

SIBERIAN HUSKY

2011 Forum

By: Judy Russell

1. When were you first attracted to Siberian Huskies, and what attracted you?

It was October of 1958 and I was absent from the American Royal Horse Show because I was a sophomore at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. For most of my childhood and up to then I had been active showing American Bred Saddle Horses under the name of Judy Marks, Pinetree Stables. My trainer, Chris Reardon, returned from Kansas City and informed me that he has just seen the most beautiful dogs in the world and had ordered a pair. He asked me which one I wanted and I said that I wanted the female. She eventually arrived on a train and as I had not told my parents that I was getting another dog I arrived home for a weekend and took her up to my room. In the morning my mother said "Judy - where did you get that raccoon?"

2. What kennel name did you choose, and how did you choose it?

Our kennel name (Karnovanda) is a made up word from some of our first dogs: Kar from Karen, no from Nonie (my first Siberian and dam of both Karen and Zenda), van from Ivan (a Zenda son) and da from Zenda.

3. Who has influenced you the most in your Breed and please tell us why?

When we began in Siberians, I was very interested in obedience and started showing in the breed ring as I thought it might be fun. There were very few Siberian people in the San Francisco area (we were in graduate school at U. Cal Berkley) so I really did not have any mentors. I received many letters from Lorna Demidoff (Monadnock Kennels) and after we left California for Minnesota (more school for Joel) I spent quite a lot of time with

Donna Foster (Frosty Aire Kennels) as my in-laws lived nearby. She introduced me to many of the Siberians of the past. We finally located in Michigan and were fortunate to be the tenants

of Dr. and Mrs. Fred (Julia) Gasow of the famous Salilyn Springer Spaniels. It is from her that I really learned the "dog game." To this day I still quote her.

4. What would you like Judges focus on when Judging Siberian Huskies?

I would like the judges to focus on the ideal Siberian and judge the good things about the dogs.

5. Other than one of yours, of course, who were/are the 3 best Siberians as you have ever seen and why?

Ch Frosty Aire's Banner Boy, CD - he was a great show dog as well as being an excellent Siberian.

Ch Monadnock's Pando - he probably set the breed type for generations.

Igloo-Pak's Jan - he was a beautiful, strong animal with a wonderful heart.

6. Tell us, in your opinion, the difference between a good Siberian Husky and a great Siberian Husky?

There are many good Siberians but a great dog will stand out because of his stature, showmanship and attitude.

7. Please tell us why you are so passionate about your Breed?

I am fortunate to actually have a passion -- it is Siberian Huskies.

