dog is invested in the game of searching, we begin to transfer them to searching for something novel. In this case we use q-tips lightly scented with birch, anise, or clove essential oil. Teaching a dog to look for something new is actually quite easy when the dog already understands the game.

Holly began playing the search game as a puppy, just weeks after being brought into our home. I kept her searching for food alone until she was almost a year old, so she had a strong foundation of learning once I finally moved her to novel odor searches.

After a few months training with novel odors, I decided to sign-up for her first competition with NACSW. All NACSW competitors begin by taking an Odor Recognition Test (ORT). ORT's consist of three individual searches. Each search consists of 12 identical cardboard boxes, one of which contains the target odor. First is the birch search, then anise, then clove.

Holly's first try at the ORT was a bust. In all 3 searches, I watched her catch hints of the target odor, however, my inquisitive, young girl was too interested in the people, the dogs in the parking lot, and the new building to focus on the task at hand. I watched her changes of behavior which indicated to me she was catching a whiff of the target odor coming from a box but then she would spy the judges eye, begin to wiggle and want to say "HI". When her brain regained focus, she'd begin to work again only to get caught-up sniffing some dog drool on the floor. For each of the 3 searches, I incorrectly called alert, misidentifying the box with the hide.

Although we didn't come home with our ORT title on our first try, I did come home with a happy, exhausted dog who had clearly enjoyed her morning of adventures in a new place with me. So we spent the next month practicing container searches in lots of different places - schools, the parking lot at the mall, friends houses - and signed up for another ORT being held a month later.



At this event, Holly nailed all three searches. I watched her tremendous drive and investigative nature come into focus while she searched. While she was still interested in the people and the new location, Holly was able to focus on the task at hand, quickly going to the box filled with novel odor and sticking there until she was paid with lots of cheese rewards. Holly came home with her ORT title and, once again, I came home with a very tired dog.

Holly and I have been lucky enough to compete in one other NACSW event after passing her ORT at which she earned her L1I (Level 1 Interior) title. She's done training with me as well as taken classes with other instructors and I feel like I can see her confidence grow with each search as she becomes more focused on her job and gains a better understanding of the task at hand. When we practice at home, I find I need to remind myself that she's still working on her level 1 titles, as she's often finding hides I'm setting for my other dog, Burt, who is trialing at level 3.

As anyone who lives in a multi-dog household knows, it's rare to get 1-on-1 time with each dog and those moments when we do are precious. K9 Nose Work gives me a reason to find time for just me and Holly. As she continues to grow-up, I'm able to see her increasing concentration enable

Holly to solve more complex problems. After Holly performs 3-4 searches, she tiredly curls up in her crate or, more often, sprawls out on our bed, and naps for several hours or the rest of the day.

Holly's enthusiasm for the searching has held strong and I am grateful for her love of a game that she will be able to play her whole life from puppyhood through her senior years. I'm thankful for each class we take together, each trial we compete in, and every search we perform as a team.

If you're looking to expand your dog's search skills, look for a NACSW Certified Nose Work Instructor near you at <https://k9nosework.com/>

## Chinook Sculpture Project

By Bob Cottrell

Tamworth, NH sculptor Andrea Kennett, at the request of the Tamworth History Center, has made this fine model of Chinook. Their goal is to raise funds to have a life-size bronze made from it, to grace our front lawn, in honor of this canine hometown hero. More details to come. If you are interested in donating to this effort, please contact Bob at [historian@chinook.org](mailto:historian@chinook.org).



# Incoming VP

By Marty Wilson

Greetings all Chinook Owners Association members. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for entrusting me with the responsibility of COA Vice President. I am excited to serve such a great group of Chinookians. Together with our Chinook companions we are a select pack. I know I speak for my family when I say - we are fortunate to be part of such a magnificent breed!

As I share our story - I hope it imparts memories of the journey that led you to your Chinook

I've given careful consideration to my first correspondence to the group. I pondered on what to say, what value I could possibly bring, and how I can best contribute to an already successful group of Chinook Owners. After careful consideration, I have settled on sharing a little about my family, our journey to get here, and my passion for this amazing breed of dog. As I share our story - I hope it imparts memories of the journey that led you to your Chinook. I hope you have an opportunity to reflect back on the passion you have for your furry friend, and the lasting impact they have memorialized on your heart.

I have been an avid dog fan for as long as I can remember. There's something fulfilling about being part of the pack and the unconditional love our K9 friends bestow upon us. No animal is as loyal or committed to their group; and to be considered among the pack is an honor in and of itself. If you are

like me, you know what a true blessing it is; not one to take for granted.



Wife Elizabeth, 2 daughters Emily (13), Marley (8)

Our journey to the Chinook breed begins with a simple statement from my beautiful wife Elizabeth. "I have been thinking about the family getting another dog." In the midst of a global pandemic, and after 15 years of being K9 companion free, the notion of a new dog is introduced into our family dynamic. Over the next few days a host of emotions will transpire. For the Wilsons, having a K9 companion introduces another member to the household. Our family pet is literally a member of the family (or should I say... we are being adopted into their pack). As I reflect back on this time, it should be no surprise the introduction of a K9 companion was on the forefront of our families heart. We were a family of four shackled with several months of isolation, and nights spent howling outside with neighbors. In retrospect, I couldn't imagine standing outside howling at sunset, and our neighbors reciprocating with an echoing bellow back. It was an

interesting time. Our busy lifestyles had slowed down just enough to eliminate any skepticism or reservation we may have with the introduction of a pet. In the height of a global tragedy emerged the opportunity to share in a great journey. And from it emerged our great journey; the introduction of the fifth member to our family, our boy Miles Baker Wilson (Ferncroft Bluebird Day).



You might be asking yourself, how is it that these folks happened across the Chinook breed? I have to say; it was a lot of research on all breeds, endless streams of YouTube videos about different breed types, their temperament, and the support of COA members helping to coordinate a meet up with a Chinook here in Parker, CO. Oh, and let's not forget; just pure happenstance. 😊 I must also mention, we were very conscious of what we were not looking for in a breed. Quickly, we started compiling the list of the attributes we sought after in a dog vs. characteristics we found undesirable. And the Chinook dog emerged as the front-runner as the breed for us. It wasn't until I stumbled across the article on Arthur Walden and his Chinook dog, that I became fascinated with the history of this great breed. It was at this point, the Wilsons became Chinookians. I'm not sure if that term has ever been used to describe a Chinook owner, but I find it endearing.

Our lives have been blessed ever since. What drew us to the breed were Chinooks' physical characteristics, mannerisms, and family friendly demeanor; coupled with the attributes of activity and the versatility of the breed. This is a dog hobbyist's dream come true! I say that, not as an off-the-cuff comment, but as a compliment to the breed. Chinooks are the all purpose utilitarian breed. One that is often overlooked, and doesn't get the notoriety it deserves. In my opinion, it's a blessing and a curse. 😊

On September 4, 2020, Elizabeth and I picked up our boy "Miles Baker Wilson" from Ferncroft Chinooks in New Hampshire. We surprised our girls with a scavenger hunt through the neighborhood to adjacent neighbor homes to pick up all the clues of our new family addition. Our lives have been forever impacted, and Miles is a significant part of our family dynamic.

If you enjoyed this article, stay tuned for more adventures of the Wilsons and Miles Baker Wilson. We'll be sharing more about our journey and a day in the life of a Chinook in future Quarterlies. To Be Continued....

You can also follow Miles on Instagram [@ferncroftbluebirdday](https://www.instagram.com/ferncroftbluebirdday).



Me and our boy Miles (4)

# 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 3**

DASH CA NBOB URO3 CH 'PR' Forever Greene Hiwassee Hazel SPOT – Denise Reed

### **Dash**

DASH CA NBOB URO3 CH 'PR' Forever Greene Hiwassee Hazel SPOT – Denise Reed

DASH URO1 CH 'PR' FRONTIER Harley Lightfoot SPOT – Denise & Todd Reed, Susan Fletcher

### **Coursing Aptitude**

DASH CA NBOB URO3 CH 'PR' Forever Greene Hiwassee Hazel SPOT – Denise Reed

## **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), or the UKC (269-343-9020).

# Active Chinook (fka Working Dog)

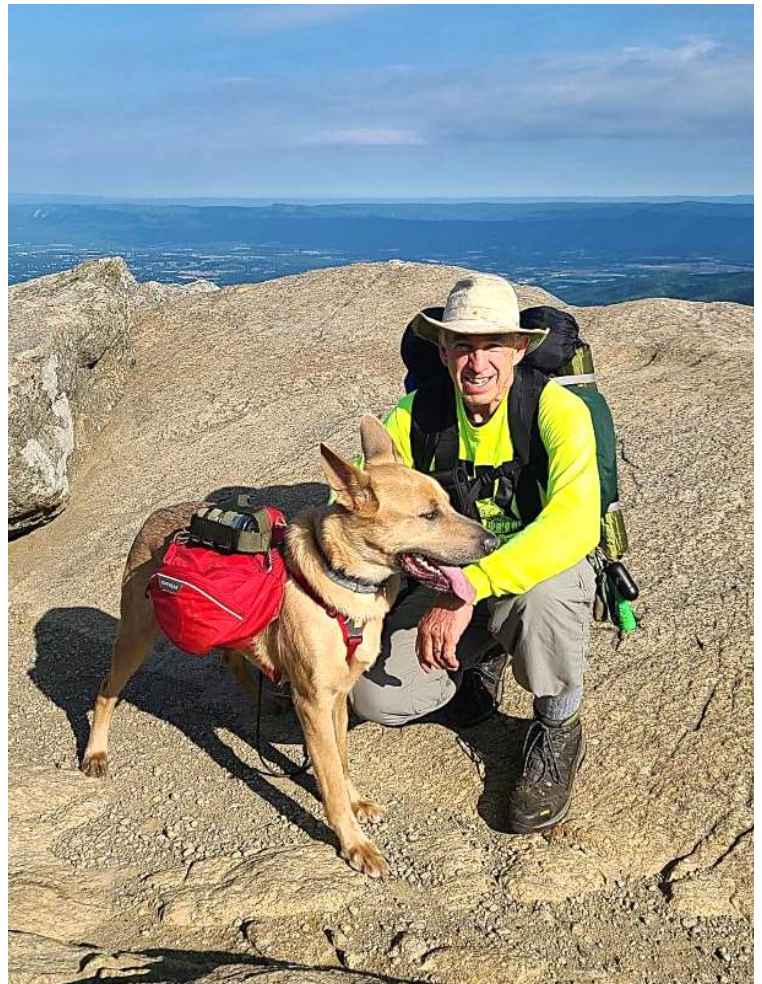
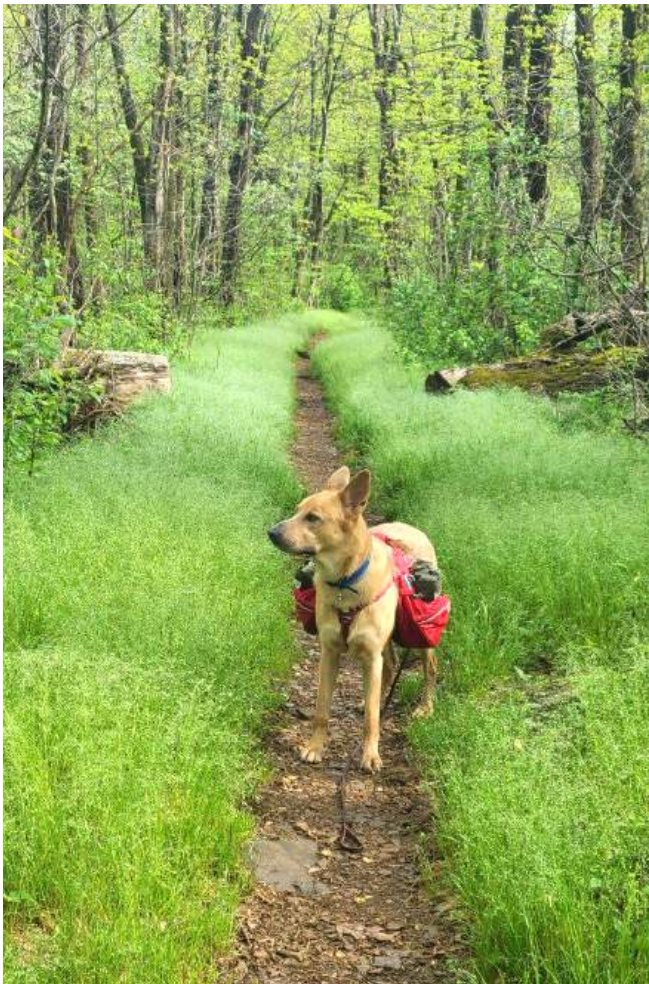
Chinooks with new Active Chinook titles/certificates

The Active Chinook Program (ACP) promotes the historic and modern working purpose of the Chinook dog. The COA ACP 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 Active Chinook Program on the COA website.

Please join us in honoring the following dogs that have earned Working Dog titles!

## **Working Pack Dog Excellent (WPDX)**

Ferncroft Nakota – Rick & Robin Prausa



**COMING SOON** - The Working Dog Program has changed to Active Dog and other updates are coming to simplify how to get recognized for getting out there with your Chinook or Chinook Cross.

# Health Flash

## Dogs with health tests completed recently

The COA would like to thank all owners that have obtained health tests for their Chinooks! 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.

Name	Hips	Eyes	Other
Balsam Ridge Misty Lynne Granite Hill	Fair	Normal	
Desert Sol Aby Seas the Day	Fair		
Desert Sol Hip Hop Anonymous	Fair	Normal	
Desert Sol M Raleigh Finch III	Good	Normal w/ BO	
Desert Sol Huck River Run		Normal	
Maple Lane Amos of GreatMtn	Good		
Mystique Pond Huron	Good		
Mystique Pond Malina		Normal	
Pacific Skye Louis		Normal	
Rain Mountain Amchitka Maggie		Normal w/BO	
Rain Mountain North Pippin	Good		
Spook Nook Kokomis Bona		Normal	
The Longview Cosmo			MDR1: Clear Chondrodysplasia: Clear Chondrodystrophy: Carrier
Vanguard Aniak Tra'vler SkyInd		Normal	
WyoChinookWinds	Good		

# 2025 Calendar Contest

By Kristy Jolly, COA Membership Chair

It's just about everyone's favorite time of the year! Fall weather, warm sweaters, pumpkin spice everything, and the annual COA Chinook Calendar Contest!!!

The Calendar Contest emails have been sent to membership with details on how to enter (not a COA member yet and want to participate, join the COA now! [Join the COA - Chinook Owners Association](#)).

**Photo submissions are due Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 by 11:59pm PST**

So don't delay and send us your favorite Chinook photos! See below for some photo content and quality tips.

1. Landscape photos are best to fill the calendar page. Especially important for the cover contest.
2. Make sure your photo is the right size and not blurry! We've had to pass on some winners because they weren't high enough quality, don't let that be you. Originals of electronic images must be at high enough resolution to appear sharp when printed in size 8 X 10 (at least 1024x1536px).
3. Voters noted they like seeing seasonal pictures (flowers, fall leaves, beaches, snow, etc.). Ones that match holidays tend to do better as well (Easter, Halloween, Christmas, etc). But truly unique backgrounds will make your picture pop!
4. Work that dog! Voters also noted they like to see more Chinooks in harness, hiking, working!
5. Movement shots are also a bit hit! There are lots of pretty pictures of Chinooks sitting with beautiful backgrounds behind them. Mix it up with some movement to stand out.
6. COLORS! Some years are better than others but last year we didn't have many buff, gray and tan or black and tan Chinooks entered. Let's make this year's calendar show ALL the beautiful faces of Chinooks. COA CBCP Crosses are welcome too!



Here's some helpful hints websites to help show you how to take better photos of your dog.

- <https://www.wikihow.com/Photograph-Pets>
- <https://moderndogmagazine.com/articles/how-to-take-better-photos-of-your-dog/>
- <https://dogtime.com/lifestyle/parties/1874-how-to-take-pictures-of-your-dog>

Can't wait to see another year of AMAZING Chinook photos!!!!

Any questions, please email Kristy at [membership@chinook.org](mailto:membership@chinook.org).

# Litter Basket

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

Dam	Sire	Due Date	Location	Kennel
Granite Hill In My Heart Taaku	Desert Sol Mau Luc	7/9/2024	NH	Granite Hill Chinooks
Rain Mountain North Misty	Sirius Rising Merlin	7/20/2024	WA	Rain Mountain Chinooks
Barkerville Sweet Maple Mae	Desert Sol Arlo Baci	10/12/2024	ME	GreatMountain Chinooks



2024 Swiftie Litter from Granite Hill Chinooks

# Rainbow Bridge

Jazz – 6/9/2009 to 3/11/2024

Granite Hill Quileute Rain

By John Schwartz

Robin and I are very sad to say that our sweet, wonderful Jasmine (Jazz) crossed over the rainbow bridge today at 14 years, 9 months, and 3 days, outliving all her littermates. She has been a real blessing to us, and we will sorely miss her.

Prior to Jazz, the only household pets we had were cats. But Robin's psychologist suggested that a dog might help her heal from a traumatic military deployment. Knowing almost nothing about dogs and dog ownership, we contacted the Academy of Canine Behavior in Bothell, WA. After hearing what characteristics we needed in a dog, we were referred to Ginger Corley. It just so happened that she co-owned a three-year-old female Chinook (Granite Hill Quileute Rain) with Leslie Donais who needed a home. We were invited to Ginger's Slug Ranch where Quileute attached herself to Robin and the healing began.



Through the years, not only was Jazz instrumental in Robin's healing process, but she was a joy to our family and a real comfort to Robin's 100 year-old-mother. Her sweet and gentle disposition helped our young family members overcome their fear of dogs. Even people who did not really enjoy dogs made an exception for Jazz. She was welcome at Robin's place of employment and Robin's supervisor's son even invited Jazz to his birthday slumber party. Even though John and Robin were NOT invited, Jazz went and had a great time.

We are so grateful that God brought Jazz into our lives, for the generosity of Ginger and Leslie for giving us Jazz, the ongoing support of Ginger (especially with the multitude of questions over the years), and for the opportunity to be part of the wonderful Chinook.

As first-time dog owners, we certainly won the lottery when we got Jazz (Quileute).



# Rainbow Bridge

Cooper – 10/1/2010 to 6/24/2024

Channahon's Cooper

By Kim Krauzas-Fagan

Cooper was my very first Chinook love. I was blessed to have him for just over 13 1/2 years. He truly was an ambassador of the breed to everyone he met. He was fearless of everything, except holiday fireworks, when he would choose to let me be the brave one for him. He was a great little brother to our pack, and as years passed by, he became the great big brother.

In all environments, from his first house in Illinois, to his last house in Texas, he thrived. I have so many fond memories of our travels, hikes, and simple day to day life with him. He really was the best first Chinook experience I could have ever asked for. Oh, and I can never forget...he was the first on his litter to howl, and I swear he sang the song of his people nearly every day since. I'll miss that song.

Til we meet again, my sweet boy.





# Rainbow Bridge

Cassie – 12/28/2009 to 7/22/2024

Granite Hill Cascade Range

By Donna Russell

Cassie, my first Chinook.

You came into our lives what seems like such a short time ago.

We learned and experienced so many things together.

Together we had wondrous adventures.

Our lives were blessed to have you as a family member, watch you grow into a beautiful girl, a devoted Mother and a faithful companion.

Cassie, my first Chinook.

I told you, you could never leave us, but knew you would someday. We will always keep you in our hearts, we think of you often, still cry a bit and will never forget you!

Cassie, my first Chinook.



# Membership Report - June to August

Current Membership Total: 310

## **Puppy Memberships - 13** (*Half price for Breeder Members to purchase for new puppy owners*):

- **Vanguard Chinooks - 3:** Jennifer Krawic (OK), Lisa Fisher (QC, Canada), Wendy Hansen (Ontario, Canada)
- **Desert Sol Chinooks - 10:** Todd Allen (WA), Elizabeth Swan (NH), Briana Drugg (NH), Keith Bogart (CA), David Piccinini (PA), Lydia Morrey (UT), Barb McDonald (NY), Zevi Weiss (NJ), Sam Vetter (NH), Jamine Blesoff (IL)



New puppy owners Sabrina Hendrick and Todd Allen with Desert Sol Celestial Yukiakari (Yuki)

## **Renewed Members - 40:**

Rick Prausa (VA), Kathe Dunscomb (OR), Jon Jolly (AZ), Lydia Leclerc (OH), Marlene Goist (TX), Brenda Dean (ME), Brendan Aldrich (IN), Melody Matthews Meilleur (ON, Canada), Cesar Hernandez (MA), Shelley Stewart (WI), Jill Pertain (NH), Kathleen Harrison (CA), Danielle Tappitake (NY), Kathy Krubeck (WY), Nancy Stevenson Burns (SC), Justin Damadio (DE), Leigh Conner (CA), Darin Murphy (ME), April Matava (CO), Cindy Lee Morgan (OR), Paul Delia (CO), Carol Zuckerman (MA), Catherine McCarthy-Payne (CA), Elaine Edler (CA), Todd Roberts (KY), Triona Gogarty (CA), Kristy McRae (MT), Sarah Garrison (WA), Daniela Metz (FL), Chance Felisky (WA), Jane Durning (NH), Kristina Calabrese (NH), Delcan Mullhall (PA), Victoria Escalle (CO), Mary Schatz (WI), Kali Hart (MD), Brett Visger (OH), Tom Reynolds (ME), Sanford Bragg (VT), Danielle Welch (NY).

*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, loving memory, 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.