



# TAMASKAN BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

HOME OF THE AATU TAMASKAN

Volume 1, Issue 2

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## Inside this issue:

- Dog Care Basics 2
- Health: GDV in Dogs 2
- Raw Food Series Part II 3
- TBA Breeder Profile 3
- TBA Contact 4
- Dog Food Recipe 4

## Special points of interest:

- TBA NEWS
- Gastric Dilatation and Volvulus Syndrome (GDV)
- Raw Food Series Part II
- TBA Breeders Profile

## Aatu Tamaskan Litters have arrived

On Dec 4, 2009 the first Aatu Tamaskan Litter was born to Alba Tamaskans in Scotland. [Alba Tamaskans](#)

January 3, 2010 a litter was born to Ta-Kari Tamaskans in Colorado. [Ta-Kari Tamaskans](#)

**Both litters have been adopted.**

2010 will bring exciting changes and additions for the TBA with new foundation dogs being added to help us achieve the wolflike look and domestic temperament.



**TAKEIA**

Ta-kari Tamaskans, Colorado, USA

## Future of the Aatu Tamaskan

written by REGINA SKARZINSKAS

Months and months of research and preparation have put the Aatu Tamaskan on the map.

Armed with expanded pedigrees, significantly improved health histories and a cadre of committed and honest current and future breeders of integrity, the Aatu Tamaskan will make its mark on the dog world in 2010. Two litters have been born and more are planned. Our mentors are proving to be even more valuable and invested in our success than we could have possibly hoped for.

Over the next couple of weeks, we will review our breed standard ensure that it is in line with our vision of the wolffy look and the Aatu temperament and aptitude.

For those of you who are on waiting lists for an Aatu Tamaskan, we appreciate your patience.

Our goal is health and improvement of the breed first and foremost.

As we identify breeding quality dogs and healthy foundation stock that can move our breed forward, work with our new breeders and continue to work with our mentors, puppies will become more available. In the interim, get to know our breeders, learn about the breed and welcome to the exciting adventure ahead.

## DOG CARE BASICS by DANA BETTGER



**MIKKO**

Conchur Tamaskans  
Oregon, USA

When you have a Dog there are certain things you are as a dog owner are responsible for. It is important that you take good care of your dog. Proper care means that you will provide food and water. It also means that you will give your dog shelter from hot and cold weather. It is your job to get your dog regular veterinary care especially annual vaccinations, heartworm and flea preventive medications. These dog care basics can prevent a lot of serious problems later down the road.

Here are a few other tips:

- Provide a balanced diet, fresh food and water.
- Have a collar with name and contact info on your dog.
- Get a microchip implanted, they are not expensive and only takes a few minutes at your Veterinarian.
- Groom your dog on a regular basis. Start early on when they are puppies.

- Clip your dogs nails regular, again if you start early on when they are puppies you won't have a problems when they are grown up.
- Bath your dog when necessary but be careful since too much bathing can dry out the skin and coat.
- After a bath make sure you groom your dog to get rid of any tangles.
- Check your dog regularly. I check my dog once a week. I will look at his paws, feel for any bumps on his body and expect his teeth.
- Get him or her plenty of exercise.
- Get your dog neutered or spayed unless you are going to breed. It will prolong your dogs live and can improve behavior problems.

Most importantly take time out for your dog and make him or her a family member that is cherished and loved.

“The stomach  
twists into an  
abnormal position  
which is a life-  
threatening  
condition”

**JUNEAU**

From  
BUCKHORN  
TAMASKAN  
North Carolina  
USA



## Gastric Dilatation and Volvulus Syndrome (GDV) by DANA BETTGER

**Gastric dilatation and volvulus syndrome (GDV)**, it is also known as **bloat**, or some people refer to it as a twisted stomach. GDV can happen in dogs when the stomach dilates and twists into an abnormal position, which can cause vomiting, retching, a bloated abdomen, and other symptoms in your dog. GDV is a very serious, life-threatening condition that requires emergency treatment. . According to the [Animal Health Channel](#), dogs affected by GDV will die very quickly without medical attention and even then it can be fatal. My German Shepherd Cherokee died of GDV this year and even though I got him to the Vet he died a few hours after his emergency surgery. I was devastated and wanted to know what I as a dog owner had done wrong and if it could have been prevented.

### RISK FACTORS:

Deep-chested breeds are more likely to get GDV such as: Great Dane, Irish Setter, Boxer, Labrador Retriever, Doberman Pinscher, St. Bernard, English Sheepdog, Standard Poodle, German Shepherd, etc..

I started doing research on GDV and found out

several things that dog owners can do to minimize the risk of GDV. Here are a few things you as a dog owner should pay attention to:

1. Feed your dog several small meals a day, rather than one single large meal.
2. Make sure your dog does not eat fast and gorge him/herself. (gulping down food)
3. Don't let your dog drink large amounts of water immediately after eating.
4. Always have water available throughout the day. (this way your dog won't drink large amount of water at one.)
5. Don't let your dog get overexcited after eating.
6. Wait at least 60-90 minutes after a meal before you let your dog play or exercise. (A stomach full of food is more likely to twist).
7. Eating from a raised feeding bowl increases the risk (In one study, about half of the dogs with GDV had a history of eating from a raised feeding bowl.)
8. Always keep an eye on your dog and notice his/her behavior and don't hesitate to take them to Vet when you see something that is not normal for your dog.

GDV has been associated with **increasing age** and having a **first-degree relative** with a history of GDV.

For more information please go to Animal Health Channel at <http://www.animalhealthchannel.com/gdv/ndex.shtml>

## Raw Feeding Series Part II: by REGINA SKARZINSKAS

In the last issue I introduced the topic of raw feeding. I have been raw feeding for almost a decade now and have seen the benefits not only with my transitioned dogs, but in subsequent generations as well. I listed a number of reasons why you should consider raw feeding, but let's consider them in a bit more depth.

### Ensures a Biologically Appropriate Diet

Biologically Appropriate Raw Feeding is as close as you can get to the diet that nature intended for your pet. Whether you call it BARF, raw feeding or natural rearing, it all means the same thing, feeding your pet a diet consistent with his biology.

We know that canines in the wild, such as wolves, eat predominantly raw meat. The natural diet of a canine or feline consists of meat and bones, organs, whatever the prey's stomach content may be, and plants. In the wild, diet is not balanced on a daily basis, but rather over time. The amount of food, the nutritional content, and the protein source varied over time provides a nutritionally complete diet.

In the last 50 years commercial dog food has replaced this natural diet. In evolutionary terms, 50 years is less than a blink of an eye. While the physical appearance of the domestic canine may have changed in that time, their digestive system has not been altered by

the process of evolution. When we consider how wolves and dogs were raised before processed pet food and compare that to the health status of our pets today, we can only conclude that the changes in their diet have been dramatic and the effects on dog's health have been devastating.

### Fewer Health Problems

The canine stomach is designed to digest a raw diet. Dogs and cats cannot digest grains and cereals, commonly found as fillers in kibble. Additives and preservatives, while keeping kibble fresh for months, can create problems once stored in body fat and other tissues. Dogs and cats who are fed raw are less likely to have allergies, digestive diseases, skin or coat problems because their diet consists of foods from sources that they can easily digest and ingredients that they can directly use.

### Lower food bills

Raw Meaty Bones, organs, pulped vegetables are usually readily available and the cost of your puppy food can be as inexpensive or expensive as you want to make it. If you make friends with your butcher, watch for sales and buy in bulk you can raw feed your puppy for as little as \$0.25/day.. as long as you don't get your dogs hooked on ostrich or your cats hooked on sushi!

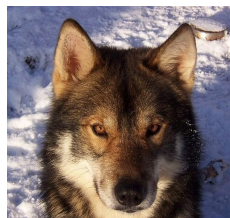
Comments or questions can be directed to [regina@ConchurTamaskans.com](mailto:regina@ConchurTamaskans.com)

## TBA Breeder Profile by REGINA SKARZINSKAS

### ELIZABETH WILSON \* ALBA TAMASKANS \* SCOTLAND

Our Breeder of the Quarter is Elizabeth Wilson, owner of Alba Tamaskans in Scotland. Alba is Gaelic for "Scotland" and Liz lives on the east Coast of Scotland, close enough to have a view of the sea from her home. Liz has always loved dogs, but as a young adult her living situation was not amenable to dog ownership. She received her University degree in Social work and worked in that field for a number of her years. But, her heart eventually won and she traded social work for a better life with her pack. Her first dog was a Utonagan and through the Utonagan group became involved with the Tamaskan Dog. Liz has been a part of the Tamaskan Dog history for the last six years. Alba produced the first 2 TDR registered Tamaskan litters.

Liz believes that the most important role for a breeder is to provide honest and valuable information to new puppy purchasers. "Honesty and integrity are so combined when people venture to attach a new member of the family. And all breeders should be accountable for what they do and portray, and always be there for the lifetime of the puppy." It is this strong commitment to honesty and integrity which led to her decision to disassociate from the TDR and become involved with the Aatu Tamaskan.



ODIN (Alba Tamaskans)

The quality of Alba kennels and Liz's reputation as a breeder was likely the reason why the BBC sought her out to include her dogs in a film they were producing. As Liz says "We had great exposure from filming that took all day, but had a minute and a half of fame, but great for the breed. It was Lycan for the footage, Xena did the sound and Miya did the head cam and little Thor was there but was too small to be filmed at the time." Possible further projects may be in the works.

When asked if she has a favorite among her pack, she responds with a resounding "A favorite? You are Joking! They are all Cool!" From snugglers and cuddlers to Shaddow her "munch monster" they all have qualities that endear themselves to her.

It is obvious from speaking to her, that Liz genuinely cares for her dogs and the breed. She opted to leave her career in social work to breed dogs and when asked about that decision, adamantly replies "I would not change it for anything, as I love my pack. "

Her goal as a breeder is the health, improvement, and success of the breed. Being involved so early in the breed history, there were few if any mentors so she did much of her own research. The wealth of experience and knowledge she has gained along the way is such an asset to the TBA and Aatu Tamaskan breed and our breeders. We are thrilled to have Liz and Alba Kennels as a part of our Aatu family!



## TAMASKAN BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

If you have any questions or would like some information on the AATU Tamaskan or the TBA please contact us at:

E-mail: [info@tamaskanbreeders.com](mailto:info@tamaskanbreeders.com)

Website: <http://www.tamaskanbreeders.com>



**Alba Skuli (Bear)**

**Alaba Tamaskans  
Scotland**

## DOG FOOD/TREAT RECIPE: Liver Brownies

### Liver Brownies (and Variations)

1 lb liver, any kind  
1 cup corn meal  
1 1/2 cups flour, preferably oat flour  
1 tsp fresh minced garlic OR 1/2 tsp garlic powder  
1 tsp fennel or anise seed  
1/2 tsp salt

Pat liver dry with paper towel. Cut into small chunks and grind in blender or food processor. In large bowl, mix liver with corn meal and flour. This will be very stiff and all the flour may not blend in, so add gradually add garlic and salt. Spread mixture on greased cookie sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes. Allow to cool 10 minutes; cut into squares. May be refrigerated or frozen.

Here are some variations:

Use chicken livers and hearts or beef heart using with cumin seed instead of fennel or anise. Bake on a non-stick cookie sheet for about an hour in a 350 degree oven. Cool, then slice into one inch cubes.

Other good things that you can add are:

A whole egg or two  
Fresh yogurt  
Grated raw carrots or apples  
Crushed walnuts  
Coriander, caraway, etc

The quantities are not too crucial. If the dough gets too gloppy, add more flour. Depending on what you add and how much, the baking time will vary but the temperature should be the same (350 degrees). When the slab is done you will know by its (rather delicious) smell, by its ability to spring out of the pan on its own, and by a clean hollow sound that it gives when you tap it.

Great training treats. Refrigerate for up to 1 week or freeze.

Recipe from <http://www.dogaware.com/treatref.html>

### LYCAN AND PUPS (Alba Tamaskans ,Scotland)

