



AARTA "facts"

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Squaw Peak Akita Club

Did you know there is an Akita Club in Phoenix? What does the club do and why would I want to join?

The club is made up of both Akita breeders and people who just love the breed and have Akitas as family members. We meet every 2-3 months, usually with some "event".

In February, we have a booth at the Matsuri Festival. If you haven't heard of this, it is a festival put on by the City of Phoenix, celebrating everything Japanese. The Akita Club along with Rescue have a booth to hand out information about the breed, and bring dogs for people to meet. Club/Rescue members man the booth for ½ day shifts on Sat & Sun.

Then in April we have a picnic with the Shiba Club. We have games, potluck lunch and a raffle.

We have an Ice Cream Social in mid summer to cool off. We might have a speaker on a topic about dog health or training.

At Christmas we have a party and exchange gifts, both people and doggie ones. Another potluck meal (like our dogs, we are into good food)!!

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How to contact us:

Update Email address: AkitaAdvocates@cox.net

To subscribe to a paper copy: mail \$10 check, payable to AARTA, to our **NEW ADDRESS:** PO Box 12016, Glendale, AZ 85318-2016

Reunion Picnic

If you didn't make it to the Picnic, you missed a lot of fun and a ton of good food. Some people came without dogs, but most decided next year to bring them. The dogs had a great time. If they were friendly, they had a chance to play nicely with others. If not, they were kept close to their family. We had some extra crates and exercise pens to put dogs in temporarily if needed to allow people to eat.

We played games that included the dogs, and these were a riot. The first was musical mats. Just like musical chairs, you had to walk with your dog to the music, and when it stopped, find a mat on the ground to stand on. If you didn't get a mat, you were eliminated. Then we went to a relay race where you had to race to a t-shirt, dress your dog in it, and race back. Some dogs were good natured about being dressed, some decided this was not for them. Finally, we had bobbing for hot dogs, with chunks of the tasty morsels floating in big bowls of water. First dog to snorkel and get them all won. All the dogs were good sports. All the players got a big dog biscuit, which was an instant hit, and the winner got a toy.

We had a huge raffle, and every one went home with prizes. Most were dog toys. The dogs all had a great time playing with their new squeaky toys that they won.

Mark your calendar for next year, early to mid-October. The exact date will be determined when we know dates for adoption events.

See pictures on page 2

Squaw Peak Akita Club (con't)

We usually schedule another couple of meetings throughout the year, and try to have speakers on various dog-related topics.

The Akita Club would love new members. If you think you'd like to check it out, let Carol Harris (602-547-9658) or Deb Harlow (602-882-4542) know and we'll let you know the details of the next meeting.

New Canine Vaccination Guidelines

AKC Gazette, July 2006

The American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) has changed their thinking on the timing of vaccinations for dogs. They have found that the vaccines against distemper, parvovirus and canine adenovirus produced by major manufacturers all provide sufficient immune response to be given every 3 years (rather than annually). These 3 should be given to puppies initially at 6-8 weeks old, then a booster every 3-4 weeks until they are 12-14 weeks. Then they are re-vaccinated a year later, followed by every 3 years. They found that immunity lasted up to 7 years assuming a modified live vaccine was used. The canine adenovirus provides immunity against both hepatitis and tracheobronchitis.

Rabies vaccines are already available in 3 year doses.

These four are the core vaccines every dog should get. There are several others that should be administered under special circumstances, if the dog is likely to be exposed. These are parainfluenza, Bordetella (kennel cough), and Borrelia (Lyme disease).

Some vaccines are not being recommended due to either too few dogs catching the disease (coronavirus), or the vaccines don't provide good protection (leptospirosis vaccine). Another, Giardia vaccine, does not prevent infection from that parasite.

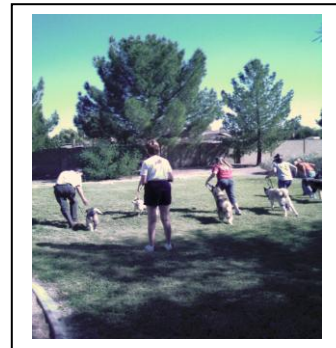
Check with your veterinarian to determine how they feel about the new guidelines and what they recommend for your situation and your dog.

Reunion Picnic Pictures

Musical Mats game—everyone behaved themselves



Relay Race to dress your dog—try dressing your dog in a t-shirt!



Bobbing for hot dogs. The real dogs had a great time!



AKITA CALENDAR 2008

We still have calendars left, but probably not for long. This turned out beautifully. Below are a few samples of the calendar pages. Their cost at this time is reduced to \$10 including shipping. The funds help us pay medical and housing costs for the dogs in our care until they can find their forever homes. You can mail a check, payable to AARTA to our NEW ADDRESS (make note!): PO Box 12016, Glendale, AZ 85318-2016.

Hurry and get a few while they're still available!!!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MESA RIVERVIEW MALL ADOPT-A-THON

DOBSON RD, SOUTH OF LOOP 202
SATURDAY, MARCH 29TH, 10AM-3PM

PAWS AROUND THE FOUNTAIN ADOPT-A-THON

FOUNTAIN HILLS PARK, 12925 N. SAGUARO BLVD.
SUNDAY, APRIL 6TH, 10AM-3PM

DC RANCH ADOPT-A-THON

MARKET STREET PARK (THOMPSON PEAK PARKWAY & PIMA, SEC)
SATURDAY, APRIL 19TH 9AM-1PM

FRANCISCAN RENEWAL ADOPT-A-THON

5802 E. LINCOLN DR., PARADISE VALLEY
SAT, MARCH 1ST, 10AM – 4PM

PHOENIX ROADRUNNERS HOCKEY TEAMS UP WITH ANIMAL RESCUE!



The Phoenix Roadrunners Hockey team has joined forces with PACC911 to help valley animal rescues raise much-needed funds for all our life-saving expenses.

GAME DAY IS SUNDAY MARCH 2ND, 2008

Your ticket package – for only \$20 – includes:

- **One Lower Level Seat!**
- **One Foam Finger!!**
- **Free Skate Time after game (bring your skates!!)**

Contact us before Feb 28th to purchase tickets. They can also be mailed or hand-delivered time permitting.

Deb: 602-882-4542 Carol 602-547-9658

SPOTLIGHT ON AVAILABLE DOGS



Sequoia—All he wants for Christmas is a new home! He is current our Lonely Hearts Club member, as he's been with us for over a year. He's a Lab / Shar Pei mix, has learned sit, down, shake and is an expert at catching treats in the air! He uses a doggie door, walks nice on leash, and loves to go for a ride. He'd be great with a large breed female dog, but can't be with any small animals. He's a super guard dog, but loves people and is very friendly. About 3-4 yrs old.



Uno—is the friendliest Akita ever. Give him a lap, and he's in it, giving you kitta kisses. This boy is only 1 ½ yrs old, loves everyone and is very dog friendly. He even gives his kitta kisses to his new doggie pals. He'll need some training to be able to contain his urge to jump up and kiss you all over. He is a big boy and will fill out more.



TAZ (Tazberry)—She is our senior gal. A family who had to downsize and move gave her up. She's had basic obedience, and has lived with all kinds of animals, even chinchillas and snakes. She's a sweetheart who deserves a great home. She is calm but full of spunk and well settled.

MORE AVAILABLE DOGS



Zoe—Zoe was pictured in the last issue. Sister Amanda found a home. Zoe has grown, her ear now stands up, and she has some stunning markings. She has learned to sit, down and walk nicely on leash, all of which she learned very quickly and easily. She is also known as Miss Wigglesworth since her whole body wiggles when she wags her tail. She’s approx. 9 mos old, very sweet, and wants nothing more than to be petted and hugged. For a puppy, she is really very calm.

MORE AVAILABLE DOGS



Mama Zoey—Not related to puppy Zoe, but Mama Zoey is about 4 yrs old. She is in a foster home with 2 other Akitas and several cats, and she’s doing fine with all. That really tells you what she’s like. She’ll do anything to get attention, as the picture shows----she will nearly climb up into your lap for hugs.

ADOPTED: Mina, Amanda, Lucky Girl, Koko and Kajee all got adopted from the last newsletter.

AARTA c/o Carol Harris
7341 W. Libby St.
Glendale, AZ 85308



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED