

TAMASKAN BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
HOME OF THE AATU TAMASKAN



October 05, 2009

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TAMASKAN BREEDERS ASSOCIATION (TBA)

The TBA was established in February 2009. We are a group of dedicated breeders whose primary goal is the health and welfare of the Aatu Tamaskan breed. Our members believe that the keys to a strong foundation for this breed are adherence to the highest standards of breeding and puppy care and development, and a commitment to the highest ethical standards on the part of the breeder and kennel.

The TBA is a invitation only organization and all members agree to follow a strict code of ethics. Our breeders are committed to:

- Comprehensive health testing and screening
- Sound nutritional practices
- Accurate and thorough record keeping
- Continuing breeder education

On behalf of the Tamaskan Breeders Association and all of its members we invite

you to learn about the TBA and the AATU Tamaskan.

Welcome to the Wonderful World of the Aatu Tamaskan



Mikko
Conchur Tamaskans
Oregon, USA

AATU TAMASKAN

The Aatu Tamaskan is a variation of the Tamaskan Dog developed in the UK. While similar in appearance to its UK cousin, the standard for the Aatu Tamaskan will allow for some adjustment.

These may include, but are not limited to, a more massive size and a slightly longer coat. With the help of knowledgeable mentors, we are also studying the diversity within the "wolf" world and will adjust the Aatu Tamaskan standard to accept what is natural

within the wolf population.

From its inception, the TBA has been dedicated to health testing and the highest standards of quality and care for our dogs. Acceptable standards for breeding pairs are higher than those deemed acceptable for the UK Tamaskan. The Aatu Tamaskan will be temperamentally suited as a companion dog in addition to specialized areas such as therapy or service work. For more information E-mail: info@tamaskanbreeders.com

BEING A RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNER BY DANA BETTGER

Dog truly is Man's best friend. You will not find a more loyal and loving animal than a dog. Owning a dog is a privilege, and with this privilege comes responsibility. Dog ownership is not something to be entered into lightly. Owning a dog requires long-term emotional and financial commitment of you and your family as you accept full responsibility for the health and well being of the animal.

Your dog will love and trust you unconditionally; he/she will depend on you to take care of them much like a small child does. Before deciding that you want a dog you must make an honest assessment of your family's lifestyle and ask yourself if a dog is right for you and your way of life. Once you have made that evaluation, you should determine what qualities you want in a dog and what breed would best fit your lifestyle.

Ensure that you have time to spend with your dog. If you are planning on tying your dog up in the backyard, why bother getting a dog in the

first place? Socialization is very important and your dog should be part of the family and not spend their life locked in a kennel or ignored 90% of the time. Being a responsible dog owner also means that your dog is spayed or neutered and does not contribute to the problem of overpopulation. Millions of pets are euthanized each year because of irresponsible owners. Being a responsible dog owner also entails taking your dog to regular visits to your veterinarian, and providing a healthy diet and regular exercise. More than anything, being a responsible dog owner means to love and cherish your dog and always have his/her best interest in mind, even if it means money, time or inconvenience for you. If you are considering an AATU Tamaskan please take the time to evaluate your situation. The life long commitment to a new family member should not be a decision made on impulse.

PennHIP TESTING (posted with permission from PennHip)

Canine Hip Dysplasia (CHD) afflicts millions of dogs each year and can result in debilitating osteoarthritis (OA) of the hip. It is estimated that more than 50% of the most popular large breed dogs will show x-ray evidence of CHD. Many will suffer from osteoarthritis, pain, and lameness, decreasing the dogs quality of life, shortened longevity, reduced performance, and costing hundreds of dollars in veterinary care.

PennHIP (University of Pennsylvania Hip Improvement Program) is a not-for-profit program wholly owned and operated, by the University of Pennsylvania. It consists of 3 integral components:

- An evidence-based radiographic technology to accurately screen canine hips for the susceptibility to OA.
- A worldwide network of trained veterinarians to perform the procedure with competence.

- A database maintained at the University of Pennsylvania designed to accumulate and report on breed-specific trends in OA and hip dysplasia control.

PennHIP's mission is to provide objective information so that breeders can direct their breeding strategies with the goal of reducing the incidence and severity of CHD. The beneficiaries of this effort will be the many dogs who suffer with this controllable genetic disease and, of course, the dogs' owners.

PennHIP uses an objective method for evaluating the integrity of the canine hip. It is accurate in puppies as young as 16 weeks of age. When PennHIP results are incorporated as part of the overall health testing strategy, there is a greater potential of lowering the incidence of CHD.

For More Information: <http://research.vet.upenn.edu/Default.aspx?ch.vet.upenn.edu/pennhip>



**TAKEIA
TA-KARI Tamaskans
Colorado, USA**

**"THE AATU
TAMASKAN...
MAN'S BEST
FRIEND IN
WOLF'S
CLOTHING"**



**Juneau
Buckhorn Tamaskans
North Carolina, USA**

RAW FEEDING SERIES Part I: What is BARF? by REGINA SKARZINSKAS

I confess! I have been BARF-ing my dogs (and cats) for years... And, over the years I have taken delight in the raised eyebrows I have generated. Back in the days when I started, Barf-ers were akin to a secret society. We didn't talk much about what our dogs ate and when we did, significant explanations were rarely requested. A typical exchange was.. "What do you feed your dogs?" "Raw", "What do you mean, 'raw'?" "Raw, as in not cooked", I would reply. Usually after a few a few minutes of blank stares and then a sorrowful shake of the head, as if to say "poor dear really has lost it"... the conversation quickly moved to other topics. I hear tell that even Ian Billinghurst, one of the gurus of raw feeding, was beside himself that his Biologically Appropriate Raw Food (BARF) diet had been permutated by those "damn Yankees" into something of a joke. Well, while us old-timers may still talk of BARF and its benefits, the age of political correctness has entered even our own arena and you are more likely to hear of "raw feeding" and "naturally reared" than BARF. So what is BARF? Raw feeding? Natural rearing? And why have its proponents grown by

leaps and bounds over the last decade? How difficult is it? How expensive is it? And, how can I get started? Through this series of articles, I hope to answer all of these questions and more.

Why feed raw? You may ask. There are many reasons why someone would feed their animal companions a raw diet, but do you know why you should?

- Ensures a biologically appropriate diet.
- Fewer Health Problems
- Lower food bills
- Lower vet costs
- Tailor made diets
- Less waste
- Healthier food
- Fosters more appropriate growth rates and healthier development
- Better coat, eyes and skin
- More fun!

In the next issue we will cover these in more depth. Comments and questions are welcome. Send to regina@ConchurTamaskans.com



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**BIOLOGICALLY
APPROPRIATE
RAW FOOD
(BARF)**

BREEDERS PROFILE: KIM MONAGAS TA-KARI TAMASKANS



In this our inaugural issue we would like to highlight one of our founding TBA breeders, Kim Monagas. Kim is an avid wolf lover, who began her journey with a dream of one day owning a wolf. However, as she learned more about wolves, it became clear that even in the wide open spaces of Colorado, it would be difficult if not impossible to provide the kind of home and environment a wolf would need. And, even so, would it be fair? Her search for alternatives led her to the Tamaskan, and as Kim will tell you, "It was love at first sight". Here was an opportunity to contribute to a beautiful breed and offer others, who shared her love of wolves, a wonderful alternative.

It wasn't long before Takeia became a part of Kim's family and the foundation for her Ta-Kari Kennel. "Takeia makes me laugh every day. She is so expressive and has become very verbal. Despite her moments of 'defiance', I know our bond is strong". More recently, Dakari, a beautiful big male from Alba Kennels arrived, and the foundation breeding stock of Ta-Kari was in place. Kim describes Dakari as her love bug. "When I need a hug, I go to Dakari". Can

there be a more perfect description of the companion dog the Aatu Tamaskan is meant to be than Takeia and Dakari?

When Kim became interested in the Tamaskan, she was new to breeding and the dog world in general. The last 12 – 18 months have been quite an experience, in fact an "eye opener" as she would put it. She learned very early on that you must ask questions and do your own research. Her most important lesson "... stay focused on your own vision and true to your own integrity. Don't compromise your principles to be part of a 'pack'."

I asked Kim, if she could pick two qualities that defined her as a breeder, what would they be? Her answer speaks volumes about who Kim is and why we are so blessed to have her as a TBA breeder:

"Honesty and education ... I will never provide less."

For information on Ta-Kari kennels or to better get to know Kim, contact her at ta_karitamaskans@yahoo.com

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q: What does the word Tamaskan mean?

A: The name Tamaskan stems from the word Tamaska which is deemed to mean "Mighty Wolf" in a North American Indian language.

Q: Does the Aatu Tamaskan Breed make a good guard dog?

A: The Aatu Tamaskan is bred to be a companion dog with the stamina and structure of a working dog. They do not make good guard dogs although they may alert their owners to some one's presence.

Q: What if I want a Aatu Tamaskan?

A: Please contact the TBA for information on registered Breeders.

Q: Is the Aatu Tamaskan a AKC registered Breed.

A: At this time the Aatu Tamaskan is still considered a rare Breed because of the few numbers of dogs. But the goal is to make the Breed more known and to work toward AKC recognition.

Raw Food Recipe: Chicken Jerky By Regina Skarzinskas

Ingredients: Fresh raw chicken breast

Slice into one inch by 6 inch strips. Put them in a home food dehydrator or on a cookie sheet in your at 200 degree oven. Follow dehydrator instructions or let them bake overnight.

In 12 to 16 hours you'll have people grade chicken jerky that the dogs will go nuts for.

No additives, no preservatives, just good food.

Store in an air tight container.



Takeia & Dakari
Ta-Kari Tamaskans
Colorado, USA

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

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

