# The Siberian Husky Club of America is proud to Present This 18-Month Calendar Featuring the Beautiful Artwork of Jon Van Zyle The Net Proceeds will be used to sponsor Purebred Siberian Husky Racing Trophies

"Trail Break"

The 2020 Official Iditarod Collector's Print features Belle, asleep by the fire. Belle was a very sweet, fast little leader, sharp, quick to respond, no nonsense, trail-hardened leader. She had run the Fur Rondy two years prior. Belle was blind in one eye, and preferred to run with my other leader, Pikaki. The two of them ran lead for 90% of my 1979 Iditarod race. JON VANZYCE 19 3



#### "All Alaska Sweepstakes"

Painted especially for the 100th Anniversary of the All Alaska Sweepstakes poster in 2006. The All-Alaska Sweepstakes started in Nome, Alaska, traveled to Candle and back to Nome, a total of 408 miles. The race ran from 1908 to 1917. Among the winners were such famous mushers as Leonhard Seppala, Scotty Allen, and Iron Man Johnson. The first Siberian Huskies were imported from the Anadyr region of Siberia, especially for these races, winning several.

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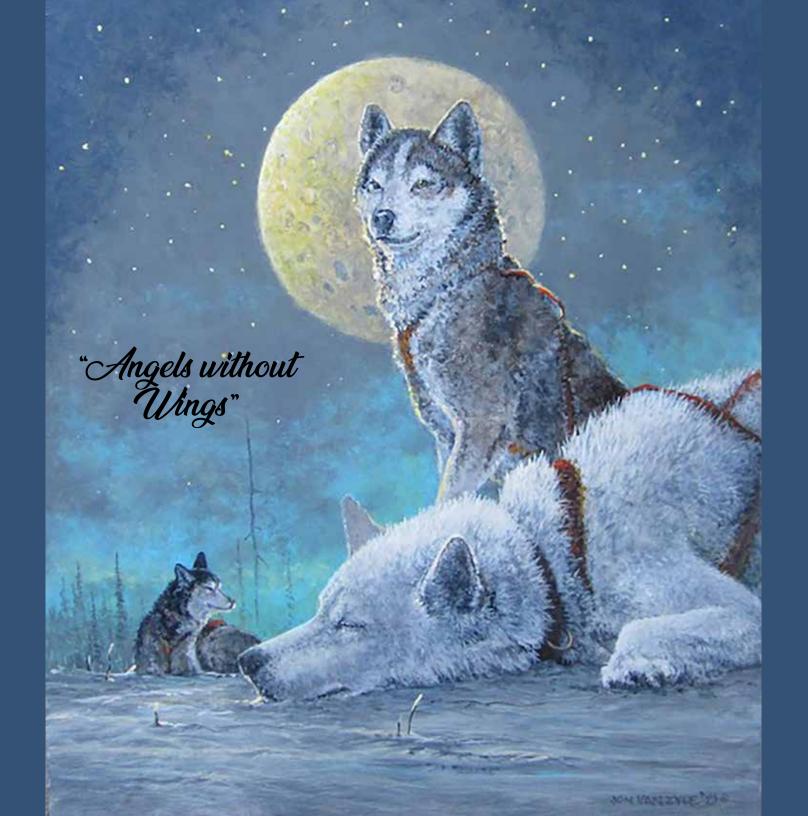


#### "Sisters"

Pikaki was undoubtedly the best leader I ever had. Tough, tireless, and extremely intuitive. I purchased her as a 6-week-old puppy and named her Pikaki, a small fragrant white flower grown in Hawaii. She led me on two Iditarods (1976 and 1979) plus scores of other long-distance trails. I often wished I had two of her...and finally succeeded when I painted her with her "sister."

# February

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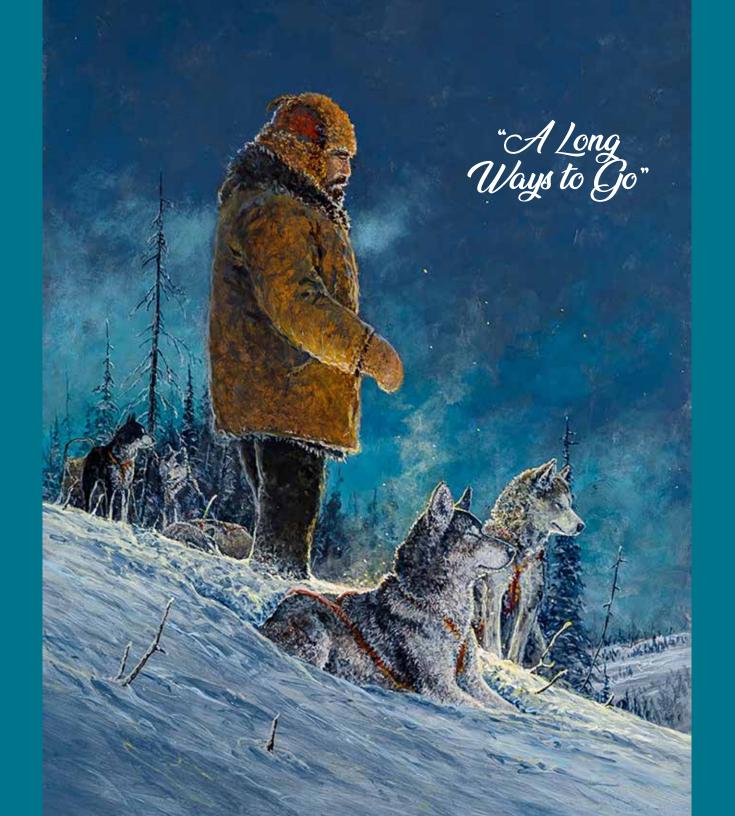
#### "Angels without Wings"

Painted especially for the Official 2021 Iditarod Poster. Iditarod dog mushers consider their dogs with high reverence and why not?? In reality the dogs deserve far more credit than their musher. No amount of human strategizing will determine the placement of a dog team...without the ability and toughness of the dog team accomplishing that strategy.

## March

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#### "A Long Ways to Go"

This original painting went through an unusual occurrence in my studio. It went through several transitions until being finished.

It stayed in my studio for several years. I'd change it, add a few sparks from the fire...add a dog to the team...

Finally the last addition was the co-leader.

April

<u>Sunday</u>	<u> Monday</u>	Tuesday	<u> Wednesday</u>	Thursday	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
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"Run, Rest, Schedule"

#### "Run, Rest, Schedule"

The original painting for the 2005 Official Iditarod Collector's Print, features a passel of couch potatoes with more "Rest" than "Run." They lounge under several framed sold-out Iditarod Posters. Each year (for nearly 50 years), I have produced an official Iditarod Poster, and a signed, numbered Collector's Print.

Most are faithfully acquired by collectors seeking the same print number each year to add to their growing collection.

May

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#### "Spirit of Alaska"

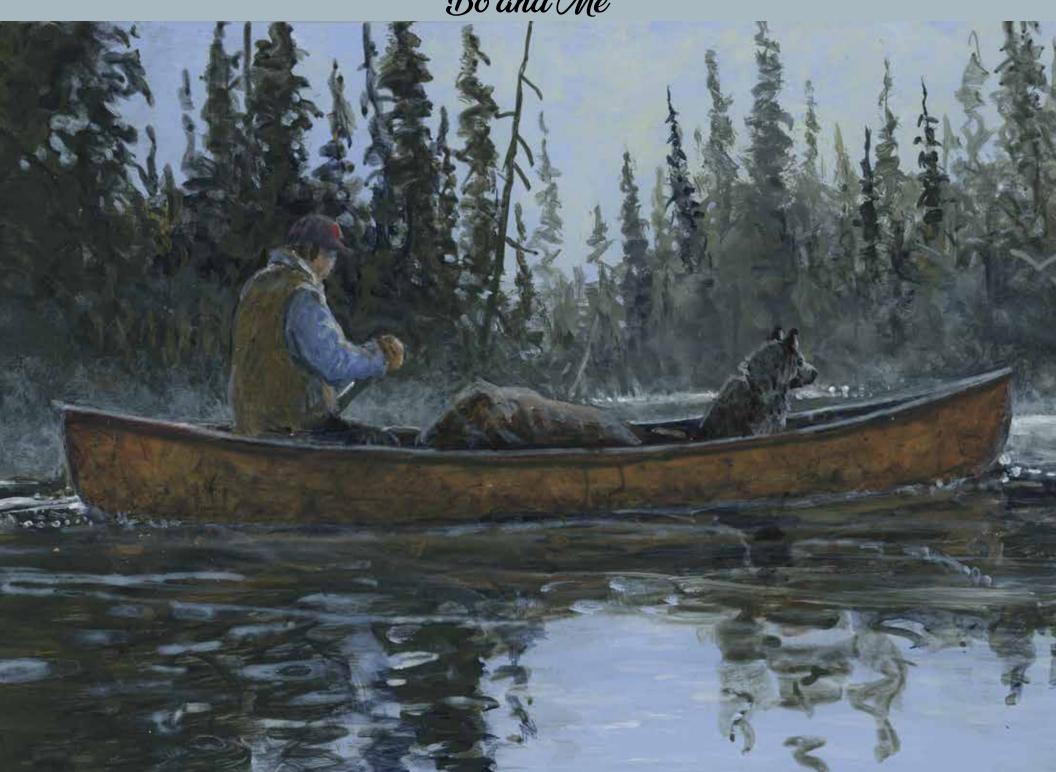
I was asked by Penair Alaskan Airline to produce a limited-edition metal print to present as their award to the first Iditarod Musher into Unalakleet each year. Penair, owned by an Alaskan native family was instrumental in helping fund the Iditarod race.

# June

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"Bo and Me"



#### "Bo and Me"

Bo was the best wheel dog I ever had. He was an Iditarod finisher in 1976, veteran of additional thousands of miles of trails,

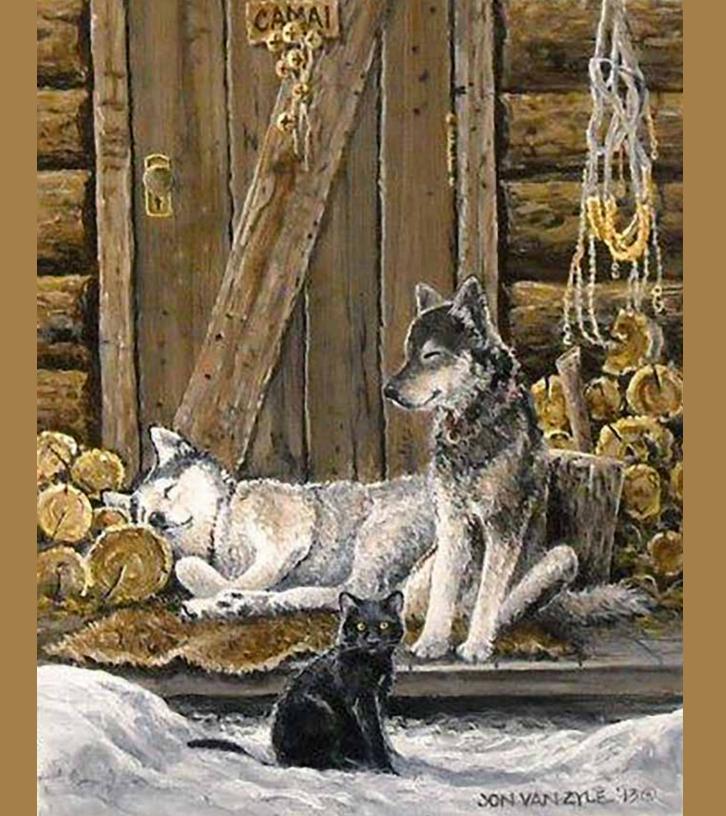
and literally my best friend for over 17 years.

Bo loved to fish and could be found with me on any piece of water larger than a puddle. 2024

July

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"The Welcome Cat"

#### "The Welcome Cat"

Our cat Dickens ruled the household and the dog lot...

He was friends with many of the dogs...

Most people have a welcome mat...

The Van Zyles had the

Welcome Cat!

2024

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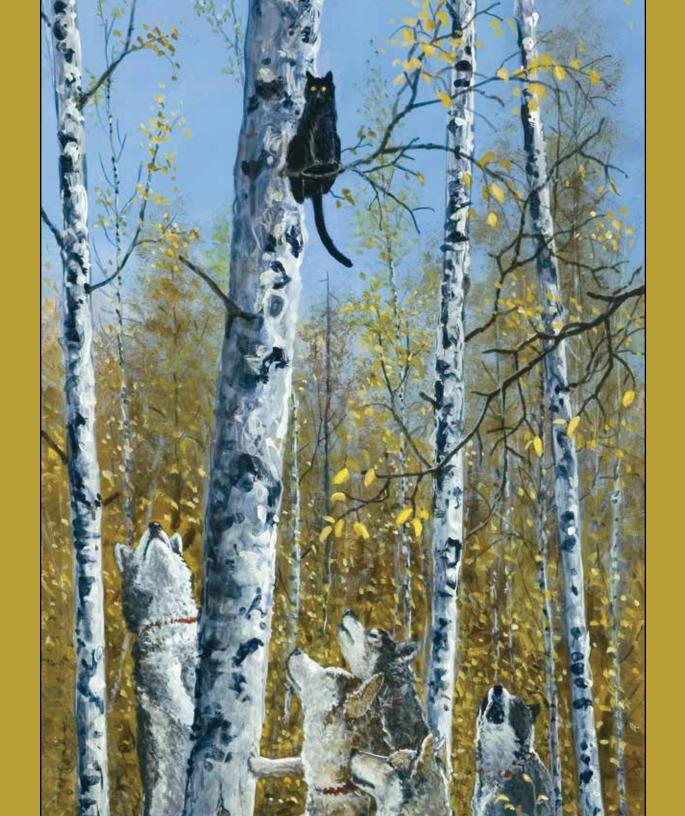


#### "Glow"

I've been fortunate to spend many nights alone around a fire...with my dogs.

# September

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"One Upmanship"

#### "One Upmanship"

I personally have never had the experience of dogs chasing a cat up a tree...
but many of our friends have told me of the
chaos of jumping, barking, howling dogs, and then trying to
coax the cat down from the tree.

# October

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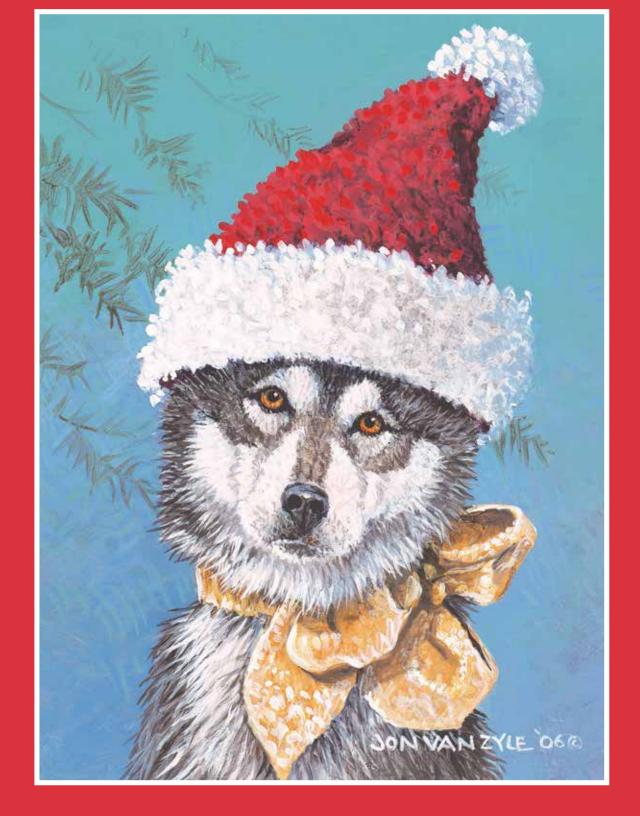
"One"

#### A young girl and her dog in the glow of her headlamp...

On a trail to somewhere.

# November

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"Santa Dog"

#### "Santa Dog"

Several years ago, my art publishers produced a series of greeting cards.

Among them were two Christmas cards. "Santa Dog" featured Jona's favorite leader,

"Hither," looking very perplexed and befuddled wearing her Christmas Santa hat, and large golden bow.

Certainly not a portrait of a tough Siberian lead dog!

December

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#### "Fire in the Trees"

2023 Official Iditarod Collector's Print. For years I had refused to paint Northern lights, as I felt it did not represent them as in real life...Eventually giving in to requests...I used an airbrush after several paintings I have now abandoned it as too messy and time consuming to clean up after painting. This original goes back to painted northern lights...or as I called it

"Fire in the Trees."

January

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#### "The Smell of Woodsmoke"

The original acrylic for the 1990 Official Iditarod Poster. In the early races, before all the modern conveniences, we built fires to heat our dog food. These campfires were shared by several mushers, telling of their day. Today, we have dog food cookers, lit by a simple match with food hot in 15 minutes. But nothing compared to sharing a campfire with several of your trial companions. Sadly, in this modern world, "The smell of woodsmoke" is gone from the Iditarod.

February

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#### "Trailbreakers"

Throughout Alaska's history, the sled dog has played a very important role. Many a pioneer led his companion as they broke trail to parts unknown...

# March

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#### "Two Tenors"

Several years ago, there were two operatic singers nicknamed the "Two Tenors." This original is simply my rendition of Siberian owners "Two Tenors."

April

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#### "Puppy Love"

The original for "Puppy Love" was the 2003 Official Iditarod poster painting. It features our friend, Gloria, with several of Jona's leader, "Hither," puppies.

May

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#### "Uhere's He Goin' Mow?!!"

This absent-minded musher has forgotten something in his tent...this exasperated leader who is anxious to be on the trail is asking... "Where's he goin' now!!??"

June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
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Born in 1942, art is Jon's life; and Alaska, all of Alaska, has been his inspiration for over 50 years. Artist Jon Van Zyle has seen more of Alaska in a more unique way than most can ever hope to experience. He has twice completed the 1049-mile Iditarod in the early pioneering races.

In 1979, he was made the Official Iditarod Artist, and in 2004, he was inducted into the Iditarod Hall of Fame. His acrylic paintings go far beyond the race though; as they encompass so much more of the Alaskan beauty (from scenics, wildlife, and native lore), each recording the Alaskan spirit. A prolific artist, Jon paints 70 to 80

originals a year for gallery, and museum exhibitions in the U.S.A., as well as Europe. He has illustrated over 50 children and adult books and has designed art for fabrics and a clothing line. His art is also produced on gift-ware, stone lithography, and over 400 limited-edition art prints and posters.

Public acceptance of his shared feelings through his art has been Jon's greatest reward. A few of his honors include, Official Iditarod Artist, Alaska Governors Individual Arts and Humanities Award, Alaska's Artist exhibition, Capitol Rotunda in Washington D.C., Frye Art Museum in Seattle, Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum, Bird in Art exhibition, Wild in de Nature exhibition in Enschede Holland. Deutsches Rontgen Museum in Remscheid Germany, Bi-Annual exhibitions with Wildlife Shop in Stafa Switzerland, Jon and Jona Van Zyle , first Artist in Residence Denali National Park Wrangell St. Elias National Parks, Designer, Alaska's Decoration of Honor Medal for fallen soldiers. In addition, Jon

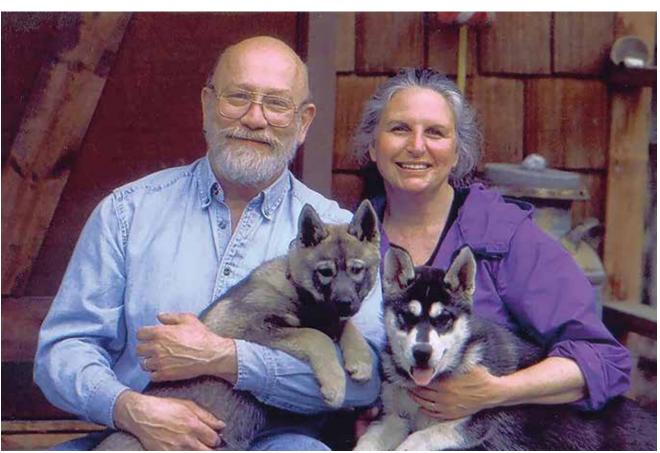
was the race organizer and official Artist for the Hope '91 (the first international intercontinental dog race

from Nome, Alaska to Anadyr Siberia), Several books have been

published about his art and life. Jon Van Zyle holds continuous one-man exhibitions annually.

Jon acquired his first husky in 1965. He and his wife, Jona, live near Eagle River, Alaska where their Siberian Huskies play a large part of their lives together.

Alaska Limited Editions are his art publishers. The European agent is, Heidi Muller - Ruoff, Stafa Switzerland. For further information, contact his email at jonvanzyle@gmail.com, or www.jonvanzyle.com.



Jon & Jona Van Zyle



#### **SHCA Recognizes Top Siberian Husky Race Teams**

The Siberian Husky Club of America (SHCA) will sponsor trophies in 2023-2024 for first place Siberian Husky finishers in the Registered Breed classes at selected races sanctioned by the International Sled Dog Racing Association (ISDRA). These special trophies are being supported by proceeds from the sale of the SHCA's 2024 (18-month) calendar which will showcase original artwork by Jon Van Zyle, much of it celebrating the Siberian Husky in harness on the trail.

Jon Van Zyle, a long time honorary member of the SHCA, has twice completed the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race and has annually created the Iditarod poster commemorating the race. He was inducted into the Iditarod Hall of Fame in 2004.

Jon's lifetime of art captures the Alaskan wilderness and way of life like no one else. His and his wife, Jona's, love of the Siberian Husky and their enduring support of the SHCA has endeared him to generations of members. In addition to this unique calendar, he has been commissioned by the club to paint a 100th anniversary celebration of the 1925 Nome Diphtheria serum run by Leonhard Seppala's Siberian Husky dog team.

This calendar started as a collaboration between Olivia Harvey, Editor of the SHCA Newsletter, and artist Jon Van Zyle, who has unstintingly provided his classic art pieces to be used as covers of the quarterly SHCA Newsletter. Joe Fitzgerald took on the task of finding a vendor, then ordering the beautiful trophies. He will also be the laision between the SHCA and ISDRA for the presentation of these trophies.

These trophies are in addition to gold, silver, and bronze faced placement medals awarded to the top three Siberian Husky teams, as well as purse money for the Registered Breed class, all provided by SHCA under the Roger Shepard Memorial Sled Dog Program. Roger Shepard was a longtime SHCA member devoted to working his Siberian Huskies in harness, and racing competitively in regional snow and dryland sled dog races. This SHCA memorial program honors his memory, his support of the working Siberian Husky, and his generous legacy to the Siberian Husky Club of America. The successful pilot program for this past winter supported eight snow races and one dryland competition, in 10 states across the country, with placement medals awarded to Siberian teams in 16 race classes.

