

Arizona Mountain Mushers



www.azmm.org

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NEWS FROM THE WEIGHT PULL CORNER July 2011

(By Canine Correspondents, Taki and T.J.)

Here we are again; Woo, Wooing to all you four-legged weight pull enthusiasts, your handlers, and friends. Summer IS HERE! And for some of us that means moving into a different phase of weight pull thinking and training. For example, I (T.J.) keep in weight pull shape by regularly pulling my weight (body) up, onto and then off the couch again and again during the day. This keeps my legs strong and my mind alert.

I (Taki), on the other paw, keep up my summer weight pull training by racing through the dog door to the back of the dog yard (at least 4 or more times each day) where I check out every critter that passes through the neighborhood. I am particularly interested in keeping tabs on the local coyotes and some of the neighborhood dogs out strolling with their handlers.

But, we do digress, so let's get down to the meat of this newsletter piece.

(hmm, meat - that does sound tasty!)

Now, we give you a word from our sponsors, David and Shirley Hendricks. They have some weight pull business particulars to pass along. "Listen up"

Wooing out for now
Canine Correspondents
T.J. and Taki



AZMM Raffle

Dog Walker Paper Towel Holder

Valued @ \$90 Artist Denise Edwards, Coyote Forging & Metalworks "This piece is a combination of my dog walking sculpture and a paper towel holder". It's perfect for the person who needs a functional piece of sculpture. The piece is all hand forged and welded by Denise. The finish is a torch patina with a Deft thane polyurethane coating.

****Variation** Note the above picture is not the same one that is being raffled. It is the same person with a dog but a whole different configuration. ** We wanted to show what great work Denise does!!** More of Denise's work can be seen at <http://coyoteforging.net> and at the New State Motor Building in Jerome, AZ

The tickets are open to mushers for \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Wheeler Park -Rescue Round Up July 30th. You can buy tickets from Denise at the Round Up! Please support Contact Denise at 928-853-8638 for tickets.

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Words from the human sponsors

Greetings to all of you!

As we all know, our last weight pull season did have some problems - most concerning were: (1) the unpredictable weather, which caused some practice cancellations, and (2) the dwindling number of weight pull canines (and handlers) who came to practices and to the event in Wheeler Park.

At the Arizona Mountain Musher meeting, in May, members discussed some of the concerns and talked about possible ways to increase canine and handler participation and to expand the actual presence of our activities to the central and southeastern parts of the state. It was suggested that there might be weight pull demonstrations in the Phoenix and Tucson areas. (This had been done in past years.) A few issues with this idea must be addressed - - our large weight pull trailer and equipment live in Flagstaff. Pulling it back and forth around the state does not seem like a reasonable plan. We are considering the idea of finding a small weight pull cart, scaled-down weights and the other requisite items, that could be loaded into a pickup or small trailer. It would live somewhere in the central part of the state.

So, here is where we are in our follow-up with the concern about expanding our visibility and, hopefully, increasing interest and membership: We know that if demonstration activities are planned for the Phoenix/Tucson areas during the summer/warm times we would want to find an indoor venue. We have begun conversations with Arizona Dog Sports, located in Scottsdale. They are an indoor dog arena, sponsoring canine training and classes, and hosting seminars for canine trainers, enthusiasts. It is possible we could conduct a weight pull demonstration and

Iditarod News – 2012 Iditarod Musher Listing – Just some of the names. Bruce Linton, Martin Buser, Trent Herbst, Lance Mackey, Hugh neff, Dallas Seavey, Mitch Seavey, DeeDee Jonrowe, Ramey Smyth, John Baker, Aliy Zirkle, and no other than ----- I thought he said he retired !!!!!!!!!!! Jeff King So far 49 mushers have registered! Get excited!

information seminar there. There would be a charge (their usual fee is \$25.00 per attendee). We would receive part of that fee. The Arizona Dog Sports management would use their mailing list to solicit attendance at our seminar demonstrations. We would need a few AMM members to assist in the activity.

We are looking to the AMM membership and friends for (1)feedback, and, (2) identification of potential sites in the Phoenix/Tucson areas for demonstrations and seminars and for actual events.

We plan to do some work on the "big" weight pull trailer this summer. It needs electrical and welding work, cleaning (inside and outside), painting, a jack and lug wrench, a spare tire, and "runway" rug. Right now it is parked at Gery Allan's place, where most of the needed work will take place this summer. However, it will need to be moved to a more accessible site, before the season begins, so it is easy to get it to the practices and events. Last year, we stored it in a "U Park and Store" yard near the shopping mall in Flagstaff. The charge was \$38.00 per month. The organization did not pay the fee - donations were made by some of the members. It would be nice to locate another storage site - one that is convenient and does not cost so much. **We welcome your ideas and suggestions.**

THANK YOU!

Shirley and David Hendricks, Weight Pull Coordinators

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