

ROCKY MOUNTAIN WRINKLE

April, 2006

Volume IV, Issue 2

A publication of the Centennial Chinese Shar-Pei Club, Inc.

President's Message:

I would like to thank the Rosenbergers, Jeanne Hill-Jurik, and Marchelle Heslep for all the work and time you have spent on getting together a bid to host Nationals in Denver. What a wonderful opportunity that would be for all Shar-Pei owners in our area. We are now trying for Nationals in 2009, and I will keep you updated as that progresses.

Just as a reminder, Kristin Reynolds still has bracelets to sell for our fund raiser. If you haven't bought yours yet, she will have them available at our Specialty show. If you need more information about them, please call Kristin at 303-942-0799. There is an ad for them in this newsletter as well.

I would also like to remind you that if you have a dog in a fever episode, Dr. Avery would like to collect blood on dogs during the actual fever episode. If you need more information on that, please call me.

By the time this newsletter goes to press and is distributed, we should have put on another great show. We did have enough entries this year to make a major for the bitches. A big thank you goes out to all that helped in putting on the show, and in supporting the show with your entries. A special thanks goes to Anita Cox, for being our show secretary. She did a wonderful job of stepping up to the plate and getting the job done. Everyone's efforts no matter how big or small, help to keep this club running smoothly. Thanks to all!

Alice Fix, President

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Giving Medicine to Cats and Dogs

All the medications you have been given for your pet are important. Be sure you understand how to give each one before leaving the Animal Medical Center. If questions arise once you are at home, do not hesitate to contact your veterinarian during his or her phone time.

First, check the label of your medications(s) for specifics such as whether it should be refrigerated and whether it should be given before or after meals, etc. It is important that you understand when to give your pet its medication. In addition to the oral instructions given to you by your veterinarian, written instructions accompany each medication. Unless otherwise instructed by your veterinarian, start with the first dose when you get up in the morning and space the other doses equally throughout the day until bedtime.

How to Give a Pill or Capsule

Dogs: Have your dog sit at your side. Place one hand on the upper jaw and press the dog's lips gently against the sides of the teeth with your fingers. With the fingers of your other hand, pull the lower jaw down and place the pill on the base of the tongue, far back in the mouth. Close the mouth, return the head and neck to normal position, and blow on the dog's nose or massage his throat to encourage swallowing. Any form of distraction (praising, stroking, etc) will also help to get the dog to swallow.

Some dogs are easier to medicate if you put the pill in a small amount of canned dog food, cheese, or peanut butter. Offer it to your pet and be sure that he swallows it. Some pets will appear to have eaten something only to spit it out when you are not looking.

Administering Liquid Medication

Some medications are available in liquid form. Make sure that you tell your veterinarian if you have a preference.

Dogs and Cats: Gently pull the corner of the mouth away from the face to form a "pocket." Slowly give a small amount of the liquid. Allow your pet to swallow before giving more liquid. Do not squirt all the medication into your pet's mouth at once.

Applying Ear Drops and Ear Ointments

Before administering ear medication, the ears may need to be cleaned. Your veterinarian may recommend a cleanser, or you can use moistened swabs. To apply the medication, push back the ear flap and gently position the applicator or tip of the tube in the base of the ear. Discharge the number of drops or amount of ointment prescribed. Gently massage the base of the ear with your fingers to help the medication work its way into the ear canal.

Applying Eye Drops and Ointments

Before administering eye medication, be sure that the eye lids are clear of discharge. Ask your veterinarian if a special eye wash is needed, or you can use warm water on a cotton ball to gently cleanse around the eyes. Next, use your thumb and forefinger to open the eyelids. With your other hand, place the 1 to 2 drops or a tiny amount of ointment on the eye or the pink tissue around the eye. Your pet will blink and the medication will cover the entire eye. When applying medication to the eye, try to avoid your pet's direct line of vision when approaching, and avoid touching the eye with the container of medication.

- Be sure to give all medication as directed by your veterinarian.
- Be sure that you understand whether you are to give the medication until it is entirely used up or for a specified number of days.

- Be sure that you understand how the medication should be stored and special instructions for giving the medication.
- If you have any problems administering the medication, contact your veterinarian.
- If the condition worsens or does not improve as expected, contact your veterinarian.

<http://www.amcny.org/owners/infosheets/givemedicine.htm>

JUST A DOG

Time to time, people tell me, "lighten up, it's just a dog," or, "that's a lot of money for just a dog." They don't understand the distance traveled, the time spent, or the costs involved for "just a dog."

Some of my proudest moments have come about with "just a dog." Many hours have passed and my only company was "just a dog," but I did not once feel slighted. Some of my saddest moments have been brought about by "just a dog," and in those days of darkness, the gentle touch of "just a dog" gave me comfort and reason to overcome the day.

If you, too, think it's "just a dog," then you will probably understand phrases like "just a friend," "just a sunrise," or "just a promise." "Just a dog" brings into my life the very essence of friendship, trust, and pure unbridled joy. "Just a dog" brings out the compassion and patience that make me a better person.

Because of "just a dog" I will rise early, take long walks and look longingly to the future. So for me and folks like me, it's not "just a dog" but an embodiment of all the hopes and dreams of the future, the fond memories of the past, and the pure joy of the moment. "Just a dog" brings out what's good in me and diverts my thoughts away from myself and the worries of the day.

I hope that someday they can understand that it's not "just a dog" but the thing that gives me humanity and keeps me from being "just a man." So the next time you hear the phrase "just a dog," just smile, because they just don't understand."

Roca (C) 2006

2006 Nationals Springfield Missouri Tuesday - Saturday (Sept. 26-30)

Clarion Hotel
3333 S. Glenstone Ave. , Springfield, MO, US, 65804
Phone: (417) 883-6550 Fax: (417) 883-5720

Judges:

Grace Fritz - BOB
Gayle Gold Creasman - Dogs
Gary Sparschu- Bitches
KeKe Kahn - Futurity/Maturity

SWEEPS

Dee Wells
Al Klessig

**Alpine Pet Center Health Fair
May 20, 2006, Arvada, CO**

Location: 9530 W. 80th Avenue (near Kipling) in Arvada

Time: 8:00 a.m. to noon

OFA Cardiac: Dr. Karen Sanderson (Board Certified in Cardiology). Auscultation (listen) \$35 per dog (most breeds).

CERF: Todd Hammond DVM MS ACVO and/or Bradley Graham DVM, \$20. By appointment

OFA Patellar Luxation: Drs. Russ and Renee Drabek (free) by appointment

OFA Thyroid (to Michigan State): Drs. Russ and Renee Drabek \$80 by appointment

Heartworm: Drs. Russ and Renee Drabek \$25

Tattoo: Sydne McCoskey \$8

Microchipping: Todd Hammond DVM MS ACVO and/or Bradley Graham DVM MS ACVO, \$25. By appointment.

AKC Canine Good Citizen (CGC) testing \$15

Book signing by Jeanne Cook for "A Smart Buyer's Guide To A Healthy Puppy" and "Colorado's Health Testing Breeders (All-Breed Directory)". Agility demonstrations, pet massage, pet photography, refreshments and more.

Please complete OFA registration forms online for [heart](#), [patellas](#) and [thyroid](#) testing and bring with you. Otherwise, bring your dog's registration papers and microchip information to complete forms. We will have discount stickers available for you. Heart testing and eye exams must be paid for in advance.

Contact Jeanne Cook 303-548-3238 for all appointments.

jeannecook99@yahoo.com

Statistics from OFA year end records for 2005

Breeds having at least 100 evaluations January 1974 through December 2005

Hip Dysplasia by Breed

<u>Breed</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Number of Evaluations</u>	<u>Percent Excellent</u>	<u>Percent Dysplastic</u>
CHINESE SHAR-PEI	65	8719	8.9	13.5

Elbow Dysplasia Statistics:

<u>Breed</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Number of Evaluations</u>	<u>Percent Normal</u>	<u>Percent Dysplastic</u>	<u>Percent Grade I</u>	<u>Percent Grade II</u>	<u>Percent Grade III</u>
Shar-Pei	4	206	69.4	28.6	11.2	11.7	5.8

Patellar Luxation Statistics

The Patellar Luxation Database is for dogs 12 months and over.

<u>Breed</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Number of Evaluations</u>	<u>Percent Normal</u>	<u>Percent Affected</u>
CHINESE SHAR-PEI	4	96	80.2	19.8

OFA Thyroid Statistics

Michigan State University Thyroid Statistics

<u>Breed</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Number of Evaluations</u>	<u>Percent Autoimmune Thyroiditis</u>	<u>Percent Equivocal</u>
SHAR-PEI	96	1845	4.8	4.0

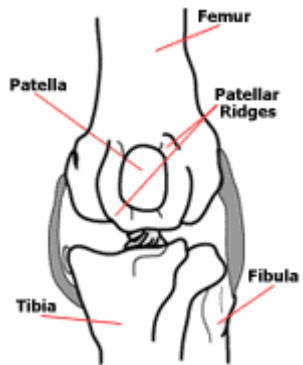
<http://www.offa.org/>

Luxating Patella

Race Foster, DVM

Marty Smith, DVM

Drs. Foster & Smith, Inc.



A dog from one of the smaller breeds runs across the yard chasing a tossed ball. In mid-stride, he yelps in pain and pulls his left hind leg off of the ground. After a second, he continues limping on in a three-legged fashion. After ten minutes, the rear leg drops back down to the ground and he uses it normally. This episode occurs

maybe once a week. It never really seems to bother him that much – a yelp of pain, a short period of lameness, and in a few minutes he is back to his old self. Typically, he is a small or toy breed such as a Lhasa Apso, Pekingese, Pomeranian, Poodle, or Boston Bull.

A luxating patella may affect some animals much more severely. They may hold the leg up for several days and show considerable discomfort. Dogs who have a luxating patella on both hind legs may change their entire posture, by dropping their hindquarters and holding the rear legs farther out from the body as they walk. Those most severely affected may not even use their rear legs, walking by balancing themselves on their front legs like a circus act, or holding their hindquarters completely off the ground.

Normal knee anatomy

The patella is the bone we know as the knee cap. A groove in the end of the femur allows the patella to glide up and down when the knee joint is bent back and forth. In doing so, the patella guides the action of the quadriceps muscle in the lower leg. The

patella also protects the knee joint.

Looking at the lower front portion of the femur (the thigh bone) in a normal dog, you will notice two bony ridges that form a fairly deep groove in which the patella is supposed to slide up and down. These structures limit the patella's movement to one restricted place, and in doing so, control the activity of the quadriceps muscle. The entire system is constantly lubricated by joint fluid. It works so that there is total freedom of motion between the structures.

What occurs when the patella is luxated?

In some dogs, because of malformation or trauma, the ridges forming the patellar groove are not prominent, and a too-shallow groove is created. In a dog with shallow grooves, the patella will luxate (jump out of the groove) sideways, especially toward the inside. This causes the leg to 'lock up' with the foot held off the ground.

When the patella luxates from the groove of the femur, it usually cannot return to its normal position until the quadriceps muscle relaxes and increases in length. This explains why the affected dog may be forced to hold his leg up for a few minutes or so after the initial incident. While the muscles are contracted and the patella is luxated from its correct position, the joint is held in the flexed or bent position. The yelp is from the pain caused by the knee cap sliding across the bony ridges of the femur. Once out of position, the animal feels no discomfort and continues his activity.

Which dogs are at risk of having a luxated patella?

Smaller breeds of dogs, especially Miniature and Toy Poodles, have the highest incidence of patella luxation. Genetics can play a

role.

In certain breeds that have extremely short legs such as the Basset Hound or Dachshund, patellar luxation is thought to be secondary to the abnormal shape of the femur and tibia. The curvatures of the bones in these breeds work in conjunction with the forces of the quadriceps muscles to displace the patella to the inside. Please do not misunderstand – not all members of these breeds are affected with patellar luxation, only a small portion.

What are the symptoms?

Most dogs are middle-aged, with a history of intermittent (on-again-off-again) lameness in the affected rear leg(s). An affected dog commonly stops and cries out in pain as he is running. The affected leg will be extended rearward, and for a while, the dog is unable to flex it back into the normal position.

What are the risks?

Uncorrected, the patellar ridges will wear, the groove will become even shallower and the dog will become progressively more lame. Arthritis will prematurely affect the joint, causing a permanently swollen knee with poor mobility. Therefore, a good evaluation needs to be done by your veterinarian early in the condition to prevent long-term arthritic crippling.

Treatment for luxating patellas

As would be expected, medical therapy has little corrective ability in this disorder and surgery is therefore required and is the treatment of choice. A surgical treatment is not necessary in every individual with this condition. Surgery can alter both the affected structures and the movement of the patella. The groove at the base of the femur may be surgically deepened to better contain the knee cap. The knee cap itself may be 'tied down'

laterally (on the outside) to prevent it from deviating medially (toward the inside). The bony protuberance at the site of the attachment of the quadriceps tendon on the tibia, may be cut off and then re-attached in a more lateral position. All of these procedures work well and the type performed depends on the individual case and the clinician. The animal should respond quickly after surgery and is usually completely recovered within thirty days, using his legs in normal fashion.

Breeding considerations

Because of the strong genetic relationships, we really feel that animals with this disorder should not be used for breeding. They can still be excellent pets - and those that do require surgery will usually lead perfectly normal lives without any restrictions on activity.

<http://www.peteducation.com/article.cfm?cls=2&cat=1569&articleid=457>

Editor's note: Your vet can check the patellas on your dog. It can be done on a routine office visit, usually for no extra charge. The Patellar Luxation Database is for dogs 12 months and over. Examinations performed on dogs less than 12 months will be treated as Consultations and no OFA breed numbers will be assigned.

Mantayo Kennels

For boarding, grooming and training

1220 S Wadsworth Blvd.

Lakewood, CO

303-985-4011

Thanks to Troy Cashman and his staff for help with our rescue dogs.

Common Items Poisonous To Pets

Throughout the house

- House plants *Cigarettes
- Liquid potpourris *Batteries
- Some houseplants, including philodendron, mistletoe and poinsettia

Kitchen

- Chocolate * Raisins
- Onions * Onion powder
- Yeast dough * Macadamia nuts
- Salt * Garlic
- Coffee and coffee grounds * Tea and tea bags
- Avocados * Alcoholic beverages
- Dishwashing detergent

Garage

- Antifreeze * Mouse and rat poisons and bait
- Fertilizer * Insecticides
- Swimming pool chemicals * Hot tub chemicals
- Ice melting products * Citronella candles
- Gasoline

Common Items Poisonous to Pets- continued

Bathroom

- Ibuprofen * Tylenol
- Pain relievers * Diet pills
- Antidepressants

Laundry Room

- Fabric softener * Fabric softener sheets
- Mothballs * Cleaning supplies

Provided by Broadway Animal Hospital

1405 S. Broadway * Boulder, CO * 303.499.5505

<http://www.broadwayanimal.com/pet-poisons.asp>

Centennial Nominating Committee Recommendations

Vice President: Jeanne Hill- Jurik

Treasurer: Louise Watson

Director: Bob Rosenberger *Elections will be at the General Meeting in May. Anyone else wishing to run for office can be nominated at that meeting.*

Message from Lee Arnold and the Chinese Shar-Pei Charitable Trust:

We would like to express our thanks and gratitude to Grace Fritz, Alice Fix and Kay Rosenberger, the Heart of America Shar-Pei Club and the Centennial Shar-Pei Club for spearheading a letter campaign that solicited donations to the trust, which turned out to be a big success.

Lee Arnold

Note to club from Mike and Jocelyn Barker:

We hope the various projects that Centennial has undertaken are going well. It is great to see a group of folks put their time and effort where most people only talk. Please pass along our appreciation and admiration of their efforts to the Centennial Club, we always knew it was a special group!

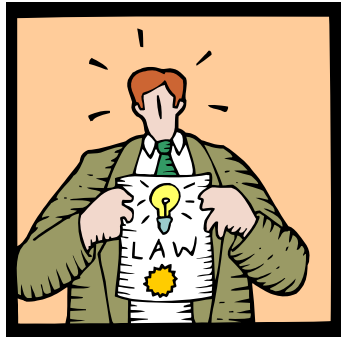
Thanks,

Jocelyn & Mike Barker



File of Puppies

Photo by
Sharen Jud



COLORADO WAGE & HOUR DEPARTMENT

A man owned a hobby kennel in Colorado. The Colorado Wage & Hour Dept claimed he was not paying proper wages to his

help and sent an agent out to interview him.

"I need a list of your employees and how much you pay them," demanded the agent.

"Well, there's my handler, who's been with me for 3 years, I pay him \$600 a week plus free room and board" The kennel help has been here for 18 months and I pay her \$500 per week plus free room and board. then there's the half-wit who works here about 18 hours a day. He makes \$10 per week and I buy him a bottle of bourbon every Saturday night." replied the breeder.

"That's the guy I want to talk to; the half-wit," says the agent.

"That would be me" replied the breeder.



Happy Easter to All



Hotel Room Warning!

I recently got an e-mail telling of a horror story of staying in a hotel room. This lady had gone to her National Specialty with a couple of puppies. After she had checked in her room, she saw one of the puppies chewing on something it had gotten from under the bed. As it turns out, it was rat poison.

After spending several days at the emergency vet's office, treating the puppy for the poisoning, and then later for pneumonia, caused by the treatment for the poisoning, the puppy will be fine. The medical treatment bill was over \$1,100.

The lesson that can be learned here is to always check underneath the bed when you are staying in a hotel room. It is very easy to drop a pill and have it roll under the bed. It would be easy to drop and break a glass as well, and have a piece of broken glass fly under the bed. The moral of the story is that it is better to be safe rather than sorry.

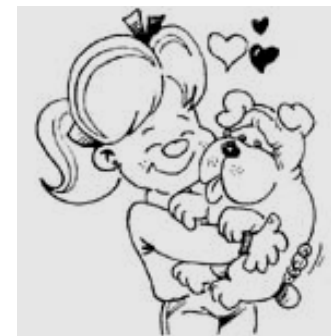


Photo Bracelets**Centennial Chinese Shar-Pei Club Fundraiser**

Proceeds to benefit our rescue program and the Chinese Shar-Pei Charitable Trust



Bracelets hold your own index size photos of your dog or your child.

Puppy Love Bracelet (holds 1 photo) for only \$20 (includes tax and shipping) Adjustable from 7 ¼" to 8"

Stretch Bracelet (holds 6 photos) for only \$25 (including tax and shipping) Either 7 ¼ " or 8", your choice

We can accept Visa, MC and Discover Card or personal checks.

To order your bracelets, call, e-mail, fax or write to: Kristin Reynolds, 8043 Routt St., Arvada, CO 80005, 303-942-0799, wrinkledog@comcast.net Fax: 978-418-1254

Please do not send credit card information by e-mail. When using a credit card, please call or use the U.S. Mail to place your order. Make all personal checks payable to Kristin Reynolds.

PARLIAMENTARY LESSONS

FIVE – THREE HOUR LESSONS

Based on the updated 10th edition (published 2000) of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*

Once a week for five weeks on Tuesdays:

First Lesson – Tuesday May 30, June 6, 13, 27, and July 11, 2006

TIME: 9:00 a.m. TO NOON

LEARN TO:

- * BECOME A MORE VALUED MEMBER;
- * PRESIDE WITH EASE;
- * ADVANCE BUSINESS THROUGH CLEAR MOTIONS;
- * UNDERSTAND BYLAWS.

LESSONS TAILORED TO ANSWERING INDIVIDUAL QUESTIONS

Fee is \$50.00*

Lessons Held At:

COLORADO FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS'
HEADQUARTERS

1556 EMERSON ; DENVER, COLORADO 80218

INSTRUCTORS:

JOAN FRANSON, PROFESSIONAL REGISTERED
PARLIAMENTARIAN

AVALONNE KOSANKE, PROFESSIONAL
REGISTERED PARLIAMENTARIAN

For reservations, send check to **Avalonne Kosanke, 12085 Applewood Knolls Drive, Lakewood, Colorado 80215**. It is required to have the 2000 edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, published by Perseus Publishing. Hardcover about \$28.00; Softcover about \$17.00. For information, call **Joan Franson, 303-424-3942**.

CSPCA NOMINATION COMMITTEE RESULTS



Vice-President: Alan Klessig
 Treasurer: Marilyn Currey
 Central Region: Tim Bergeron
 At-Large: Grace Fritz
 Marilyn Vinson
 Gail Garrison

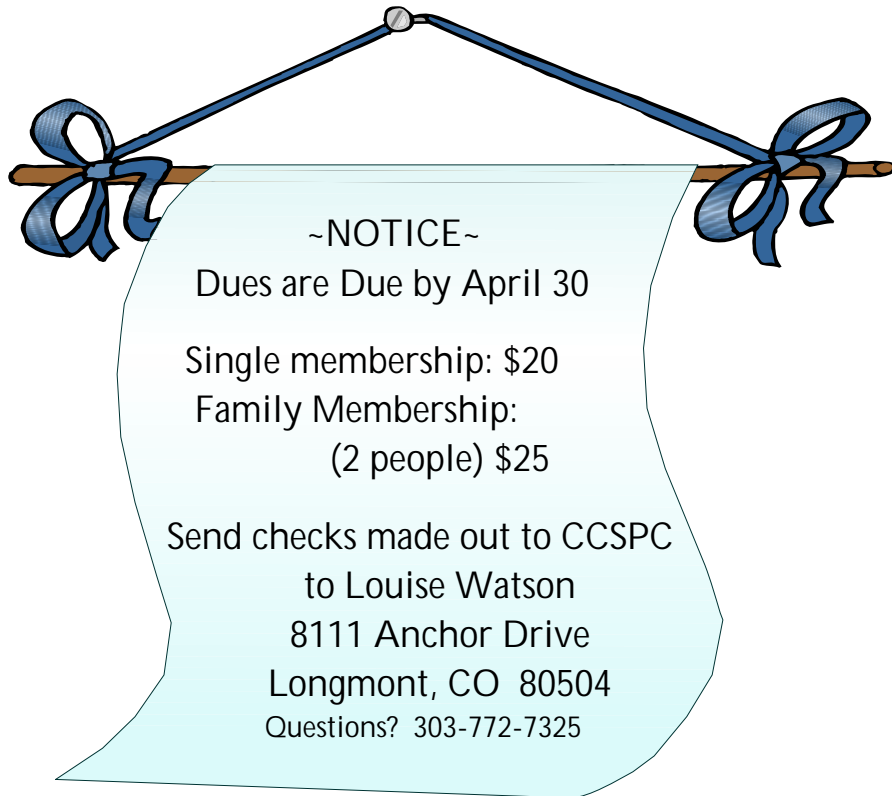
Also nominated and accepted:

For Vice President: Jeff Vidt

For Directors At Large: Beverly Wall

Cathi DiGiacomo

For Central Director: Terry Faulkner



Dogged Research Reveals How Canines Run

By Alan Mozes
 HealthDay Reporter

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 7 (HealthDay News) -- Science is going to the dogs again, with a new study explaining why four legs are better than two when it comes to speed.

According to two British researchers, dogs can maintain stability and support their weight with their front legs as they propel themselves forward off their hind legs.

This gives the animal a distinct advantage over their human companions, whose two lower limbs must do both jobs at once. The result: Even top-notch Olympic athletes must slow down when turning corners at maximum speeds of 25 miles per hour, but dogs -- particularly those bred to run fast, such as greyhounds -- can round curves at speeds of 40 miles per hour without decelerating.

"For you and I, we sort of protect the loads our legs experience, because if it gets too high our legs collapse. But with dogs, their legs are much better able to bear loads because the weight support is separate from propulsion," explained study co-author Alan M. Wilson, of the Structure and Motion Lab at The Royal Veterinary College in Hatfield, England.

The findings, published in the Dec. 8 issue of *Nature*, were released Wednesday alongside studies that showed an in-depth picture of the [dog genome](#).

For their study, Wilson and colleague James R. Usherwood looked at the results of 200-meter races at the 2004 Olympics and World Indoor Championship. They then watched videotapes of greyhounds running high-speed, pre-competition races while chasing a mechanical hare at maximum speed.

The pace and timing of foot-to-ground contact were assessed for 17 greyhounds running in groups of one dog to three dogs per race. Notes were made of canine movement behavior as they entered a final stretch in the straightaway, and then again while cornering.

Another 23 greyhounds were observed commencing the second straightaway, following the same bend. The researchers found that the greyhounds moved their limbs much as a racing cyclist would ride his bike -- maintaining a steady pace while rounding curves. This caused them to bear a 65 percent increase in pressure on their limbs as result.

Foot-to-ground timing remained practically unchanged despite this added pressure, they noted. That's in contrast to humans, who typically compensate for this type of increased load by slowing down and by increasing foot-to-ground contact.

The researchers said they believed dogs are able keep up such speeds because of their ability to leverage their hips and backs while moving -- a spring-like mechanism used by four-legged animals to compensate for increases in load while sprinting.

"There are limits to what the human system can stand," said Wilson. "So humans have a self-preservation mechanism which guides them to slow down -- something dogs don't have."

The findings are the first of their kind, and dramatically increase scientists' understanding of motor function, he added.

"In terms of injury, you're starting to understand how the legs are designed and what they're designed for," he said. "This will help us understand how animals compensate for injury, as in the case of a lame dog, or a lame horse or a lame cow. And the principles are the same for humans."

"Robotics is also a field that can benefit from this work," he added. "This information could be incorporated into the

designing of a [prosthetic limb](#) or in the designing of a leg-based chair instead of a wheel-chair -- to get over a curb, for example. Legs are much better than wheels, but when you try to make a legged robot it's actually very difficult to do economically and efficiently. This is something animals are very good at. They've been at it for a few million more years."

Ronna Dornsife, the research grants administrator for the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation, expressed enthusiasm for the findings.

"This study is very interesting and applicable for health concerns for both canine and humans," she said. "It relates to things we know that are unique about dogs and can help in the application of sports medicine for both dogs and humans."

SOURCES: Alan M. Wilson, Ph.D., Structure and Motion Lab, The Royal Veterinary College, Hatfield, England; Ronna Dornsife, research grants administrator, American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation, Raleigh, N.C.; December 2005 *Nature*; December 2005 *Genome Research*

<http://www.medicinenet.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=55600>

Update on Centennial Bid for host Nationals

We lost the bid to hold Nationals in Denver in 2008. But we will go back to the board with a bid for 2009. 2008 Nationals will be held in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky by the Greenville, South Carolina club. As it stands now, 2009 will be in the Western Region, and 2010 will go back to the Central Region. We should know in the next few months if we win the bid to host Nationals in 2009. If not, the next time that Nationals should be in the Western Region is 2012.

Dr. Vidt's Corner:**HISTORY OF THE CHINESE SHAR-PEI: PART 1**

There is evidence to indicate the Chinese Shar-Pei, as we know it today, is an ancient breed. There is much evidence to support the theory that Hong Kong dog breeds developed the breed in the 1960's by crossbreeding the Chinese Fighting Dog with several breeds including the Boxer, the Bloodhound, Bulldog and possibly others.



I think that there is clear evidence that our breed descended from the Chow and they did develop from a common ancestor. Marco Polo published the journal of his travels in China in 1271 and while he mentions the Chow, he does not mention the Shar-Pei or the Chinese Fighting Dog. Most likely the Chinese Fighting Dog history begins shortly after 1751 when an imperial edit permitted maritime trade in special area along the Pearl River in Canton (southern China). We also know that the first Chows were imported into England in 1775. As China was opened up to the west, dogs from the west entered China with the sailors. It is my contention the Chinese Fighting Dog was developed in the Period of Imperialism (late 1700's to early 1800's) in southern China. During this time the Chow was crossbred with several English breeds such as the Bulldog, Boxer and other in an attempt to develop a fighting dog. Because the English were restricted to where they could go in Southern China, dog fighting and gambling became a popular past time and breeding for a fighting temperament was popular. The breed was probably developed in Dah Let or at least in the Pearl River delta area around Canton. Smooth-coated Chows more prevalent in this region and were used in the breeding "experiments". The similarities of the Chow and the Shar-Pei are undeniable. The Chow is the only native hunting dog in China and was used as a hunter, cattle dog and sheep dog. The Chow does go back to the Han Dynasty (206 BC - 220 AD) and maybe as early as 1000 BC - truly an ancient breed.

Many proponents of the ancient history of the breed point to tomb

dog figures of the Han Dynasty, which lasted from 206-220 AD, as evidence that the Chinese Fighting Dog is an ancient breed. I think the tomb dog statuettes represents a stylized "Han Dynasty" dog which resembles the Chow Chow. With the lack of corroborating written history of the existence of the breed during this time period, I think the likelihood of the figurines representing Chinese Fighting Dog is remote. There existed in China several other dog breeds. These include the Greyhound breed, Mastiff breed, toy breeds, etc. Beginning in the late 1950's, the center of the Chinese Fighting Dog history moved, or rather was driven, in to Hong Kong by the Chinese Communist. Prior to this time, Chinese Fighting Dogs were found exclusively in Macau (Macao). Even as late as 1974 clandestine dog fighting involving Chinese Fighting Dogs could still be found in this region. The Communists declared dogs as nonproductive, bourgeois luxuries and ordered their large scale extermination. An increase in the tax on dogs, designed to discourage dog ownership, occurred in 1974 and didn't improve the sad situation. Hong Kong provided one of the few safe havens for dogs in all of China and the canine refugees swelled the dog population of this costal city. The Hong Kong dog breeds faced serious dilemma since the Chinese Fighting Dog smuggled into Hong Kong from the surrounding regions were the "best types available" and not necessarily purebreds. Many of these Chinese Fighting Dogs included dogs whose appearance indicated prior crossbreeding. Pedigree and registration information was virtually nonexistent. On these dogs due to poorly kept records, which were lost or destroyed during the Communist Revolution in China. Bear in mind also that the "sport" of dog fighting is cloaked in secrecy wherever it is practiced and records, other than those of gambling transactions, are seldom kept. Little, if any, effort was made to document the breeding of dogs used in the dog fighting pits. Also, the question confronts whether purebreds Chinese Fighting Dogs ever existed at all. Many people feel the Chinese Fighting Dog became extinct and was re-created in the 1960's, it is known that the breed was registered by the Hong Kong Kennel Club as early as these dogs may be considered for those purposes of this discussion, as purebred Chinese Fighting Dogs. While attempting to preserve these Chinese

Fighting Dogs, or re-created the breed, some of the Hong Kong fanciers crossbred these early dogs with Bull Mastiffs, Chow Chows, Bulldogs, Boxers, Pit Bull types and possibly other dog breeds and inadvertently (or intentionally?) created a new breed - the Shar-Pei. The Shar-Pei has since developed along two separate lines. The purebred Chinese Fighting Dog remains basically unchanged as the Chinese Shar-Pei, which still exists in Hong Kong today and shows up in the U.S. as the horse coat variety. The America Shar-Pei is found in the U.S. and had its origin in Hong Kong in the late 1960's. It is undoubtedly derived from the crossbreeding of the Chinese Fighting Dog with other breeds previously mentioned. This divergence in type will be discussed in more detail later.

The important point concerning the crossbreeding, which took place in the Shar-Pei, bears more consideration. One can surmise this cross breeding was done for several reasons. First, it may have been undertaken to improve the quality of the few remaining Chinese Fighting Dogs and/or recreate the breed if, in fact, it had become extinct. Second, it is entirely possible it was done to create an entirely different unique breed - a breed in which the minimal wrinkling of the Chinese Fighting Dog was accentuated. Third, it may have been done to create large numbers of dogs which further refinements could be made and which were needed to meet the demand of American buyers. Accidentally, or intentionally, a new breed was created characterized by heavy bone, abundant wrinkling, large head, the longer and softer coat (brush coat) and the milder temperament of the American Shar-Pei. This new breed immediately captured the fancy of American dog breeders and an unlimited demand was thus assured.

The situation in Hong Kong had reached such a state that in a letter dated July 15, 1975, the Hong Kong Kennel Club indicated it had stopped the registration of the Chinese Fighting Dog because, "a kennel here has created" a breed by crossing a Chinese dog with several breeds including a Boxer, Bloodhound and a Bulldog, named it "Chinese Fighting Dog" and sold quite a number abroad. These animals looked ugly with too many wrinkles or folds on every part of

the body, even on the legs. They are therefore quite different from the correct type of Chinese Fighting Dogs." (Chinese Shar-Pei Stud Book, Vol.3, 1982, CSPCA Inc., pages 47-48). This letter also indicates that by the late 1960's and early 1970's the Chinese Fighting Dog found in Hong Kong had sufficiently deviated from its standard as to become unrecognizable as a Chinese Fighting Dog by the Hong Kong Kennel Club. It appears by 1966 the HKKC had stopped registering the Chinese Fighting Dogs from Hong Kong. Evidence does exist, however, that the HKKC did register Chinese Fighting Dogs from other parts of the world up until 1978. Many of these dogs were also registered with the Tai Pei (Taiwan) Kennel Club. I think the evidence shows that illegal breeding practices were going on in Hong Kong at this time, and the HKKC had to step in and cease the registration of the Chinese Fighting Dogs in Hong Kong.



Helpful and Informative websites:

Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.

www.cspca.com

Dr. Jeff Vidt- Shar-Pei Health issues

<http://www.drjvw.com>

Dr. Todd Hammond & Dr. Brad Graham – The Eye Clinic:

<http://www.eyevets.info>

Chinese Shar-Pei Charitable Trust:

<http://www.cspcharitabletrust.org>

Link to the webpage for our rescue dogs:

<http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/CO151.html>

Texas A&M Research May Impact Food For Dogs

Researchers at the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences at Texas A&M University are seeing more clearly the relationships between nutrition and visual performance in puppies by studying correlations between dietary intake of docosahexaenoic acid, commonly known as DHA, and its effects on visual stimulus response in canines.

Dr. John E. Bauer, the Mark L. Morris Professor of Clinical Nutrition, and his associates in the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences have recently published an article in the Journal of Nutrition concerning the effects of omega-3 fatty acids on neural development in puppies.

Bauer's research focuses on dietary lipid (fat) metabolism because some fatty acids like DHA cannot be synthesized by animals, including humans, and must therefore be ingested. Bauer explains, "There is evidence in non-human primates and premature infants that omega-3 fatty acids help the overall development and functional capacity of the nervous system as measured by response to non-invasive visual stimulus."

The team's three-and-a-half year study, funded in part by Nestl,-Purina PetCare, involved analyzing the visual performance of dogs fed diets with different fat types. Bauer's team provided the nutritional specifications and Nestl,-Purina's pilot plant in St. Louis, MO, supplied the DHA-enhanced food for the study.

Bauer's team analyzed electroretinogram (ERG) responses from a test group of 56 twelve-week-old puppies that were administered clinically safe levels of DHA from the point of gestation, throughout lactation and at the time of weaning. The team found significant improvements in visual performance with puppies on DHA diets not only in terms of perceptual intensity but also with regard to response time, transduction efficiency and low-light sensitivity.

Bauer says this nutritional research will have far-reaching effects on companion animal nutritional guidelines, especially puppy formulas and dietary supplements. He says, "This type of research will change the way we feed dogs in the future-both for gestation and puppy growth"

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A note from the Editor:

We would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to contribute an article to this newsletter.

The Rocky Mountain Wrinkle is a club publication, and as such requires the participation of club members through out the year. Your participation will help to make this publication meaningful and worthwhile for the membership of the club. All contributions and ideas are greatly appreciated.

Please forward your input for inclusion to the Publisher at the address listed below.

The Rocky Mountain Wrinkle

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