

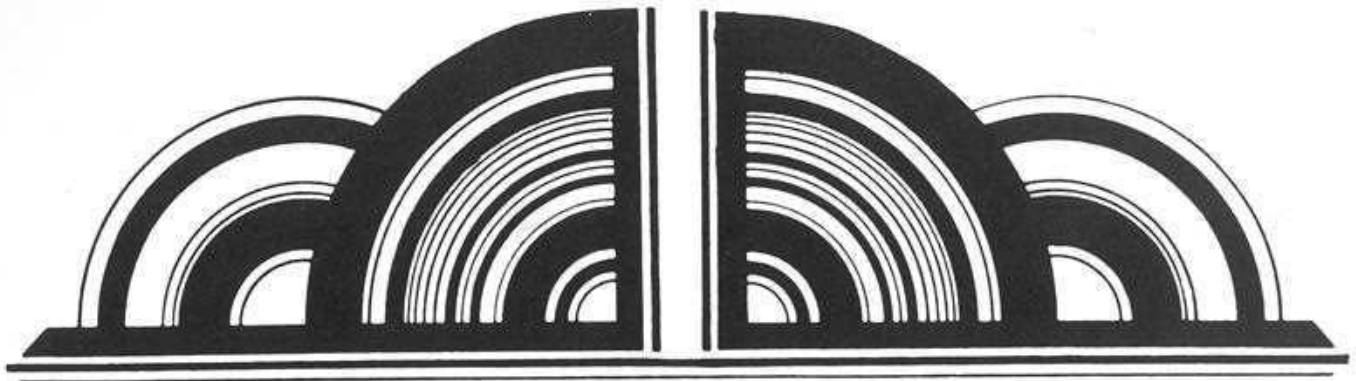
The  
**SAMOYED**  
QUARTERLY



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## SAMOYED PEOPLE



*Frost River Lady*

The Samoyed Quarterly Talks With  
CHARLES and EVELYN JAMES  
FROST RIVER SAMOYEDS  
Madera, California

*This interview was taped by  
Deborah Walters.*

*How did you get started in  
Samoyeds?*

Evelyn: My daughter started helping a woman with a litter of puppies because of some extreme emergency in her family. Because of the help, the woman gave her a very good bargain and she brought a dog home for me on Mother's Day. I thought it was a stuffed toy when she first brought it in. It had a big red ribbon on it. She brought it in and put it on the floor. My God, it was a DOG! That was my first introduction to having a Samoyed puppy around.

It grew to be about six months old. It was a White Way on both sides and was loaded with big boned, big eared ranginess. Of course, I'd never been around Samoyeds. This dog had a wonderful disposition, and I thought that was EXACTLY the way a Samoyed should be. We went downtown to the grocer's, and we didn't have fencing at the time the way we do now (that was about 18 years ago), anyway, my four youngsters were outside and I told them to watch him. We called him, for all the natural reasons, "Sam!" When we got back from the store, we had four crying children. Sam had run out after the car a few minutes after we got out of sight, and a little old Volkswagon, with a Weimeraner and a pregnant woman in it, appeared. Sam had jumped on the car and gotten killed. The woman was in hysterics when we got back. We calmed her down and sadly buried Sam.

For about two years we looked for a Samoyed. Of course, at that time I knew nothing about shows. I'd never

shown a dog and didn't know where to go to get the information. Finally, an engineer friend of ours in Marin County told us she knew where there was a litter of Samoyeds. It was up around Santa Rosa. We got the number and so forth and rushed up to Santa Rosa. What we were after was a puppy who looked and acted like Sam. Instead of that, all they had left in the litter was a little female. The mother and father were beautiful animals, but we were disappointed because we wanted a male. So, we hummed and hawed and stood there trying to figure out if we wanted this little female. Well, we decided we really wanted a male. This little female puppy came over and curled up on Charles' shoe. I said, "I guess we'd better look around a little more." Charles said, "Okay." We started off and the puppy shot off his foot as he moved and cried. He picked it up and petted it a little and said, "Let's take her, she's darling." So, we came home with a female! That's how we got started.

*Who was the female? Was that Lady?*

Evelyn: That was Frost River Lady. We named her Frost River but we called her Lady. The lady who had her called her Baby, and we thought when she grew up the name "Baby" would sound terrible, so we called her Lady. We didn't get the papers right away. We kept writing to the woman and she kept telling us she was having problems getting things back from the AKC. She said she would send us the certificate and the pedigree when she got everything together. Finally, we got the pedigree and certificate and filled it all out. Charles said, "Let's call her 'something' Lady." That would give her a REAL name. The river runs right behind our property, it's Fresno River. Half the time it's absolutely dry. My kids used to call it a frost river because there wasn't ever any water in it. So, I thought we should call her Frost River Lady and that's where she got it! Later on, after we'd had several breedings, I think we had five or more, we got the kennel name registered.

*When you got Lady, you still didn't know anything about showing or even what you had as far as quality?*

Evelyn: No we didn't. She was about one and a half years old, going on two, and had already had two periods. I got the wild idea to breed her. What we intended to do was spay her and just have a dog around; one we didn't have to bother with as far as periods and all. She was very pretty and we DID have the pedigree so I thought we should breed her just once. I started going to the veterinarians in Fresno and asking if they knew where there was a GOOD Samoyed. One veterinarian in Fresno said that he had taken care of a Samoyed with a sticker in its ear or something but the dog was very healthy and just had this minor ailment. The lady and her husband, Mr.



and Mrs. Guchi, had just come down from Seattle or somewhere around there. I got their name and went to their home. She was a wealth of information. She knew the pedigrees and show dogs and just knew a lot about dogs! I told her about my female and we passed information back and forth. I took Frost River Lady to her along with the pedigree. She was astounded when she began to read the pedigree and thought it was really nice. Then she gave me the male's pedigree and we began to talk. He was a beautiful male, Silver's Rogue. We bred them and she brought over a friend of hers to see Frost River Lady. That was Gretchen Raymond who had Buddy Boy whom she was showing to his championship at that time. Gretchen just fell in love with Lady and when the puppies came along, she wanted a puppy. I traded her a puppy for a male out of her champion.

Before we ever bred Lady, we had her x-rayed. Dr. Piper in Fresno would send the X-rays to Dr. Hay, the radiologist at Davis. This went on for years until they instituted the OFA procedures. All my dogs have been x-rayed and I've kept track of them. In fact, I have most of the X-rays of my dogs from the very beginning! I now take them to Dr. Reidly who worked with Dr. Hay for five or six years. Dr. Reidly opened his own office quite a while ago so I take my dogs down there for the X-rays that go to OFA.

Lady produced these three females in her first litter. Gretchen, by that time, wanted a female. I had seen Buddy Boy's progeny and they were usually BETTER than he was! Some way or another, he seemed to cover up the faults. I'd heard of Omak. Omak is the sire of Percy's dog, Yurok. Omak had seemed to be the kind of dog who covered up and didn't seem to allow any bad faults in the puppies to come through. He bred MUCH better than he was. I was kind of pleased with Buddy Boy and liked his size. He was almost 23 inches tall and very trim. He reminds me very much of Rocky. I wanted



a puppy from him and, eventually, Gretchen asked me which dog I wanted. I told her I wanted a puppy out of Buddy Boy and little Greta, a bitch he had sired. She was smaller than usual but absolutely perfect as far as I could see. Her movement, head and everything was right. She was just a doll. She bred Buddy and Greta and gave me my choice. I called it AiAi. That was the first male I had in my kennel. He was AiAi of Williwaw because I got him from Gretchen Raymond, and she called her dogs Williwaw. So, I had an inbred son of Buddy Boy to use for myself.

*In your first litter you had three bitches that finished?*

Yes, three. I traded with Gretchen Raymond to get AiAi of Williwaw. The mother of AiAi was Greta of Williwaw. She came out of Lady Sammy of Green Acres and goes back to Sully and Lady Lea Dawidczik. Anyway, she goes way back to the English lines.

I'm looking at Tzar's pedigree now and Kim Saru of Frost River is my Ch. Kimar's mother. Kim goes back to Ch. Greenbriar's Lady Natasha who goes back to Ranier and Starchak of Snowy Dawn which goes on back to the English. Frost River Omar of Orion and Kim Saru produced my Ch. Kimar that I've been using. If you look back on this pedigree here, you'll see I have Frost River Omar on one side. Omar is the same breeding as Tzar who goes back to Omar three times and brings back Buddy Boy's lines heavier. This is what I've usually done in all my breedings.

*Tell me about the first three bitches.*

Evelyn: The first three bitches were Ch. Anastasia of Frost River that Gretchen had, Ch. Kara of Frost River who was mine, and Ch. Mitzy of Frost River who was Charles' dog. He couldn't part with her! Gretchen finished Anastasia, and Charles and I started out campaigning Kara and Mitzy.

*Was that your first time showing or had you shown Lady?*

Evelyn: We hadn't shown Lady a bit. She was afraid to get in a car or



*Frost River Kommoshe*

go anywhere. We wanted a dog who would stay home so we didn't take her anywhere. We started out when we traded with Gretchen. Gretchen was showing Buddy Boy then, and Tony Guchi, the owner of Silver's Rogue, the sire of the three puppies, kept telling us we should show Lady and the puppies. Gretchen kept asking us to go with her and show the puppies. She said they needed to be shown because they were good!

We went to Lakeside to a puppy match. We didn't go with Gretchen, we went alone. We had the wrong kind of equipment and no one, at that time, helped anyone else. What we really had was obedience equipment with very heavy chains around their necks. Of course, we'd never had Samoyeds around other Samoyeds and didn't know how they'd act when they got around others! Anyway, we went to Lakeside. Charles got tangled up with the lead somehow and fell at the judge's feet.

*This was your first time in the ring?*

Evelyn: Yes. When I showed up in front of the judge with a long, heavy

chain around my Kara's dainty neck and a six-foot lead, he looked the dog and me over and said, "If you ever show in a REAL ring, get a shorter lead and I'd use a much lighter collar. She's a feautiful little bitch and the collar you have on her is weighing her down!" We came home with a big prize that time which just floored us because there were quite a few in competition down there. Even with long chains and such, we came out very nicely!

For the fun of it, we started taking Kara and Mitzy together. I entered Kara in Bred-By-Exhibitor and Charles entered Mitzy in American-Bred. Every other time, he'd put his in Bred-By-Exhibitor. We didn't know; we were just training our dogs! We hadn't had any training and were just seeing how other people handled dogs! I learned how to groom my dog and how to show them by watching the handlers and those people who seemed to know what they were doing. I went over deliberately and watched the handlers groom so I'd know how. We were brushing our dogs the wrong way!

*How do you mean?*

Evelyn: On a Samoyed, you brush

their fur backwards so it stands up. We were brushing our dogs religiously, down! No one said a word. Then we decided we should go a little further, just for the fun of it. We took our dogs to San Francisco and that's when we began to get into competition that was completely different. The Kauzlarich's, Mary Miller and Lavera Morgan and her husband, and well, there were just quite a few up in there. They had Drayalene and that was Rokandi's owner. She died not too long after we started showing up there. Elliot Colburn with his dogs and just a lot of people. Surprisingly, we came out VERY well. Gretchen had always said if we went up there, we'd be very disappointed because the Drayalene dogs, which all of them were, would just take over! For some reason or another, the Drayalene dogs always won! Well, we went up there and there was Rokandi and Doris McLaughlin has Drayalene dogs too. We came home, and I have books and books of Reserve Winners! I showed for about a year getting Reserve Winners! Finally, a handler said, "For Heaven's sake! Will you show that dog in OPEN?!" I asked him why and he told me most judges wouldn't give a Bred-By-Exhibitor dog the points and would just put you Reserve! So, I started in open and began getting Best of Opposite Sex and just WINNING! I finished Kara. Charles has put seven or eight points on Mitzy and put a four-point major on her. Then he got chicken and hired a handler who is now a judge. He's the handler who finished Buddy Boy down in Arizona. We went down to Pebble Beach and I had Kara. Mitzy wasn't along that time, I don't know why. Charles came over to me and told me he'd hired this handler to show Kara. He said he thought I could learn a lot just by watching him and besides that, there are four other handlers in the ring. I handed my dog over to the handler and he showed her. I DID learn a lot from watching him. That was a win for Kara at Pebble Beach under Frances Crane.

That started me. The next time we went, it was the same judge. Charles was showing Mitzy who was in good coat and Kara was just so-so. I told him I was going to show my dog even if there WERE four handlers! He had hired this same handler to show Mitzy under the same judge. I took Kara in and Mitzy got the points. I got Reserve Winners! Every time I showed under that judge, I got a Reserve! Every time we showed Mitzy under her, she got the points! Charles showed Mitzy HIMSELF and she got the points. This judge just liked Mitzy better than Kara! I finally finished Kara - then Charles broke his foot. Mitzy wasn't finished so I started taking her and Tzar. *You had done a breeding in between that produced Tzar?*

Evelyn: Yes, I'd bred Kara and AiAi. That was their second breeding. Out of that came Omar, Kinta, Tzar and a couple of others. Those three were all champions. I took Tzar and the first

show we went to was near San Diego, in the hills. That day, I took both the dog and bitch points! Mitzy needed a three-point major and, of course, the dogs were shown first. They were both hunters, and we pulled into this ring. Right on the other side, there must have been 30 or 40 little Schipperkes that looked like little black rabbits. I noticed an intensity in Tzar, and his hunting instinct came up. He was alive ALL OVER. EVERY HAIR on his body was alive! George Schroth was judging and just couldn't keep his eyes off Tzar. Finally, he gave Tzar the points.

Then the females went in and the same thing, except more so, happened with Mitzy. You've seen a Great Dane molded by a handler? You know, when they're really show dogs you can mold them and they'll stay exactly like you've put them? Well, Mitzy was like that. She was so intense and intent on seeing those little black dogs that she absolutely was fantastic. I didn't even believe she was my own dog, she was just SO beautiful! George Schroth began talking to me when he was beginning to make his selection. He asked me what I would do if I was chosen and took both the dog and bitch points. I thought of telling him I'd faint, but I told him I was sure I could find someone to take one of them in for breed. He said, "Okay," and gave me the points on Mitzy. Helen King came over and showed Tzar for me and I showed Mitzy. He had a heck of a time choosing between Mitzy and Tzar. He'd have us go around and around and, finally, he said, "I'm going to give it to the male, although I don't know, I wish I could give it to them both!" He put Tzar up and I didn't have many friends that day.

I finished those three and, at that time, Kinta was on the agenda.

*Who was Kinta from?*

Evelyn: AiAi and Kara. Gretchen was showing the dogs from her breedings and was placing HER dogs. Kara, AiAi and Mitzy took us about three and a half years to finish; they had to mature. Tzar was much younger. Kara and Mitzy were out of my first breeding of Silver's Rogue and Lady. Tzar was out of AiAi and Kara. Then we went on to breed differently. When I finished Tzar, we settled down more with what we had at hand, and I was raising another litter! That started us out. You have to go out and I was breeding within my own line but was looking for something different. I bred to Sir Guy of Williwaw. Gretchen had kept one dog out of the same litter that Carnak came from. Sir Guy was x-rayed clear and was beautiful. That breeding brought Williwaw's Frost River. In the meantime, Frost River Omar of Orion was being taken to every show, regardless of whether he had one hair on his body or not. Sharon Eggiman had him and just dearly loved him. He turned out to be a fantastic sire. She had quite high honors from puppies sired by him. I'd bred Snoshoe with AiAi.

*Who was Snoshoe out of?*

Evelyn: I guess she was out of

Kara and AiAi. Anyway, they brought the little dog back over here, one of Gretchen's breeding, for breeding. I bred her to AiAi. The little female that was produced out of that was a fantastic little bitch. She was small like little Greta and looked like Greta, she was just a perfect little dog. I called Sharon and told her there was a bitch with animation, small but fantastic. She got two puppies out of it, and they really went quite high in her breeding program. She did a lot of breeding with Omar, and the only thing she didn't like about him was my name! A girl in Redding and her husband had ordered the dog and they were moving. They asked me to keep him for them, and I don't know what happened, but they couldn't take the dog. They phoned down and told me they were very sorry, but they wouldn't be able to take the dog. I hadn't taken a deposit on it or anything. About half an hour later, Sharon Eggiman and her husband, Bryan, showed up at the front door and said that they understood we had a litter of puppies. I told them I had the one left. He was already named Omar. Sharon didn't like the name but I told her she could rename him if she wanted to. She took one look at the dog and said she'd take him! She never did change the name. I've had handlers and judges tell me they thought Frost River Omar of Orion was the nearest thing to the Standard for Samoyeds they had seen. He's a

beautiful animal. We've really had fun because Sharon would take that dog and I'd tell her it was the year she should hide him! They go through a terrible period when they're growing up. He had good running gear but he was thin and scrawny with no coat and she'd be showing him! Finally, he turned into a beautiful dog. I had a friend of mine come down not too long ago. She said she'd gone to a show and when Omar came out in the Veterans class (he's going on 11 or 12 years old now but is still beautiful), they gave him a standing ovation! They all remembered him, he's just beautiful.

*How did you learn about breeding and decide you were going to do inbreeding and linebreeding?*

Evelyn: I took Lady's pedigree, and Gretchen had been taking the "Western Kennel World," which was quite an attractive magazine at that time. Did you ever see a copy?

No.

I didn't get the book for quite a while, but I realized that Vera Lawrence had us written up in the magazine! She did it without us knowing about it. This is a running commentary on dogs, their breeders, puppies and all. It was a fantastic magazine. Out of my acquaintance with Vera Lawrence and her telling me about the dogs in my pedigree and showing me pictures, I got an overall idea of the background of my dogs, where they came from and the types involved. With



Ch. Mitzi of Frost River



Ch. Frost River Skipper Tzarson

Kara, Mitzy and AiAi to show me what I had, I tried to breed a showy, proud, sound, intelligent and loving dog.

*You said before that they had to have presence.*

Evelyn: They had to have that something where they'd hold their heads up and say, "Here I am, I'm beautiful!" PROUD, I want them proud. Some way or another, we've always had coaty dogs until I bred to Saroma's Polar Prince. I saw some of his progeny and loved the way they moved. My dogs always moved nicely, however, their fronts took a long time to mature. I watched the puppies from Polar Prince and their running gear was fantastic.

I sent Kara up to be bred to Polar Prince and got some beautiful dogs.

*Who was in that litter?*

Evelyn: Twana, who is now ten years old and has fourteen points and one major. My husband had an aneurysm just about the time we were completing her showing so she didn't get finished. However, in Twana, the genes of Polar Prince are very strong. They have beautiful bushy tails, beautiful ruffs and powder puff coats. That came down to my Kara and I had three bitches: D'Lite of Frost River whom Don and Dot Hodges have, Twana whom I have (Frost River Twana), and there was White Tiger who got cancer and I had to put him to sleep because he was in such pain at a very early age. I'd bred him to Orchi Chornicke, another bitch out of AiAi and Kara. I took a puppy for the stud fee who turned out to be Frost River Bettina. Meanwhile, I'd bred Kim Saru to Frost River Omar of Orion and got Kimar, who Wayne Nelson finished in Florida, and Kim Omara. I had Kimar and Kim-Omara. I get mixed up because I don't do breedings every year. There are two or three years between, and it's difficult for me to remember.

When I DO breed, I want a puppy from the breeding because I have an idea of what I want from it. This last

time, I took two puppies. Kim Saru was bred to Ch. Rickshaw's Dum of Barbara Yamasaki's breeding. I liked Drum and several of her other dogs. Drum's head is fantastic; he has a very beautiful head and a good body. Kim Saru's head wasn't great and I didn't care much for it. She has a beautiful gait and her running gear is perfect. Drum has a good body and a fantastic head. When I bred them, you couldn't tell one puppy from another, male or female! There were seven puppies in that litter. I remember that Marilyn Gittelton, Barbara Yamasaki and Shirley Mangini who has Drum's son, came down and stayed for lunch to play with the puppies. Before lunch, they put ribbons around the necks of the puppies they wanted. By the time we finished lunch, they'd torn the ribbons off and I KNOW they didn't get the same puppies they'd picked out!

*They were that close?*

Evelyn: Yes, they were! I'd take a broom and drag it. Those five puppies would follow it, and we'd try to see which ones were doing which particular thing. You COULDN'T tell! Barbara Yamasaki said, "It's impossible! You just can't tell them apart!" They went home happy with the puppies they had. Toy Drum was the name Marilyn Gittelton gave her puppy. I'd told them I wanted Drum in the names. I called mine Silver Drum. The one I wanted out of the deal, I kept. Kim-Omara has a very high, lovely arched head which she carries beautifully. Silver has his mother's arched neck and body and a cross between Drum's head and Kim-Omara's head. I kept him and he turned out to be rather choosy as to who he made up to. It seemed like the noises at the shows bothered him excessively. I took him to obedience training rather than to shows to get him used to people and noises and such.

*Was this your first time in obedience?*

Evelyn: We'd taken dogs to obedience training part of the time to get them oriented to people and other dogs but we never went on because we were only interested in showing our dogs in the Breed ring and never considered going on.

*You finished him in the classes?*

Evelyn: Yes, we finished him in the classes. He's such a beautiful dog. I'd taken him to several shows and puppy matches, and he always won at the matches. Always took Best of Breed at every puppy match he ever went to! We took him to several shows also, but some way or another, I think his hearing was so acute that the noises, when he was younger, affected him and hurt him to the point where he was highly nervous. He doesn't seem to be that way anymore, and I think I'll start showing him because I think he's a nice dog. He just stood out because he was EXACTLY what I wanted. I'd rather he had a very outgoing disposition but even if he didn't, I wouldn't have let him go anyway. All the rest of them had outgoing, happy dispositions and he was the more sensi-

tive one. Toy Drum has had many beautiful progeny, and Marilyn Gittelton is really proud of him.

*How many champions have you bred?*

Evelyn: Seventeen last time I counted, but I may have missed some. Kommoshe has both majors and 12 points. That's the one who's had the heart attack. Twana has one major and 14 points. After my husband had the aneurysm, then I had major surgery. We had two and a half years where we couldn't do much!

*Who was your biggest winner of the dogs you've bred?*

I think the one who produced the most champions was Anastasia, Kara was next, then Mitzy was last. We didn't breed her as much as the others. The reason was that when we started going to Oakland and San Francisco and in the northern section for shows, they brought out a medication to stop their seasons for a while. It was supposed to be perfectly safe. I know the Kauzlariches gave CoCo a shot and she NEVER came in season again. Mitzy didn't come in for about five or six years from the medication. It didn't seem to affect Kara or Anastasia in the least. That was why Mitzy didn't get a real chance to prove herself.

*How awful.*

We weren't the only ones. The Kauzlarich's bitch NEVER came in season again, and by then, we realized how foolish we'd been. Kara and Anastasia didn't have any problems with it at all! About the time we thought we'd never do anything like that again, and decided we'd breed her, we began to hear from people who had given the shots and had bitches not coming in season or were all fouled up. Some got hormonal imbalances and lots of horrible things. We were just fortunate that Kara turned out the way she did and that Anastasia was okay.

*Tell us about Tzar.*

As a puppy, he was a miniature, fully developed Samoyed it seemed like. As he grew, he just grew bigger. He never was high or low through the back and he never was too broad or too narrow. He just simply grew larger and kept his same look except he was just



AiAi of Williwaw

bigger. The one who is seemingly doing the same thing now is Frost River Buster's Rocky. He's out of Ch. Springline's Buster Williwaw. Rocky, as a puppy, looked much like Tzar. He has just grown without having any disturbance to his front or rear. He has just grown taller and larger, and he's probably about 22 3/4 or 23 inches tall. He has a straight coat with a big ruff, a standout straight coat which is the proper Samoyed coat. The one I have that has the MOST proper coat is my Ch. Skipper. He has a harsh, standout coat. Buster, Rocky's dad, has that type of coat also.

*Do you feel we're seeing incorrect Samoyed coats in the ring today?*

Going back over the pedigree book of the Samoyeds, you will find some of your most fantastic, talked about dogs from England have the large coats. The sled dog people and those who are working their dogs in the snow say the shorter coat is better because it doesn't pick up the ice and snow like the longer coats do. Looking through the pedigree book, you'll find EVERY type of coat in there. Some of the dogs are pointed to with pride and said to be foundations for certain lines and have that enormous coat. Others have the short coats. The Samoyed breed Standard is one of the best. The interpretation of it by judges is one of the worst!

You can have a large dog who is supposed to have points taken away if it's oversized. Most judges in the past have said, "The bigger, the better!" Your coats should not, as far as I'm concerned, really matter. Breeding stock from Samoyeds come from really relatively few. They're like the Arabian horse. There is nothing to go haywire; you don't have several mixed breeds. No matter what you breed, you're going to get a Samoyed. If you breed fault to fault, you'll get faulty dogs. If you breed virtue to virtue, you'll get better dogs.

*Let's talk some more about size. What do you feel is the ideal size for a dog?*

I have bred to the Standard. At the moment, I have a bitch, Frost River Kitz (Frost River Silveetina Kitz). Silver for Silver Drum and Tina for the last of Bettina's name. She's over standard, if you look at her. I'm going to breed her to a smaller male dog with a coat that is heavy enough to break through the Saroma Polar Prince's strong genes. I hope I can DO it. I believe in trying to keep the Standard of the Samoyed. They have already put them up about an inch over what they were when they came from England. If you go back and look at the hound breeds, they are ALL bigger. The Terriers are all smaller and all the rest of it. They have a unique niche in that they are medium size dogs. As far as being a nice size, I prefer Bettina's size. She's almost at the top of the Standard; she is 21 inches and I think THAT is a LOVELY size. Females should be 19 to 21 inches. Males should be 21 to 23 1/2 inches. The male at the top of the



*Ch. Kinta of Frost River*



*Frost River Kim-Omara*

Standard is PLENTY big! They weigh usually from 68 to 75 pounds due to their bone structure and such. THAT's a GOOD sized dog, but yet not a HUGE dog. I've had several 22 to 22 1/2 inch dogs that were fantastic. When their coat stands up they don't look that small but I can't say they're any more agile than if you watched Kitz out there playing. Out of that breeding, there were six puppies. These two were both the biggest. I didn't keep them because they were the biggest. I actually let the people who asked me for a breeding between those two choose whichever dogs they wanted! I kept the ones that were left. The others, when they were puppies, weren't showing if they were large or small. The little one you saw, that we have here, is litter sister to Kitz. She is the smallest from the litter and Mrs. Smith, who is a counselor at Modes-to Junior College, has the other female. There were three males and three females. She's about half the size between Kiska and Mrs. Smith's dog. They were stair steps and all look alike! That one out there is IDENTICAL to the smaller one. You could set them side by side and outside of one being a little smaller than the other, you'd think you're seeing the same dog!

*How do you feel about the Standard?*

I think the Standard is fantastic! *Is there anything in it you would change?*

Not one thing. I've bred to it and tried to have my breedings come out to the Standard size and everything for over 17 years now!

The only thing I DO deplore is big dogs to big dogs. If you're going to try to breed, try to keep the size the same! We have a unique breed!

*Which litter do you think was your best litter overall?*

The only litter we have that's all champions is the first one!

I've had at least three out of each breeding out of Kara and AiAi. I've had three out of Kimi and Silver, and I'm hoping to have three that will be shown out of the litter of Silver and Bettina. I don't think Mrs. Smith will ever show her dog, and she's about the right size. The other is a little smaller, but she's VERY showy. She's animated and very much a show-off. The minute you get in the ring she says, "Well, wait a minute, this is MY kind of THING!" She just shows like nobody's business. She already has her C.D. and, in fact, is working on her C.D.X. I think she's got one leg on it already.

*You started doing some obedience work, you and Charles, just recently. Would you like to tell us about that?*

When I took Silver, he was still nervous and jumpy, and I tried him at one of the shows. So, to keep him from getting rusty, we took him to the various dog shows and, gradually, I put legs on him and finished him. About that time, we had these four puppies, two from Kim-Omara and Springline's Buster Williwaw, and the two from Silver and

Bettina. By that time, we'd fallen in love with them and couldn't part with them. The reason is that they have dispositions that are exactly what we were hoping for. They WILL protect and guard but they aren't guard dogs in the sense that it is their foremost duty. If another dog makes a move towards them, they are not ready to fight but if a dog jumps them, they WILL fight. To me, a dog that will do absolutely nothing, I don't prefer. I would like a dog to stand up and protect itself, but I don't want it to be aggressive. I can run them next to each other and they'll play with each other up and down the fence and this, I love. We've got four dogs because of their dispositions and conformation, and they're getting a little elderly!

*Did you start all four of these at the same time in obedience?*

Yes. We put all four of them through their C.D.'s this past year. We recently went to an award dinner and received four of the awards!

*What were their names again?*

Frost River Buster's Rocky, Frost River Buster's Quita, Frost River's Silvertina Kitz and Frost River Silvertina Kip.

*Are you planning on pursuing the obedience?*

Oh, YES. The dogs love it so, and it's good for a person to get out and work with the dogs. It gives the dogs something to look forward to and keeps you from watching television all of the time, too!

*In your breedings, did you help your bitches whelp?*

That's one thing I've been very thankful for. I've never had any problems. I sit up with my bitches when they have their puppies and I look them over. I've helped a bitch once in awhile if she has a breech and it's hard on her. I'll take my hand and grasp the puppy and ease it around so it will come through a little quicker. Normally, my dogs have all been good mothers with good milk. I feed very well when they're carrying their puppies. They're fed very carefully when they're nursing those puppies and weaning them. I try to supplement their food when they begin weaning with a formula of egg, canned milk, vitamins, Karo syrup and Pabulum. This is to build them up and I don't try to put them on dog food until I think their stomachs can become adapted to something other than their mother's milk. I have very few vet bills. I always give my dogs their distemper shots, leptospirosis and whatnot before they're bred whether they've received their shots at the first of the year or not. I worm them, and they've all been x-rayed. I won't breed unless they've been x-rayed. I won't breed my studs to a female who hasn't been x-rayed or to one who isn't a good, sound example of a Samoyed. I don't breed to just anyone who comes along. I also won't breed to anyone who comes to me the night before and says their dog is ready to breed! I tell them that's fine and to



*Frost River Drum Nicholas*

bring her back in six months! Better yet, bring her back in three months, let me see her, then bring her back in six months and I might breed her!

One lady I knew went back to college. She became quite an expert on genetics. The next time I saw her, several months later, I have never seen such a change in a person in all my life! She looked ten years older. I asked her what was wrong. She said she'd bred these two dogs and had gotten TEN puppies! She told me the mother wouldn't do anything with the puppies. She just had them and left them. She said she'd just finished weaning them and she didn't have to stay up all night feeding them. I asked her if she wasn't the one who learned so much about genetics and took so many courses on it. She said she was, and after she investigated, she'd found out the mother of these puppies had come from a bitch who wouldn't take care of her puppies! It went right on! A mother who is a good mother is genetic.

*That's interesting.*

I've never had ONE problem. I've never had to call a veterinarian to help them. The minute I know they're finished, I take them in to have a shot that cleans them out.

*Have you ever had to tube feed or bottle feed or anything?*

I had one litter where the mother didn't have quite enough milk and I bottle fed. I started sooner than I would have to supplement, but I didn't

have to rub the tummies and all that. She did all that. All I had to do was supplement them occasionally.

*Would you breed a bitch if you knew she wasn't going to be a good mother?*

No. I don't believe in continuing on that sort of thing. I've had a bitch take a puppy and move it to one place consistently. I've talked with several veterinarians about it. The older veterinarians, the ones before they had the hospitals and that sort of things, have told me if a dog isn't a good mother, something is wrong with the puppy and the mother knows it. She won't continue to take care of it. If a mother consistently puts a puppy away from the rest of the litter, I let the puppy stay where she puts it and just let it die. I had one veterinarian tell me I certainly wasn't a friend to the veterinarians. He said those puppies were the ones they made their money off of!

*Do you cull puppies?*

I've never had to. I don't sell what I consider to be bad puppies. Pet quality to me is a puppy who is sound with a good disposition. I had a lady come to me at a sanctioned match where I had taken some puppies for experience. She asked if I had any puppies and I told her I didn't. I told her I wasn't going to breed that year but would wait until the next year. She said she was hoping I'd have some pet puppies. I asked if she wanted to be lined up for a pet and



Ch. Anastasia of Frost River

told her I could probably find her a pet through some of my friends. She told me she'd heard from several people that if she got a PET from ME, she would be getting a good showdog!

If you mean culling, then repeating a breeding, then culling because it still wasn't right, NO. I had a gal in Oakland who was breeding, definitely knowing she was going to have puppies she'd have to cull. No, I don't believe in doing this. There are enough good, sound, beautiful animals without breeding. I can't see this business of having so many dogs running around that the pounds are overflowing and all. You have so many dogs after you begin to breed and there are so many loose. I'm particularly upset by the Doctor's Pet stores and all of this type of place. I've had SO many calls from across the country when some of my dogs are out on a circuit. A scout would see the dogs and call me to ask if I'd sell them a litter. NO WAY! I wish there was some way the pet shop owner would begin to realize what they're doing! If they would realize that within the confines of his area there are people who breed dogs or if he'd find someone who came in and wanted a Samoyed or a Great Dane or whatever, if he'd just send them to these breeders in his area and maybe take a percentage, the breeders would love it! The people who bought the puppy would have a sound puppy, and there wouldn't be the traffic in sending five-week-old puppies across the country, dying half way to where they're going, having worms and being taken away from their mothers without being weaned. I think it's terrible.

*What do you look for in a puppy buyer when they come to you? Who wouldn't you sell a puppy to?*

The first thing is, if my female doesn't like the people - no sale. The second thing is, I wouldn't sell to them if they didn't have an enclosed yard to keep the dog safe. The third thing is, if they would really WANT a dog like a Samoyed. I tell them there will be hair all over them and their furniture, and they have to groom the dog like they

have to groom their own hair. They have to comb that dog. There's no odor to a Sam, but you MUST clean them, brush them and take care of them. They must be bathed occasionally and they HAVE to be trained. You cannot allow them to run loose, they'll become tramps. If the people love dogs, I'll sell to them. I can tell after a little bit of being around people. I usually ask them to come and go through my kennels and look at the dogs. You can begin to tell about people. I follow through with my dogs when they leave here. I know where and how they live, and I'm almost as bad as a grandmother! I get grandmother type letters at Christmas about the dogs and the kids.

*Have you ever had any disappointing experiences with someone you thought would be good and ended up not being so good?*

Yep. I don't know what was the matter with the woman. I've come to the conclusion that she just didn't have good sense! That's the only thing I can think of. She fed the dog until it was absolutely one big batch of fat. I finally got down and gave her the "what for" and "how to" and told her she was going to lose her dog because it was unhealthy and everything, and she'd HAVE to thin it out! By the time I got down there again, the poor dog was practically a skeleton. I took the dog back.

*If you sold a dog to someone and, for one reason or another, it wasn't working out...?*

I'd take the dog back and FAST! Whenever the people don't want or can't handle the dog, I'll take it back. The reason is, I've tried, especially with a little older dog, that if the dog doesn't suit the person, they'll never be happy with it. If the dog doesn't like the person it's with, they won't be happy. It's a two-way street! Dogs HAVE personalities and people have personalities and preferences as to a particular type of dog. Some people don't mind if a dog barks. They think it's hilarious. Others want a dog to be sedate. You have sedate lady dogs, dogs who are absolute little ladies. You have the hoiden. That one there jumps all over people telling them she loves them! The other little dog comes up and says she loves you, but she doesn't maul you! Some people don't want a dog who jumps on you and others want one with vitality. You have to match the people with the dog. In some ways, it's like a marriage. If you put up with the other person and really care for them, you don't really care what they do, because you CARE about the dog and you train it. The training comes between the wife and whoever can yell the loudest!

Actually, a dog wants to please. A dog wants to be disciplined and taught what is expected of him. They're just like children. Our dogs know they can get up on a particular piece of furniture, but they also know they can't get up on the table. They know if they steal anything, we'll be very angry and, so far,



Frost River Silver Drum at 9 months.

these dogs haven't stolen anything. BUT! Kara was the best thief I've ever seen in my life! She could take something while you were watching her!!! So could Kinta. Actually, dogs have definite personalities and people appeal. If you can match personalities then the dogs and the people are happy. After all, that's what life is all about, isn't it?

*Of the dogs you've had, are there any special personalities?*

Oh, yes. AiAi.

Charles: He was the one that, in the ring, he couldn't understand why a judge had picked another dog, but he didn't hand the judge a Band-Aid when the judge ran his finger over AiAi's backbone!

Evelyn: That was the one I got from Gretchen. We never found out what was wrong with him. He never passed it on, but he never gained his substance until he was six years old!

Charles: He was too active.

Evelyn: Very active.

Charles: He was the only Sam I think I ever saw with a flying trot.

Evelyn: Beautiful. He had a fantastic coat and a loving disposition. He finally got some substance, and I picked out the shows to take him to and so forth, and he got torsion. It was about 11:00 at night, and I called Dr. Piper. He met me at the office. He operated and I helped him. All night long. At 7:30 in the morning, I sat with the dog while Dr. Piper went home to change his clothes. He was at the hospital for darned near three weeks. He came home and was okay for another couple of years but, of course, he'd lost weight and everything again. I showed him a few times. Charles took him down to Santa Barbara. Gretchen told me I didn't want to show him because he was out of coat and all, but we'd entered him, and he lost his coat after that. Anyway, Charles took him to Santa Barbara and, when he got in the ring, Gretchen didn't believe her eyes! That dog had personality and animation and all, and a BEAUTIFUL body. Just a fantastic body and a nice head.

*What do you find the biggest killer*

of Sams is?

Evelyn: I've heard of quite a few of them having cancer.

Charles: The biggest killer of dogs is automobiles, isn't it?

Evelyn: We've had quite a few of the puppies we've placed...

Not when they're taken care of the way they're supposed to be!

Charles: They have ways of getting out at times.

Oh, yes.

Evelyn: Some friends of ours who lived in Bishop moved from one area to another in Bishop. They bought a litter brother of Silver. They called me one night and were just crying. They said when they moved, the gate at the new place wasn't secure, and he came rushing out to greet them, ran right out in the street and got killed, right before their eyes.

Charles: The backyards aren't as safe as the kennels, but the backyard dogs are probably the happiest of them all! They have a way at times of being let out, either by a gate being left open or whatever.

Evelyn: Or people will take them out to play ball with them. These people came back all the way from Bishop in their motor home and asked if I had another dog. I had Silver's litter brother left. I told them they'd picked one of the two, and there was a fellow who wanted the other one, but hadn't come down to see it yet. She asked if they got here first if they could have it, and I told them they could! They drove all night and were here the next morning to pick up the other dog, then

went back. Then they moved to Carson City so the new dog is living in Carson City, and I haven't heard anything more from them.

How many dogs do you keep now?

Evelyn: We have an even dozen.

Of course, two of them are Ch. Skipper and Kommoshe who are my senior citizens and are in pretty bad shape.

They're aging now to the point where they won't last much longer.

What do you feed?

Evelyn: I have stayed with Purina High Protein dog food unless we have an extremely hot summer and I change from the High Protein to the Purina Chow. I also supplement it with a tablespoon of Linatone or just Safflower oil and sprinkle it with powdered milk.

I feed the puppies Therealin and, usually, this raspberry Cal-D-Tron until they're about a year old. I give them plenty of that for bone construction.

And you feed them the High Pro also?

Evelyn: Yes. I have no hot spots, no coat problems and the healthiest dogs in town! I had a tooth problem with Kim-Omara. The vet asked how old she was, and I guess I was thinking of another dog. I told him she was seven. He put her out and got her tooth fixed up. I went home with her and checked her registration certificate and Lord, she was ten years old! I went back and told him I'd looked up the certificate and she was ten years old. The vet said that her heart, lungs and everything was SO good that he wouldn't have believed she was older than seven! I took Twana over, and he asked how old she was. I

told him she was nine. He didn't believe me. He said, "That other one is ten and this one is nine, and I just don't believe it!"

Do you do anything special as far as dental care for your dogs?

Evelyn: Yes. I give them raw bones and cooked bones. They get PLENTY of bones to chew on. I've heard their teeth wear out but you can take a look at my dogs' teeth. When they get to be ten or eleven, I think they should have their teeth checked at least. I've looked in all my dogs' mouths since I've been back, and I can't find where there's enough tartar on them to bother taking them to have them cleaned.

Have you found that, in Samoyeds, some of the bloodlines are longer lived than others?

Evelyn: I haven't paid that much attention to other's breedings. Ours live around 13, 14 or 15 years old. Lady was about 13 when she laid down under the tree out there and just died in her sleep! In fact, I was planning to take her down and enter her in Veterans class because when I took her out that morning, she just waltzed around like a dog of about five or six years old. She was having the best time running circles around me and dug her little hole out there. It was summertime. The trees all came down low, and she crawled in her little hole and just died.

With breeding, do you help the matings along?

Evelyn: I have one dog you DO NOT HELP with mating. He says we have to stay away from him or he'll chew our ears off!

Who is that?

Evelyn: Kimar. The rest of them don't seem to mind, but I think I ruined him for that myself. There was a little bitch I took away from him three or four times, and put her aside because she was so darned mean. I thought, sometimes, young dogs don't quite know what to do. When you'd hold her, she'd get all excited. He was doing just fine but he got so worn out that I took her away. Before I did that, he didn't care at all, and I helped with all of them. I put her on the other side of the fence and let them rest for a couple of hours. He finally mated her, and I think that the idea was, if I took a lead and put it on his female, I was going to take her away. He just doesn't want ANY-ONE near him. it's HIS business. He takes care of everything!

When you do help a mating along, how do you go about it?

Evelyn: I simply hold the female so she doesn't move around. I've been lucky in having males who have the ability to take care of matters themselves. I don't believe in forcing a male and/or female to submit. If I have to hold a dog down or tie it up so there will be a breeding, I won't do it. Kara and a few of my other dogs would breed with one dog, but would fight to the death on the other dogs.

They were selective?

Evelyn: Yes. I think Samoyeds



Toy Drum, Oakland K.C. 10/77.

ARE. That's weird. I guess I'm not in the business for making money, but I've found if you let the female make her own choice, providing you have two males who are both good for her, you should stick by the one she chooses.

*Would you muzzle a bitch at all?*

Evelyn: I've never had to muzzle any of MY bitches. I've had two bitches come who had beautiful pedigrees and the man brought the muzzle. I asked him why he had to muzzle her. I guess she was really hell on wheels! I told him my dog was a good, sound dog with sound mentality, and I didn't want my dog bred to any bitch who had to be muzzled.

*What do you think a fair stud fee is?*

Evelyn: I think fair is what you would get for a puppy.

*What should Sammy puppies sell for?*

Evelyn: They're selling for \$350 at the pet stores. I sell my pets for \$200.

*On your pets, do you require a spay/neuter contract or anything like that?*

Evelyn: It's according to what's wrong with the puppy. I have one male out, and the people have never violated their bargain with me. They've never bred that dog and he's beautiful.

Once there was a male in the house eating. When he moved back, I took one look at one of his hocks. I'd never had any hock problems in my lines before. I saw that hock and sold him to some people who really wanted him with the stipulation that he'd never be bred. He was fantastically beautiful, but if you get bum hocks, that's one of the hardest things to get rid of. I'd never had it and where this came from, I don't know. The people took him and brought him down to the vet's once every six weeks to be bathed. I went down one day and here this beautiful dog was, racing up to me. I recognized him right away. The doctor came down the hall and said, "Well, you've met up with one of your puppies!" I told him I had and he asked me why I'd sold the dog as a pet. He said that he'd looked and looked for something wrong with that dog and couldn't find anything. I ran the dog down to the corner and back and the vet STILL said he couldn't see anything wrong with the dog. He said I shouldn't throw my dogs away, he was just fine! He thought the dog would win! I picked up that hind leg and showed the doctor that the dog was double hocked. He had a way of moving so it never showed unless it was pushed back a certain way.

*Describe this double hock because I'm not familiar with it.*

Evelyn: The hock can go either direction, forwards or backwards.

*It's like they're double jointed?*

Evelyn: Yes, and that's a fault. That was the only dog I've ever had that had any hock problems! Anyway, the vet told me the judges would never catch the problem and I said, "But I

would!" I said, "When that dog is bred, the poor people who did the breeding would have a whole bunch of it!" He said, "Maybe not!" I said, "You breed your dogs and I'll breed mine!"

*At what age do you place your puppies?*

Evelyn: At least by three months. Four months is better. Usually, people want that little darling puppy and, by four months, they're beginning to get out of that puppy stage. I usually try to pick the outstanding things about the dog. Like Silver there. I could tell what I wanted in him when he was quite small. The bone structure and everything was there as a puppy. It takes at least three months. You can NEVER be sure of the size of a dog's bone. Everyone talks about a puppy's big, beautiful bone! My breeding DOES have good bone, almost as good as some of the Malamutes I've seen. They're not supposed to have Malamute size bone. Malamutes are supposed to be much heavier! A Samoyed, when he has good, big bones and knuckles as a puppy, will grow up to have good proportionate bone. I don't like a dog with piano legs.

*That's a good description.*

Evelyn: Well, they're SO BIG!

*At what age do you evaluate your puppies?*

Evelyn: I think I start evaluating them when they're about three weeks old. I watch them. Maybe some people can just look at a litter once and pick them. I start watching them when they're about three weeks old. That's when they first begin to walk and get around. About the time they're six weeks old, they begin to blossom out into little, square chunks! What you look for is proportion for their age. Most of the litters I have, the puppies are all of one size. With Silver and Bettina's puppies, there were four of them identical. Skip and Kitz were identical. Identical but different, you know.

*How so?*

Evelyn: They were the same size but their faces were different. The way that Kip and Kitz's necks arched was different. In other words, they looked alike and you could tell that those two weren't identical to the other four in the litter, but they were identical in size, movement, head structure. You can't tell much about a coat when they're little. The others were stair-steps in size. The one female and one male looked so much alike it wasn't funny. Usually, Bettina always has six puppies, three of each. Kim-Omara has six puppies. She usually has five males and one female.

*What was the largest litter you ever had?*

Evelyn: Seven. That was Kara. She had seven all the time.

*What was the smallest litter?*

One.

*Who was that?*

Cappy.

*You feel that by three months you*

*have a pretty good idea what you have in a puppy?*

Evelyn: Well, yes and no. You can tell by that time what type of disposition they're going to have, more or less, and you can tell what they might grow up to be. BUT, you cannot tell the size. I've seen dogs with beautiful great big bone and I've thought they'd be big. I don't WANT to grow a big dog, I want to grow top standard. They'll grow to the top of the Standard, and the bone will just be in proportion to the size of body. I've seen some with what appears to be little tiny fine bone. I'll think GEE! But they'll grow and the bone grows too! The bone, in proportion, will be just fine!

I don't think I've had many fine boned dogs. If you look at all of my dogs, they are in proportion to their body size in height and weight and bone. I've been very fortunate. Someone asked me why and how I choose my litters to come up with what I come up with. I told them I've been lucky! I think that's really one way. Make sure the dogs you breed are sound. I think if you look into the background of the dogs you put together, you'll get as much background genes as you do from the mother and father. In fact, I think the grandmother and grandfather, on both sides, will be as much in a breeding as the mother and father.

*Let's talk a little bit about inbreeding and linebreeding and outcrossing. When do you think each should be done?*

It's according to the dominance of your male or female. If you have a female who passes on what she is...

*How will you know that until you breed her?*

There it is, who did SHE come from? What is behind her? If it's an outcross, then you'll have to be very careful. You look at the dog. The first thing you ask yourself is what do you have. Does the dog have a wider front than you like? Does it have a back end that's not quite the way you want it? Does it need a better tail? What have you got? Then you try to pick a compatible background so that you have strong dogs in the background as well as dominant genes for what you want. If you have two dogs who are beautifully matched, and they're both dominant, fine. Let the best dog's genes win! If you have a bitch who needs help, find a dominant male. One who is dominant for those things she is lacking.

*Are you saying that if she's short to breed her to a dog who produces tall dogs and you'll get taller dogs?*

No. You breed her to the nearest dog who is perfect in size. You won't breed her to a tall dog. If you have a short dog and you want a long dog, you don't breed her to a long dog, you get one that is perfect in length. You don't want long and you don't want short. You want the dog that is the best. You get a dominant dog who will produce as near to the Standard as possible.

So many people look at two dogs

and say one is taller and one is shorter, and they should get a medium dog. You'll get tall and short dogs!

*That's the answer I wanted.*

I've had people come to me with a beautiful animal; no dog is perfect. They either have a body fault, or a mental fault. No person is perfect either. What you have if you see a dog with no apparent faults, maybe a beautiful female, then you get a beautiful male with no apparent faults, who cares. Look into the background. What kind of background do each of them have? Does this dog have great big dogs in the background? Little, short dogs? Wide chests? You'll get some of this in with your breeding also. You NEED to know what's in the background.

*What if you have a pedigree that's just an outcross on top of an outcross on top of an outcross. How will you ever know?*

If you're smart, you'll leave it alone!

*That's the answer I wanted!*

If you have a good pedigree that is strong in certain lines and you go back to that line, you'll be reinforcing that line. There again, why do you have to build up from nothing to build your dogs when there are fantastic dogs already built up so you can get a good dog to begin with! So many people begin with a pet who is a good pet. I bred to two obedience dogs. They had intelligence far beyond the average Samoyed. In their backgrounds they had fantastic champions. I'd happened to see and happened to be around them and happened to have competed with them so I KNEW the type of dog they were; I KNEW about their mother and father. When you see them and you know what's behind them, but yet the dog you're breeding to isn't quite show quality but has a terrific background, BREED TO THE BACKGROUND. Yours will fit in with the background. I took two chances and we've gotten beautiful dogs out of them. Unless you really knew the dogs in those pedigrees, I wouldn't have done it.

*Have you ever had a litter you would consider just a disaster litter? One that didn't even come close to what you were looking for?*

Yes. I had a disaster litter, and I won't name names. I had four of the most beautiful dogs I'd ever seen in my life. One of them is a pet, and she's in Mariposa County. She's x-rayed clear. The other one is owned by a girl who's father is one of the big valley car dealers. The daughter was kidnapped and put in a hole for about 15 days. She had a Samoyed for a pet, and it was run over. They tried everywhere. Why I'm well known, I don't know. REALLY. Most of the veterinarians in Fresno and around will send people to me when they are looking for a Samoyed. They tell the people if I don't have one, I'll know someone who does. Anyway, one very late night, a call came and it was this car dealer. He gave me the story and wanted to know if I had any puppies.



*Am. & Can. Ch. Rickshaw's Drum*

I had some that were four months old and were BIG. I'd never used this stud before but he was very beautiful and his background was very big dogs, which I hadn't realized. Three of them were huge compared to my past breedings. One was just medium. I intended to show the big one. They came over and brought the little girl over. She'd had a dog who was similar to Twana: a high, agile typey dog of that sort, short coated. I'd had this male puppy who was of good size and was a quiet, loving dog. She came in and I brought the smaller puppy in, a little bitch. She didn't really like this one. She asked who the bigger one was, the male I was going to show. She asked if she could see him and one of the other males. I told her I intended to show the first one she asked to see. The big puppy walked over to her, came to me and looked at me, went to her and put his head in her lap. He just told me, "Goodbye!"

*He just picked her!*

He wouldn't leave her.

*That's one of the special personalities you were talking about.*

Yeah. He was HER dog. So, I figured they belonged together, and my dear little puppy went off with her that

night. The girl had really suffered.

*You've got me in tears.*

Well, come to find out that one was okay. The other male was gorgeous but he began to grow wrong; his legs got longer and by the time he was seven months old, I took him to a gal and asked her if she'd ever seen anything like it. She hadn't. I told her what the breeding was and she couldn't figure out what had happened. I told her the female puppy, the smaller one, was growing and getting huge, but was proportionate. I had this funny looking puppy x-rayed and both hips were terrible. I had him put down. He was one of the most beautiful things I'd ever seen! I took the little female down and she had one hip that was very bad, but the muscles were SO wonderful that it never bothered her. She had one good hip and one very bad one. She got BIG and weighed 80 pounds and had NO fat on her. The girl who came back from Bishop to get that second puppy, saw the female and asked who it was. I told her I was going to have the bitch spayed and, of course, she asked me why. I told her the bitch had hip dysplasia, and I wouldn't want her to be bred. She was beautiful, and anyone who had her would just think it wouldn't hurt to have one litter of puppies, but they wouldn't be thinking about what the puppies would produce! This gal just loved her and the dog loved the gal. I told her I was looking for a good home, and that I'd have her spayed and recuperated. Then, if she wanted the little female, she could just pay me for the spaying bill and she was theirs. The vet had told me that with the set of muscles she had in there, she would probably NEVER show any signs. THAT was a breeding I put out of my mind. Anyway, this gal asked if she could have her right away, and if I would trust her to have the bitch spayed and send a certificate verifying the spaying. I agreed and received the spaying deal. That was my disaster litter. There were two in that one, and I've had four other minor, very slight hip dysplastic dogs that I can recall.

*Do you think all Samoyed pedigrees can be trusted as far as accuracy?*

I don't know. Mine are. I checked with Vera Lawrence who went over all the pedigrees, dogs and owners and the pedigree was in order. I KNOW my pedigrees are okay, and I've been very careful when a dog is bred to make out a pedigree for both the sire and dam. I keep one and give one to the deal, for my side. When I make out a pedigree, I know it's right.

*Would you breed to a dog with a very serious fault if he had outstanding qualities?*

No. There are enough dogs in the world who do not have very serious faults. Why breed to encourage the continuance of a fault? There are recessive genes which are serious and may hide with the next deal and would show with the next puppies.

*Would you rather breed to a medi-*



*Frost River Drums Son*

ocre dog with an outstanding pedigree or an outstanding dog with a mediocre pedigree?

What do you mean by a mediocre pedigree?

Just say it was a mishmash.

The dog would have to be completely outstanding as far as soundness mentally and physically in a deal. However, if you're going to breed, and you're breeding to a mishmash and you know nothing of the other dogs in the pedigree, it's like Russian Roulette. You'll never know what you'll come up with. Your pedigree is only showing what you have to work with. If you don't know what it is, you're really taking a chance. I don't think I'd breed to either of the two. It's just a guess as to whether the pedigrees are correct and the dogs are correct. If everything is right, it's a guess when it comes out.

Many people seem to breed to the current winners regardless of the dogs involved in the pedigrees. How many people have you known that really know and understand Samoyeds?

I've known many people who know Samoyeds. I've met many who absolutely do NOT research enough to know what's in the backgrounds of their pedigrees.

How can the situation be improved?

If you are a serious breeder, and you are really interested in keeping the Samoyed breed as it is, the Samoyed Standard should be used to attempt to maintain Samoyeds that conform to the Standard. I don't know how else to put it. You have to have something to go by, and the Standard is there. It was chosen to be a guideline for breeders. The more people who ignore the Standard and breed to please judges, is more than I can see! The Standard remains the same. The judges and the public don't, unless you maintain the Standard.

How many litters do you feel a bitch should have?

I think three litters out of one bitch is all I've ever had, but like I say, I'm not a puppy mill. Unless I wanted something out of a breeding, I didn't breed. Maybe I could have bred more but WHY! When you figure that the progeny of one bitch are sold to show or pet homes, if they allow it to breed, look how many dogs you get from that one litter! Your line is going to continue so why just encourage the quantities and not pay much attention to the qualities?

Tell me what you look for in your ideal Samoyed head. Your ideal.

A cross between a Kobe and a Snowland. A half and half head. In other words, I don't like a long head, and I don't like a bear head. I like half and half. A Kobe head is a pretty good head.

How would you describe the difference between a Kobe and another?

A wolf head is more slender and long. A bear head is shorter in snout, wider. I don't like a great wide head with a short snout. I like a balanced head which is taking some length off the wolf head and some of the width off

the bear head, and make a half and half head! In other words, my Tzar had a head I liked. That was a good head. Silver has a head I like. He has enough of a square jaw. I knew a dog I liked very much except his muzzle was extremely square and big. He had hair which grew from it, and it appeared to be an abnormality yet he was a good, balanced dog. I don't like a great square muzzle. That's not a Samoyed. They have a tapering muzzle.

My Ch. Skipper has more of a bear head than a wolf head. It's a beautiful head, but I'd like a little tiny bit more wolf in it.

What about eye shape and placement?

The placement of the eyes are to be almond, and I like them slightly slanting. I like Cappy's face better than anything I have. He looks like a little Chinadog. He has nicely shaped eyes, slightly slanting.

What about eye color?

I like a warm brown. I've had them all the way from very dark to light. I like them to be warm. I don't want any tinge of yellow at all.

What about ears?

I have a dog called Buster's Jack, Rocky's brother. He is fantastic. He has such a high ruff that his ears look tiny. They're not. I want a dog with an ear which, when folded, will come down to the tip of the eye. That's the proper size. For the size of the ear and the size of the dog, that's where mine all measure to be. I don't like short ears or great long ears. They fold over and cover the eye and that's too long. If they don't reach the corner of the eye, that's too short.

What about bites?

Their bite is supposed to be scissors.

Do you see a lot of bad bites in the breed today?

No, there are very few bad bites. I've never had a bad bite. Silver has a bite which is alright, but the three bottom teeth seem to come out just a little bit, but the bite is still alright.

What about missing teeth?

I've never had a dog with missing teeth until they get older, and I have to have a bad one pulled or something like that. I know Dobermans have lots of problems with missing teeth. I don't know about your breed.

How do you train your puppies?

I believe if you have Samoyeds, and I've had all sorts of mutt puppies and such that I've had all my life, but if you're raising a dog for breeding, showing or for a pet, when they're young, you go through their toes so they will allow you to go through and over their feet. You go through their mouths and all the teeth in the mouth so you can do anything you want with that mouth when they get older because they don't like it unless they're used to it. By so doing, you also have an opportunity to watch the teeth as they come in and are lost and so forth, and you KNOW what your dog has and doesn't have.

What about length of neck and placement of neck?

There's what they call the "U" heck. If you look at the dog sitting on that deal you see a correct neck, correct arch.

Do you think there are any problems with necks being too short or too long?

Yes, many Sams don't have necks. That's why I'm particularly fond of those with the nice arch!

Describe the dog we'll have a picture of, in the interview, who has the neck you want to see. That will make it easier for people to visualize.

Tzar has a neck I like. He had a nice arch. Lady had a nice arch in her neck, and this dog has a fantastic arch in her neck. Look at the arch in Kinta's neck. Omar had a fantastic arch in his neck. In fact, go down my dogs and you will see I've liked the proud arched neck all along.

What about toplines and length of back?

Kitz is a little longer because she's a female, but she's not overly long. I don't like a GREAT long dog. A little bit of length is a help in whelping for a female. He is as near as possible to being okay in this deal. If you go by your standard, to look at a dog, unless you have something to compare it with, you need a shoulder of 45-degree for movement. If you have a freely moving dog and you see him stretching out coming at you, you know you have good overlay, good shoulders.

What about Width?

I don't like a wide dog. I like my dogs to have a good, straight front. If they're wider, then they've got a big deal between their legs. They aren't supposed to be barrel-chested, they're supposed to come down straight.

What about feet?

Kinta had cat's feet. I never had any problems with her and she could certainly move. She was a fantastic little dog. The Standard says, "hare feet." Well, take a look, they've got bare feet. Very few dogs are supposed to have this, but that's what the Samoyed is supposed to have.

What about the underline?

You've got the shape when their chests come down to their elbows, then it's a tuck-up that comes up and should be apparent. It should come up under there and fit in with the back end. Without a tuck-up, they don't look right. They have the chest that comes to the elbow and a well defined tuck-up.

What about rears? How about length of hock?

One-third of the animal.

From the ground to the top of the back?

One-third to the top of the back.

What about the amount of angulation in the rear? Do you think we're beginning to see dogs without adequate angulation in the rears?

What do you think about the dogs here that you've seen?

I love it!

That much angulation is fine. The ones I was telling you about, the litter I was so sorry about breeding? They had fantastic angulation, too much angulation. That WAS too much angulation. They seemed to bear up and be okay. I like a well angulated dog but no extremes. The moment you get an extremely angulated dog, you're going to run into problems. That is NOT what the Standard says. You have to go back to whatever the guidelines are. If you're going to cut a dress out of material, you'll have to follow a pattern. When you're breeding a dog, you're following a pattern.

*What about tailset and carriage and even length of tail?*

That's another reason I want to breed Kitz to Cappy. The tailset on her is not what I like; I'd like it a tiny bit higher. It's not down too far to be a fault, but I'd like it a little higher. Cappy has an exceptionally long tail. He has a tail that just barely makes it to his ankles. The reason for a big, long tail on Samoyeds is because they bring it across their faces when they're sleeping in the snow at night. It keeps their lungs from frosting. There's a practical reason for a working dog to have every item the Standards call for.

*Have you ever seen a beautiful Samoyed that didn't have a tail that curled?*

There's what they call a flag tail that goes straight in the air. There was a squirrel tail that comes right down flat on the back and both those are faults. There's another one that goes around in a double circle and that's a double hook-tail. A Samoyed's tail should come up over the back and cross over. I prefer the tailset of Cappy, but hers is okay. I like to have them high and coming over with a sweeping dip. If you notice Cappy's tail, it's fantastic. Kim Saru had the most fantastic tail you ever saw in your life. It came up and swooped over like a bunch of ostrich feathers. It just floated; it was so big and pretty. Buddy Boy didn't have a good tail. When he got old, he practically had no tail at all



Ch. Kara of Frost River

comparatively. Any one of these other dogs you look through in here have very good tails and they come down to meet the deal.

*What about color?*

White with black deals. If you have a dog that is good in everything, but doesn't have an entirely black nose, maybe it's a winter nose; they're not supposed to take anything away from it at all. But, the judges do. Normally, you go back through your pictures and your knowledge of the dogs and way back then, there were NO black noses as we know them. These have been bred into the dogs for the fancy. Most of them had the snow noses because of where they lived up beyond the tundras. These are beyond the tundras, beyond Siberia, where they were isolated from any other dogs and tribes excepting the Samoyed people. These people gave the dog a name that means "people leader." The people named the dogs after the deals. There are some who say they came from Japan when the land was formed - they came across there. Some of these people who lived so isolated ... actually, they come back from there. In Japan, they have a small dog that looks like a Spitz, well, it actually looks just identical to a Samoyed, but it's smaller!

*Have you seen any problems with lack of pigmentation in Samoyeds?*

I don't think I have any here. When we were first breeding, I remember there were some with a little marking left over. Mitzy had one little tiny line in her mouth that you could hardly see. We have not had the big gaps. One time, I had a dog that didn't have about 1/4-inch of eyerim, but never anything else. Where THAT came from, I don't know.

*Have you ever seen any Samoyeds that had black guard hairs mixed in with the white?*

No, that's a fault. The Samoyed people lived way out and the dog they called the Bjelkier. Those dogs were black and white. If the dog has any black or white in it, it means a Samoyed got mixed up with a black and white in it.

*What about the biscuit?*

That's approved and they can have biscuit because evidently, they did have some with biscuit, but no black. In all of the dogs, usually you'll find underneath the white fur, under the base of the ear, they'll have a slight tinge of biscuit. You take all the fur off these dogs and they have black markings on their skin! That's not a fault, that's pigment. I sold a little dog to a girl, who had a baby that wasn't quite right, but she was a very loving, gentle girl. The dog and the girl got along just beautifully. The first time the dog started shedding, I got a hysterical phone call from her and she said I'd sold her a dog that wasn't a Samoyed. Some Samoyed breeder, beyond Santa Rosa, had told her there were no black spots on a Samoyed. Every Samoyed I know has black spots on their skin when they



Ch. Tzar of Frost River

shed. Without it, they'd be a albino.

*What about expression?*

Charles: I won't name the judge but he's been very kind to us. He feels the Sam smile or expression distinguishes the dogs from any other breed. Without it, he doesn't feel it's a typical Sam. His opinion was that so many of them appeared to have the smiles "painted on." The real Sam smile wasn't there! They DO have a smile. In fact, they look as if they're laughing at you! That's one of their charms!

*Do you think Sams have a sense of humor?*

Evelyn: Definitely.

*Give me an example.*

Evelyn: Cappy will go get on Charles' lap or something and look at me with the slyest expression and want me to get upset because he's not paying any attention to me. All of a sudden, he'll smile and come to ME. Then he'll look back at Charles and go back over there! They play you between each other. Other times I'll say, "Oh, for heavens sake, what are you doing?" He'll turn over on his back and wiggle. He's making fun! I'll scold him and he'll play with me. Or, he'll get a rag and bring it to me and shake it around until I play with him. If I'm busy, he's very persistent and interrupts anything I'm doing until I WILL play with him. He definitely DOES have a sense of humor that's really funny.

Kara would stay with you regardless of anything. She gets all excited when she sees what she wants. She'll nudge you until she gets what she wants. You've heard Kitz talk. They'll even argue! Bettina is a good talker, too. He'll sit down and watch Bettina and nudge her a little bit to get her to do all the talking.

*How do you grade your puppies?*

Charles: If you know your lines, it's a little easier to tell how a puppy is going to turn out. An outsider a lot of times, will miss the ones that will turn out to be the best. I'm sure you find that with Wolfhounds, too. I hate to try to rate someone else's breedings because you don't know their lines or

what to expect.

*Out of all the dogs you've had, which has been your favorite?*

Charles: Actually, I think Cappy is one I like. Cappy is always one to smell the daisies! He enjoys life. He's a playboy. He'll wear himself out playing tug of war, chasing balls or anything. Normally, I think I prefer the character of the bitches more than the dogs!

Evelyn: When Vera Lawrence's 17-year-old dog died, she called me and asked if I had a dog she could get. I took a dog up and she had a picture there of her dog, when it was in it's prime, and the one I took to her was out of Nipsy and was a fantastic, good size, beautiful animal. She took a picture of that dog in the same place with the same bush in the picture, at the same age as the one she had of her dog and you couldn't tell which dog was which. She just adored that dog. Anyway, the dog died. When the dog died, they decided they wanted one out of Skipper, so we bred Skipper to Danica - and the Morgans go back to Drayalene. Anyway, this one had a good pedigree and good hips and everything. Here are the puppies when they grew up! Here they are lying under the tree out there, here's Dawn and here's Starlight. They are up in Berkeley with Ina. You can see that these dogs in body-type and face, look like their father. The same earset and all. She was heavier but built just like him.

*What about your first specialty?*

Evelyn: The first specialty was at Miramar and it was the first big specialty to be held anywhere. I think there were around 90 and we showed at night, on a Friday, under electric lights. Seeing this picture reminded me of it. Shondra of Drayalene was picked and Anastasic came in second and Kara came in third. Nipsy came in third in her class; she was completely out of coat but we took her anyway. To make a long story short, the next day we showed at Ventura and Bob Ward was the judge. It was during the daytime. He nearly wore me out! I hadn't shown very much; it was still very new to me and the first thing I knew, he had put me up with Shondra! Shondra and I were running around and finally it was between just Shondra and Kara! This kept on, this running around and around, for quite awhile. I was new at it. You want your dog to have its tail up tight and you want it to be perfect. I kept talking to Kara telling her to keep her tail up and all. Poor Kara was just young and was getting tired! Finally, Mr. Ward walked by and said, "Keep her tail up, Carol!" He finally gave it to Kara. Anastasia was first, Kara was second and Shondra went third. In the daylight, she was pretty heavy. She had biscuit but she was a little heavy. When you get a dog a little too heavy, it shows in the gait. At night, it's hard to see what they're doing, but in the day, you can see it all. I was so amazed, because I thought Shondra was just fantastic, having taken the Special-



ty and for my Kara to go over her, I thought, "WOW!"

*How did both of you learn to handle?*

Evelyn: NOBODY taught us! (Laughter.)

*Who is the better handler?*

Charles: She is! Did anyone teach YOU to handle?

I had some tips, yes!

Charles: We were brushing our dogs the wrong direction and no one ever told us!

My first time in the ring was the first time I'd ever been to a dog show. It was just a match. Mitzy and I learned together! She'd never had a choke chain on. Evelyn asked a friend of hers who was showing dogs, what to get in the way of equipment! We came out with a six-foot lead, very wide, for a little bitch! Mitzy was beautiful, you know. She moved out fine. For Best of Breed, she decided this was a new kind of game! I've been clipped before in football, but Mitzy did an expert job! I just stretched out right in front of the judge! (Laughter! He didn't even break into a smile and I would have been laughing all over!)

*What suggestions or tips would you give to people who want to owner-*



*Frost River Silvertina Kitz*

*handle their dogs?*

Charles: I think classes are good, if they have someone who is truly a good handler to instruct them! I think each breed has it's own problems.

*What about someone just starting out handling Sams?*

Charles: Get a good Sam that will stack itself and learn to keep your hands off the dog. I know, when we started, I messed things up more by not keeping my hands off her. She was a self-stacker and so was Kara, when we learned how to do it! The first win she had, I got frightened because there was already four professional handlers going into the bitch ring! It was the first major for a long time and I got that dude, George Payton. He told me to disappear! I'd never seen a handler situation quite like that, but he'd never had her before and he just played with her! He baited her and moved her in different deals. He knew the judge, Mrs. Holland - she'd be one that you had to have a mighty good dog to hand stack and get by with it. She wanted the dogs free wheeling. She was at the far end of the line and Mrs. Holland had four bitches, she was working with, at the other end of the line. She'd bring one out and something I didn't see was that, as she was bringing them out, she'd have them lined up but was looking at Mitzy! Then she took three of them to the end of the line and that's the way it was: one, two, three, four! If you'd start messing with her, it didn't do any good! Hamilton told me something and I didn't have the sense to realize what he was saying at the time. He said I was moving her too fast! When we went in for Reserve, I really didn't care, because to me, she was beaten by a bitch who wasn't as good, but then, we're a little kennel blind! I just halfheartedly moved her down and back and he said, "My God, if she'd moved like that, I'd have put her up!" (Laughter.)

*Did you advertise your dogs very much?*

Evelyn: The only advertising we did actually, and I didn't do it, was Vera Lawrence put an ad in "Western Kennel World" with Czar. We introduced Lady's last litter. Each Christmas we generally put in something. When one finished, we'd put it in.

*Do you think advertising influences judges?*

Charles: It can, yes. Sometimes adversely. The judge that loves to dump a Best in Show winner is always out there. I think for the most part, it influences them to continue their winning. There are times where a lot of judges would like to pick the Breed winner out of the classes! That shows they're open minded?

*What do you think of the quality of judging in Samoyeds?*

Charles: I think it's always been spotty. Don't you think that's true in all breeds?

*What could be done to improve it?*

Charles: That's really a problem.

Perhaps, if they had a more formal way of choosing judges, like they do in judging cattle, where they actually judge the judges! This is a continual thing. They're not in it for life; they have to be recertified. They have the agricultural colleges and such to fall back on. The source of judges is handlers and breeders. I've seen one judge who will go to a show and actually make notes on all the dogs in the ring. Personally, I don't think that's what I would want to do. Then, I've read an article on British judging by an oldtime breeder, and she said they have many more classes in Britain than we have and they take them seriously! She says she'll judge them as they are in the ring at that time, even if she put another dog up over it before - it's the way she sees them each individual time. I feel the judges themselves are killing their game!

*How do you mean?*

Charles: They pick winners, for instance, always out of Open. What's the use in having other classes? Many times, you'll enter a dog that's better than you think it is. In Sams, the condition of the coat is one thing that completes the picture. I had that experience of having the best moving dog in two shows. One judge actually gave me no time at all. I sure didn't get my two bits worth!

*Do you think judging is fair?*

Charles: Seldom. Most times, I guess, the judges are honest but let's say the percentage is pretty tight. It's like the presidential election where they win by 2% and that's a landslide. I feel it's pretty much that way. Actually, I think due to the cost of judges and all, they have to depend pretty much on all-rounders, the ones who are licensed to judge a number of breeds. Actually, you'll find a good all-round judge will often give you a better selection, than someone who is too closely related to the standard and has their own idea of what the standard means. All breeds have this problem. If we'd had no dog but the first puppy we had, I'd swear the typical Sam was like that fella. He was a double grandson of Rex of Whiteway. I think he was the spitting image.

Evelyn: Great big bone, big ears.

Charles: His bone above the pastern was the same as my arm bone above my wrist! Rex wasn't a beautiful dog and he never made his championship. He was known as a sled dog.

*Do you think champions should be shown in Open class?*

Charles: I think that would be fun, but what results many times would be like in the English system. There's one dog who had 33 challenge certificates and that would have made 11 champions! Undoubtedly, there were dogs of championship quality at that time, but I think it would be fun to try it once in a while! There are some of them who would have to demonstrate that they can move! That would be worthwhile, too.

*Do you think it's ethical to re-touch show photographs?*

Evelyn: No.

Charles: If you need to darken - maybe the background, ink out the background to show the dog off better - that's okay. But to change the picture of the dog itself? No. You'll notice in the "Gazette," I think Sams show up very well because usually they get a dark background. They're included to have a dark background in many of the show pictures and it doesn't do anything for a Belgian Sheepdog or a Pulik!

*Do you think making the top ten or twenty in your breed means anything?*

Charles: I think so. We've never done it, but it probably means they have a VERY good animal and that they campaign it well. A breeder, if they have a number of animals, will have their finances dictate how they can spread their money out to show a number of them rather than just concentrating intensely on running in Best of Show circuits! As far as Best in Show, a lot of that depends upon the popularity of the breed at the time.

*How has popularization of Sammies helped or harmed the breed?*

Charles: I think it will harm ANY breed. We have historical evidence to that fact. The Sams aren't that popular yet, and I hope they NEVER get to be, because it becomes so commercialized to concentrate on breeding anything you can get papers on!

*How do you train your puppies, and at what age?*

Evelyn: We start them when they are able to understand what you say. We lead break them first, then get them used to people around matches and such.

Charles: I think it's earlier than that, you start playing with them as puppies! That's a matter of socialization which is extremely important in any breed.

Evelyn: Automatically, you play with them as puppies. You make a special effort to lead break them and those are the things you just DO.

Charles: With us, I know the obedience bit had a bad name at first because we were told it takes all the spark out of a dog and that sort of thing. My observation is that the teaching of obedience now, using a different approach to it, is far more gentle. At one time, it was a little harsh! Doc Roth is a softy. I used a term that got him a little excited. I told him I HIT my dog. By that, I meant the same as in fishing, when you have a strike and you give a little quick jerk to the line, you "hit" it to set the hook! I didn't mean fist wise!! Just a quick little jerk, it's the same motion one uses in fishing. The dogs get the idea. It doesn't hurt them.

Evelyn: If you have a dog to finish his obedience, happy, you'll have a dog that will SHOW happy. I had so many people come to me when we finished Rocky because he was SO happy and pleased to be doing his obedience deal; he looked very happy! He made

a good score. I worked for 15 years getting dogs through conformation. Then you go into the Obedience ring. Conformation is body movement and showing your dog off but YOU move to show your DOG off! You don't MOVE in the Obedience ring. If you make motions, you can get double points off. You can lose points for your dog.

Charles: Morning is the easiest time to train the dogs. I'd turn them loose to run and they'd come sit in front of me, to wait to have their chains put on! They just love it! It's an entirely different game than I visualized. We were never careful not to let them sit down and all those little goodies the obedience people wanted because we had no other way of getting around other dogs! They get so that they're frightened of any other thing that isn't WHITE!

I know YOU do obedience work and I'm sure you don't use the heavy handed methods they were teaching 10 or 12 years ago. Some German Shepherds, I think, were a little hard headed so all the dogs have to be handled differently.

*Have you ever been interested in doing any sled training with your dogs?*

Charles: In my mid 50's, when we started messing with these dogs, I realized I'm not a very good athlete, but have been in pretty good shape. Sledging is for younger people! It's one of those things that would have been wonderful to try, but on the other hand, a hammock is very attractive!

Evelyn: I got a sled and there was a gal who was going to start with me. It never got off the ground. There's another gal coming over now, who is much younger than I am, who is going to train them. She's going to use some of my Sams and work around here and I'll help her. I'm still agile enough to get around!

*What kind of conditioning do you do for your dogs? Do you roadwork them?*

Charles: Yes. I put them out and work them during a walk more than anything. A bicycle is excellent. We've done roadworking along side the car at times - we go very slowly. There's a place right up the road that's beautiful where we can get off the highway and work them out that way. If they have a horse to keep them busy, that does a terrific job. I think actually, where the roadwork pays off is just in walking. They get used to working. Don't you find that roadwork helps YOUR dogs?

Yes.

Charles: They're more natural when you get them into the ring when they've been worked on a lead.

*I think that's really true.*

Charles: It makes it much easier if you have a place for them to exercise themselves. What would be beautiful, actually, is an inclined runway. Up and down stairs is good. All those things develop muscle and reach. Just a healthy dog is what you're aiming for.

*Do you find that some dogs seem*

Mounds, 918-927-6837.

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**PENNSYLVANIA**  
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DANICA (ps), Dr. John & Judy Kovitch, RD 5, Shawnee Hills, Bloomsburg, 717-784-9196.  
MARCHWOOD (pds), Nick & Kay Kulokoski, RD 1, Box 39, Lincoln Univ., 215-869-2500.  
POOKA (p), Mrs. Mary Louise King, 9413 Hillspace St., Philadelphia, 215-677-0124.  
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**TENNESSEE**  
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PUDDIN' HILL (s), F.E. Dubisher, Rt. 2, Box 199, Madison Heights, 804-933-8372.  
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CAMEO (pds), Sheila Howell, Rt. 2, Box 61, Elk, 509-292-2338.  
CO-LEE (pds), Coralie Ingram, Rt. 3, Box 66A, Snohomish, 206-568-5123.  
LUPINE (ps), Sir Viris Z. Patzer, 21308 N.E. 174th St., Brush Prairie, 206-892-3720.  
SUN STREAK (pds), Robert & Shirley Cornell, Rt. 14, Box 511 B, Olympia, 206-866-4410.  
**WASHINGTON, D.C.**  
SNOW STORM (pds), Mrs. Judith M. Williams, 1735A Eleventh St., N.W., 202-667-8268.

#### WISCONSIN

ALISHANDY (pds), Richard & Ann Thew, Rt. 2, Box 770, Colby, 715-223-4977.  
BERL (pds), Don & Judy Berlinger, RR 1, Box 144, Neosho, 414-474-4080.  
CELTER (pds), Celine Kohlman, 3905 Oak Park Rd., Deerfield, 608-764-8001.  
FROSTAM (ps), Francis J. & Ruth E. Tausend, 12042 Diane Dr., Wauwatosa, 414-453-3303.  
KAMODAN (pds), Eugene Nev, Rt. 4, Emerald Lane, Plymouth.  
K-WAY (pd), Bob & Wanda Kraus, Rt. 3, Box 12, Kent Rd., Poynette, 608-635-4707.  
POLAR BEAR (s), Mr. & Mrs. Howard H. Haferman, Rt. 1, Box 208C, Juneau, 414-386-2792.  
ROYAL AMERICAN (pds), Robert J. Ropicky, 7320 Cliffside Dr., Racine.  
WOLF RIVER (ps), Kay Bailey, P.O. Box 185, Waldo, 414-528-7062.  
**WYOMING**  
WIND RIVER (ps), Lucinda A. Johnson, 263 Capitol, Lander, 307-332-5530.

to keep themselves in condition better than others? Are there some who just seem to have muscle tone?

Evelyn: Some dogs are lazy.

Charles: We had one that Gretchen brought up so he'd exercise. He was very lazy. We put him in a run with Mitzy and she was a young puppy. She'd twirl around and hit him over and over again and before she got through, she had an active dog made out of him! She just worried him until he finally got going! She took 10 pounds off of him by hardening up and turning that flab into muscle! He was inherently a lazy dog.

Why don't you describe your kennel facilities?

Evelyn: We have 14 pens. We've got four that are 8' x 10'. We've divided the other five in half with wire between them.

Charles: I have partitions we can take out or put in to divide them. It seems like we got so many dogs that they became halves more than the whole thing!

Evelyn: As we get fewer dogs, we enlarge the kennels again. I don't intend to keep 12 all of the time. We'll keep all the dogs that are older and as we get down, we'll take those partitions out and each pen will be 8' x 10' for the older dogs.

Charles: One is 8' x 12'.

They each have their own dog house?

Evelyn: Yes, a 4' x 3' dog house and they're covered. They're six feet high. There's plenty of room. One half is concrete floor and the other half is gravel. Some dogs like gravel and some dogs like concrete. It's close to the house and the dogs sleep and eat in their pens.

I take them out to their pens which are about 25' from the house. Our backyard is about 125'. There are three pens directly from the house that are about 30' x 100'. There's a shed at the edge of the runs that separates two of the runs. There's an alleyway of 8' between the sides to the front. Those are a little longer, they're a little longer than 100' and about 30' to 40'. There are nine of the big, long

runs and two of them are cut in half. One big one, and one is cut in half. The front pen is for any visiting dogs so I don't have to upset my own dogs, unless I know who the dog is and where they've been and such.

How much land do you have all together here?

Evelyn: Eleven acres.

How long have you lived here?

Evelyn: Almost 30 years.

The kennel isn't set up for convenience. The runs are far enough away from the kennels. We bring the dogs in at night, unless I have dogs that are old and I keep those in all the time. The main thing is, the dogs are actually worked with and handled during the morning and at night, so you can keep track of their health.

Charles: For water, we just use buckets. One thing about Sams, when it's real hot, they really like to put their feet in the buckets! Changing their water when it gets dirty from their feet is an inconvenience several times a day, but then again, it does give them a certain amount of personal attention. You can't just change the water, you have to play with them a little bit. I think this makes for a happier dog.

What kind of maintenance do you do on the coats?

Evelyn: When their undercoats loosen, they're combed out thoroughly until all the undercoat is out. I brush them often. The purpose of taking them out each day is you can see when a coat needs to be tended to and I'll stop and tend to it. If a dog's coat is loosening up and he looks rough, you take him up and take the loose coat out and brush him. That way, when someone needs their toenails cut, you'll see it! The dogs get taken care of better when you spend a little time with them, a couple of times a day, so you can SEE what they need.

How much grooming would you do for a show?

Evelyn: Trim where they need it on their legs, so you have at least two or three weeks for the fur to settle, so it doesn't show up cut. Then you comb it out very thoroughly. You brush and

comb and comb and brush - and brush some more - then you bathe the dog, usually a couple of days ahead. I don't use bleach or anything on them, they just come out snow-white and have silvertips. Right now, they're pretty muddy because of all the rain! Brushing is essential to get all the loose hair away from the dog, clear down to the skin. Beyond that, I don't trim. If you show much, you take the whiskers off because everyone else takes the whiskers off.

Have you noticed any fads in grooming or showing in your breed?

Evelyn: There isn't much you can DO to a Samoyed without making it look funny. When they're very young, they have this puppy fuzz and you can't do much with it! Nature knows better than you do. Some dogs have such a terribly heavy coat that it's hard to groom out and get all the loose undercoat.

Charles: We'd have done better with Kara if we'd used some thinning shears. The amount of coat she had made her look short-legged! Every time she went in the ring, that was the one thing I'd notice ... the judge feeling her legs to be sure she HAD enough leg.

What should their proportions be, the length of leg to the length of body?

Charles: They should be slightly off square and a little longer than they are high. They want 45-degree layback, chest coming down to the elbows. The sight hounds have a pretty sloping croup, but on Sams, they shouldn't have much; they should be pretty level. We like a fairly long neck that they'll hold erect.

Has it been worth it?

Evelyn: Oh yes, we both enjoy it as much today as we did when we started out! In fact, more. This past year, we've gone into obedience and have enjoyed it tremendously. All the young stock is obedience trained and we're going into advanced.

Is there anything you'd like to add?

Evelyn: I don't think so!  
Thank you!

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