

# Samoyed History

In the very early days, men with their herds roved the plateau of Iran and lived from the land. Property ownership did not exist; the land belonged to all in the beginning, and then later to the swift and the strong. As man-kind increased and separated off into families, tribes of kinsmen had an ever-increasing need of more and more grazing land for their herds, (reindeer was the common herd animal at that time). Family groups and tribes often drifted off, or were forced off, to farther pastures.

Through the centuries this process continued across Mongolia, and farther and farther north went the tiny nomadic tribe we now called the Samoyed people - until at long last they arrived at the farthest reaches of northern Siberia, between the Yenisei River westward to the Petchora River in Russia. Here was a haven, fortified by Nature's own walls of ice and snow. And here the Samoyed people with their beloved dogs and reindeer herds remained for centuries since long before the Christian era.

In this place of peace and plenty, the gentle Samoyed breed that adopts their name from the very people they followed to the ends of the earth, shared their master's bed and choom, feasted and starved even as he did. His working role was to hunt, herd reindeer, and haul sledges in keeping with his peoples nomadic lifestyles. Then into this primitive world came the inroads of civilization.

In 1870 stories leaked to the outside world of the peaceful Samoyed people and of their dogs - hidden like the diamond, for so long from the world at large. Specimens were purchased by explorers for Arctic and Antarctic expeditions. A handful of these dogs found themselves in England after their expedition duties. There Ernest and Clara Kilburn Scott are credited with bringing Samoyeds before the English public, and both promoting and developing the breed.

The striking beauty and tractable temperament of the Samoyed made it a popular choice as a companion in America as well. Today the Samoyed is a well loved and recognized breed worldwide, owing its discovery within the western world to its rich and noble working heritage - and enduring love for mankind.



## Wonderland Samoyed Safe Haven

The mission of Wonderland Samoyed Safe Haven (WSSH) is to rescue, rehabilitate, and provide a safe haven and home for Samoyeds in need. Guided by the humane ethic, we protect the breed from neglect, abuse, and exploitation. WSSH seeks to inspire awareness and compassion for all living things.

Visit us at [www.wssh.org](http://www.wssh.org) or write to us at [main@wssh.org](mailto:main@wssh.org).