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Lydia, the Heroine of Cherry Creek

By Alice Fix

The beautiful Shar-Pei named Lydia came into our rescue program in April of 2006. Like most of our rescue dogs, we can only guess as to what her background was before she came into rescue. What we do know is that she was abandoned on the streets of a small town in New Mexico. She was picked up by animal control in poor shape. She was pregnant and went on to have 6 puppies. Thanks to the

kindness of a volunteer at the New Mexico shelter, Lydia was able to bring her puppies into the world at a volunteer's home. Lydia was able to keep her little family together until the puppies were old enough to go to new homes. As the puppies left, so did Lydia....she came to the Centennial Club Rescue program. Lydia had a very sweet disposition and got along with other dogs and loved people. Even with her great temperament, black clouds were still surrounding her. She was placed in several homes, but kept bouncing back to rescue. This was highly unusual and especially for a dog with her personality. We really had never had a dog keep coming back like that. It seemed as if poor Lydia would never catch a break in life. As luck would have it, she quickly found a permanent home with Theresa and Thomas Kanan.

Lydia went to live in the posh neighborhood of Cherry Creek with the Theresa and Tom Kanan. For those that don't know, Cherry Creek was one of the original neighborhoods in Denver. Cherry Creek and South Platte

April, 2008

Rocky Mountain Wrinkle

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River meet up there to form a confluence. In the founding days of Denver, a big gold strike was found at the confluence, and that was the beginning of Denver as a city. Today the streets in her neighborhood are tree lined, and it is populated by many of Denver's more prominent citizens. The citizens that live in Cherry Creek have everything they would ever need inside their neighborhood. Some of Denver's finest restaurants, gyms, supermarkets (one even has valet parking), hair salons, and most exclusive stores are in the Cherry Creek area. And to top it all off, there is a 22 mile path around the neighborhood for hikers and bikers. It seems as if Lydia has hit a gold mine of her own to find such a good family to live with, and such beautiful and ideal surroundings.



Things do not always turn out as they would seem though. In mid March, 2007, only a few months after Lydia came to her new home, trouble came to her fine Cherry Creek neighborhood. March was unusually warm, and many residents were taking advantage of the nice weather to stroll the neighborhood, but that is not all that was strolling the neighborhood. A supporter of the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) decided that the residents of Cherry Creek should be punished for choosing to own gas guzzling SUV's. He set upon the task of teaching the residents the error of their ways. Late at night he would target the SUV's that were in the Cherry Creek neighborhood by setting them on fire using fire bombs. Over a period of four days he managed to destroy 30-40 vehicles with firebombs, many of which were completely gutted.

On the night of March 23, this ELF supporter made a terrible mistake in his judgment, because he came under the sights of Miss Lydia. The Kanan's had retired for the night, all the lights were out, but like any good Shar-Pei with guard dog instincts, Lydia was still on duty. Using her best guard dog instincts, she went to the window to investigate when she heard a noise outside. She knew that something was amiss with the man outside messing with their family vehicle. She took it upon herself to try and scare the man away with her barking from the window. When that didn't work, she quickly ran upstairs, barking all the way, to wake up the family. Theresa realized that something must be amiss, because Lydia kept barking and trying to lead Theresa downstairs. When Theresa followed Lydia to the window, it was apparent that a man was trying to set their SUV on fire. Theresa quickly called for Thomas to come help, and Lydia ran to make sure that Thomas did come down to investigate. As Tom quickly assessed

the situation, the eco-terrorist made his escape, but not before setting his fire. Tom grabbed the car keys, and ran to move the vehicle from the fire that the arsonist had started under the gas tank. Just as quickly Theresa was on the phone to the police. The police were just a few blocks away patrolling the neighborhood, and were able to catch and apprehend the terrorist as he was trying to leave the neighborhood. A search of his vehicle uncovered some suspicious materials, and the equipment for seven more firebombs.

With Lydia's help, the police were able to catch Grant Barnes, but only after he had set off fire bombs and destroyed many SUV's over a four day period. Who knows how long it would have taken to catch this eco-terrorist if Lydia hadn't been on duty.

In July, 2007 Grant Barnes, 24, pleaded guilty to one count of using an incendiary device and one count of second-degree arson, and will be serving 12 years behind bars in prison.

The police did not give Lydia any awards for her help in capturing and apprehending Mr. Barnes. There is no way to estimate how many thousands of dollars Lydia was able to save the residents of Cherry Creek or their insurance companies. Who knows how many more vehicles would have been lost without the Lydia's help on the night of March 23 when Mr. Barnes tried to target the vehicle owned by Lydia's family. It could easily mount up to many thousands of dollars. The Centennial Chinese Shar-Pei would like to award Lydia with the first **Distinguished Canine Service Award** ever to be presented by our club. This award is to honor her work in identifying the eco-terrorist in the Cherry Creek car bombing in 2007, which lead to the arrest and conviction of the arsonist. Good work Lydia! What a great story and testament of the value of a rescue dog. For a dog that got off to such a bad start in life, she sure made an outstanding and extraordinary contribution to her community.

There are many rescue stories that could be told about how rescue dogs have added to the families that have adopted them. Sometime they turn out to be huge heroes and heroines like Lydia. Other times, they are just a dog to add love and comfort to their owners. Many people work in rescue for our breed all across the country. They spend hours taking care of and finding homes for the unwanted dogs, and trying to find funding to keep going. Please think about making a donation to either your local rescue group or the CSPCA Rescue Trust so that more dogs like Lydia have a second chance to show their true value. You can find the local rescue groups listed in The Barker, or on the CSPCA website: www.cspca.com Just click on the rescue

button. The homeless dogs have to depend on us to help, because they can't help themselves. A huge thank you goes out to everyone that has donated to any of Shar-Pei rescue programs in the past year. It is because of your donations that rescue is able to save as many as we can. And a very special thanks to all the Centennial club members that have supported our fundraisers so we could save dogs like Lydia. It couldn't be done without your help and support.

The CSU Animal Cancer Center

For those that may not know, we have an internationally acclaimed Cancer Center at Colorado State University right in our backyard, so to speak. They have ongoing clinic trials and cancer research going on at CSU. If you find out that you dog has cancer, you might want to consider enrolling in one of their research projects. They offer financial incentives as well as the latest research information for the treatment of your pet.

The mission at the Robert H. and Mary G. Flint Animal Cancer Center is to improve prevention and treatment of cancer in animals and humans. They attain their mission through the thoughtful, innovative, caring, and careful study of the causes and treatment of the disease in animals.



They have recently proposed an ambitious 10 million dollar plan that will vastly increase and expand research, development, and application of new cancer treatments. The proposal will also create new national and international research partnerships. The proposal has been laid before the Colorado State University Academic Enrichment Program committee. If

approved, it will make the center an international leader in basic cancer biology and the translational research used to discover and administer new cancer diagnoses and treatment. It would also make Colorado State University the first and only veterinary school in the nation to offer an advanced degree in cancer biology. For this proposal to gain approval, the Animal Cancer Center must provide evidence that it can fund the first \$5 million from private donations, which will then be matched through the Academic Enrichment Program.

The proposal envisions a premiere cancer research network centered at the Colorado State University Animal Cancer Center, which already holds international recognition for its outstanding achievements in cancer research. It is the point of focus for all cancer related activities at the university. Through the creation of new regional, national and international Scientific collaborations, the proposed program will investigate the molecular signatures of cancer.

In keeping with their mission to improve prevention and treatment of cancer in animals and humans, this program will have a great impact on the search for new answers to old questions. For a list of their ongoing Clinical Trials, go to this link:

<http://csuanimalcancercenter.org/wbswebpage.cfm?pagetextid=Trials>

In general, these studies are available to qualifying patients living within 100 miles of the Animal Cancer Center at Colorado State University. If you have further questions about any of the clinical trials, please contact the Consult Coordinator at 970-297-4195.



FALLEN ANGELS

CH. CHINA PUFF'S TAI WON, CD, RN, RA, RE, RAE, owned by Louise Watson. Tai certainly left his mark on the world of dogs. So long our friend. You might be gone, but will never be forgotten

Home-Grooming Tips

Here's are 10 tips to help keep the mess to a minimum:

1. A quality vacuum is a *must* for home grooming. You've got to suck up the hair immediately or it will migrate through the house and so will any fleas in the hair.
2. Adhesive, washable or squeegee hair pickups are handy for the hair you couldn't get with a vacuum.
3. Use an apron or smock to keep hair off while grooming and keep you dry while bathing the dog.
4. Have a set of grooming clothes you can wear without worrying about dirt, hair or odor.
5. Use absorbent cotton towels for drying, placing under a soaked dog or making a crate cozy for a damp dog.
6. A roll of paper towels is helpful for spills and accidents.
7. A lined trash can is handy for disposing of cotton balls and general clean up.
8. A restraint for the grooming table and tub is also helpful because it's safer and keeps the dog in one place.
9. Use a disinfectant/deodorant, bucket, sponge and mop to clean up.
10. When finished, machine-wash the towels, clothes and apron with hot water. Never mix dirty, hair-covered grooming items with your regular clothes unless you want them covered in hair.

From the American Dog Owners Association Newsletter 8-20-07

You Can Teach An Old Dog New Tricks – With The Right Diet



Supplements of two antioxidant compounds -- acetyl-l-carnitine and alpha lipoic acid -- have been found to significantly increase the ability of "geriatric" beagle dogs to learn a new task. (Credit: iStockphoto/Joshua Blake)

ScienceDaily (Sep. 27, 2007) — These supplements, acetyl-l-carnitine and alpha lipoic acid, are continuing to be studied in work with humans, and scientists believe they may provide a new approach to the neurodegeneration and cognitive decline common with aging.

The newest study was just published in FASEB Journal, produced by the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, by researchers from the Linus Pauling Institute at Oregon State University, the University of Toronto, University of California/Berkeley, Children's Hospital Oakland Research Institute, and Juvenon, Inc.

It found that supplements of these two antioxidant compounds, which are believed to play a role in slowing mitochondrial decay in the cell, significantly increased the ability of "geriatric" beagle dogs to learn a new task.

The study builds on similar findings made several years ago, done with mice and published in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. In that research, the activity and energy level of old rats taking these same supplements almost doubled, and memory and cognitive function improved.

"The prospects for cognitive improvement from use of these supplements is both fascinating and exciting," said Tory Hagen, an associate professor in OSU's Linus Pauling Institute, and recognized expert on the biological processes of aging.

"This is the first time these two compounds, by themselves, have been tested in canines, which have brains that are more biologically similar to humans than some other animal models," Hagen said. "The results should be relevant to what we could expect with humans, and are very encouraging."

In this study, an inbred line of older, very similar beagle dogs were taught how to find a food treat by identifying certain markers, such as a yellow wooden peg. Applied scents were used to control for any tip-off by sense of smell. Some dogs received short-term dietary supplementation with acetyl-l-carnitine and lipoic acid, and others did not.

On one task, four of six dogs receiving supplements quickly learned to find the food treat by identifying the correct marker, while only two of six dogs on normal diet succeeded. After 15 more weeks of training, more than 80 percent of supplemented dogs were successful, while only 50 percent of those not receiving supplements could learn the new task.

"We've shown in some previous animal work that these supplements could improve memory and energy level," Hagen said. "Now we're seeing that animals receiving supplements are much more readily able to learn new things as well, even at an advanced age."

In these tests, the effects of supplementation with these compounds appeared to work fairly quickly, in a matter of days or weeks, the scientists said. Some other studies, however, have required much longer periods of supplementation for various antioxidants to improve cognitive performance.

Humans also experience loss of the type of object and spatial discrimination that was improved by supplements in these animal tests – it's often one of the early signs of human dementia.

The scientists suggested in the paper that long-term supplementation "may be effective in attenuating age-associated cognitive decline by slowing the rate of mitochondrial decay and cellular aging." Enhancing the function of mitochondria - which provide almost all of a cell's energy - could literally be providing animals with more "mental energy," leading to improved memory and learning, the study indicated. The compounds may also cause increased synthesis of a neurotransmitter called acetylcholine.

An increasing body of research suggests that mitochondria may be an "Achilles heel" for absorbing age-related damage, as part of the natural process of oxidation in the body and the related "free radicals" that are produced and can cause cellular damage. As the power plant of cells, mitochondria perform many of the roles critical to cell function, use up to 90 percent of the oxygen humans breathe, but are also among the first cellular components to be damaged by reactive radical oxygen species. This study was funded by private industry, including companies that produce the compounds being studied.

Clinical experiments with humans using these supplements are already under way, scientists said.

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2007/09/070923202538.htm>

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The burying of bones is part of a dog's instinctive feeding ritual; shaking things viciously is part of the hunting ritual.

The tallest dogs are the Great Dane and the Irish Wolfhound.

## Can Your Pets Make You Sick?

### Introduction

Pets provide many benefits to humans. They comfort us and they give us companionship. However, some animals can also pass diseases to people. These diseases are called zoonoses.

Although animals can carry germs, it is important to know that you are more likely to get some of these germs from contaminated food or water than from your pet or another animal you encounter. CDC has created this Web site to provide you with information about the health-related risks of owning and caring for animals. We encourage you to follow the links located throughout this Web site for general information about companion and wild animals and the diseases they can carry.

Many groups encourage people to enjoy the benefits of common household pets. By following CDC's simple tips on the Healthy Pets, Healthy People Web site, you can enjoy your pets while protecting yourself against diseases they carry.

Because wild animals can carry diseases that are dangerous to people, CDC discourages direct contact with wildlife. You should never adopt wild animals as pets or bring them home. Teach children never to handle unfamiliar animals, wild or domestic, even if the animals appears to be friendly.

### Diseases from Dogs

Although dogs can pass germs to people, you are not likely to get sick from touching or owning dogs. To best protect yourself from getting sick, thoroughly wash your hands with running water and soap after contact with dogs, dog saliva, or dog feces (stool).

Dogs can carry a variety of germs that can make people sick. Some of these germs are common and some are rare. For example, puppies may pass the bacterium *Campylobacter* in their feces (stool). This germ can cause diarrhea in people. Puppies and some adult dogs often carry a variety of parasites that can cause rashes or illness in people. Less often, dogs in urban or rural areas can carry the bacterium *Leptospira* (lep-TO-spy-ruh). This germ causes the disease leptospirosis (lep-to-spi-roh-sis) in people and animals. Dogs can also carry rabies, a deadly viral disease. Rabies from dogs is rare in the United States.

Some people are more likely than others to get diseases from dogs. A person's age and health status may affect his or her immune system,

increasing the chances of getting sick. People who are more likely to get diseases from dogs include infants, children younger than 5 years old, organ transplant patients, people with HIV/AIDS, and people being treated for cancer. [Special advice](#) is available for people who are at greater risk than others of getting diseases from animals.

Many groups support the [health benefits of pets](#). These groups provide information on how pets can help people be healthy.

Below, you can learn more about dog-related diseases.

**[Brucella canis Infection \(brucellosis\)](#)**: A bacterial disease rarely associated with dogs.

**[Campylobacter Infection \(campylobacteriosis\)](#)**: A bacterial disease associated with dogs, cats, and farm animals.

**[Cryptosporidium Infection \(cryptosporidiosis\)](#)**: A parasitic disease associated with dogs, especially puppies, cats, and farm animals.

**[Dipylidium Infection \(tapeworm\)](#)**: A parasitic disease associated with dogs, cats and fleas.

**[Giardia Infection \(giardiasis\)](#)**: A parasitic disease associated with various animals, including dogs and their environment (including water).

**[Hookworm Infection](#)**: A parasitic disease associated with dogs and cats and their environment.

**[Leishmania Infection \(leishmaniasis\)](#)**: A parasitic disease associated with dogs and sand flies outside the United States.

**[Leptospira Infection \(leptospirosis\)](#)**: A bacterial disease associated with wild and domestic animals, including dogs.

**[Lyme Disease](#)**: A bacterial disease that can affect dogs and ticks.

**[Q Fever \(Coxiella burnetii\)](#)**: A bacterial disease occasionally associated with dogs.

**[Rabies](#)**: A viral disease associated with various animals, including dogs.

**[Ringworm](#)**: A fungal disease associated with dogs.

**[Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever](#)**: A bacterial disease associated with dogs and ticks.

**[Roundworm](#)**: See [Toxocara infection](#).

**Salmonella Infection (salmonellosis)**: A bacterial disease associated with various animals including dogs.

**Tapeworm (flea tapeworm)**: See [Dipylidium Infection](#).

**Toxocara Infection (toxocariasis, roundworm)**: A parasitic disease associated with dogs and cats and their environment.

<http://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/>



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Congratulations to our club member,

Kathy Marshburn

She is now licensed by AKC to judge Tracking testing and as of December is Provisional for Tracking Excellent testing.

Good Job, Kathy

History of AKC Tracking Events-

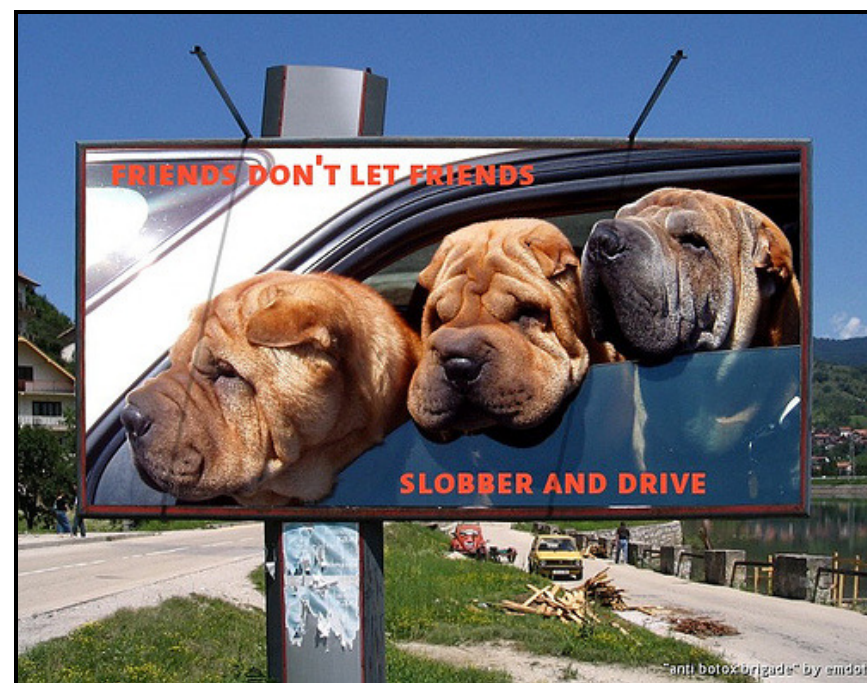
Tracking is where a dog follows the scent of a human being. The dog begins at a person's known starting point and the dog follows and tracks that person's path using the scents that are left in the pathway.

Tracking was originally part of the Utility class, and a dog had to pass a separate tracking test in order to earn a UD. For roughly the first ten years, tracking received one paragraph of description in the regulations, which set out the barest basics of length and age of the track. On the day of the test, the tracklayers were to walk the tracks, deposit the article, and retrace their steps to remove all but the two starting flags. By 1938, it was added that the tracklayer could not wear rubber-soled shoes, and the dog had to be on a 30-40 foot leash and work without help from the handler. By 1943, the tracklayers were required to follow the track, deposit the article, and walk directly off the course.

In 1947, tracking was made a separate class, and more detail began to appear in the regulations: The tracklayers were required to wear leather-soled shoes until they deposited the article, whereupon they were to put on a

pair of rubbers and walk off the course at a right angle. The article was to be a leather glove or wallet. Finally, the dog was permitted one additional chance to take the scent between the starting flags, provided he had not passed the second flag. It is obvious from the changes in the regulations that there must have been considerable discussion of how a track was to be properly laid by the tracklayer. Tracking and advanced tracking regulations were destined eventually to swell, from the original single paragraph of description in 1936, to forty-five pages today.

You can read more about the history of tracking on AKC's website, at this Link: <http://www.akc.org/events/tracking/history.cfm>



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The dingo is not native to Australia but was introduced thousands of years ago by the first immigrants.

Dogs' internal clocks are really magnificent. They know when it's time for you to arrive home, feed them, or go to bed if you are normally on a schedule.



## Sweet Kisses, Good Health

From KV Vet Supply

**Periodontal disease** (gum disease) is the most common disease occurring in dogs and cats. It is described as an infection resulting from build-up of soft dental plaque on the surfaces of the teeth and around the gums. When this plaque is allowed to accumulate, the bacteria in the dental plaque will irritate the gum tissue. This process often leads to infection in the bone surrounding the teeth when not treated. When saliva is deposited on plaque a hard dental tartar called calculus can occur which consists of calcium salts. Tartar starts to form within a few days on a tooth surface that is not kept clean, and provides a rough surface that enhances further plaque accumulation. Once it has begun to grow in thickness, tartar is difficult to remove without dental instruments.

**The first sign** owners will notice is bad breath (halitosis). The gums become irritated, leading to bleeding and oral pain, and your dog or cat may drop food while eating or lose their appetite. Depending on the severity, root damage can occur and the tooth may fall out while they are eating. Bacteria surrounding the roots can gain access to the bloodstream causing bacteremia. These bacteria in the bloodstream have been shown to cause microscopic damage in the kidneys, heart muscle and liver of those pets with periodontal disease.

**Prevention** is the key to managing periodontal disease. When the surfaces of the teeth are cleaned frequently the gums will stay healthy. Daily oral hygiene is required for good oral health.



**Daily brushing** is the most important and daily chew activities can also be beneficial. Pick toothbrushes designed for pets (such as the popular [Triple Pet Toothbrush](#)). They will have a long handle, an angled head to better fit the mouth, and extra soft bristles. A [finger toothbrush](#) is another option

designed for pets. Getting your pet accustomed to the brushing can take days, weeks, even months depending on the patient.



### How to brush a dog's teeth:

First, pet the muzzle, lifting the lips to see all the teeth, opening the mouth to see the tongue, brushing the teeth with a plain finger, brushing with a finger and [animal toothpaste](#) and/or brushing with animal toothpaste and appropriate sized toothbrush. The toothbrush bristles should be placed at the gum margin where the teeth and gums meet at a 45 degree angle. The movement should be in an oval pattern. Be sure to force the bristle ends into the area around the base of the tooth as well as into the space between the teeth. Ten short back-and-forth motions should be completed, then the brush moved to a new location. Cover three to four teeth at a time. Most attention should be given to the outside of the upper teeth.

**Periodic veterinary examination** of the mouth and teeth is recommended. Many pets will require periodic professional scaling in addition to on-going plaque control.

KV Vet offers a full line of dental care products at [www.kvvet.com](http://www.kvvet.com)

Cori Stava, DVM  
KV Vet Supply

## Summer Safety Tips

Summer can be a great time for you and your dog to be outside together. But you have to be careful. Leaving your dog in a parked car, even for a short time and with the windows cracked, can easily cause a heat stroke or brain damage.

Summer is also the worst time of year for fleas. If your dog or cat gets them, their whole environment must be treated, including the yard. If your dog or cat is not treated, it may eat fleas, which could cause internal bodily harm (including tape worms).

Make sure your pet always has access to shade and water, especially when weather turns hot and dry. If they do overheat, pour cool water over their back and head, or place ice packs on their shoulders. If your pet is in distress, call your veterinarian immediately. It is important to note that a dog's or cat's normal body temperature is between 101 and 102 degrees.

### Keep your pet cool:

- keep water bowls full of cool, fresh water
- provide shaded areas for pet to rest in
- use a misting hose to provide a cool area for a pet while outside
- utilize a "kiddy pool" for dogs to splash and play in
- exercise in the cool of the morning or at dusk, not during heat of the day
- do not leave pet unattended outside when it gets too hot; bring inside
- leave your pet at home when you are running errands (see below)

### In Cars and Other Vehicles

The Oregon Humane Society encourages you to leave your pet home and inside when you dash to the store or the mall. The inside of a car heats up very quickly. On an 85 degree day, a car's interior temperature can climb to 120 degrees in 20 minutes, even with the windows slightly open ([download warning flyer](#)). Another concern is dogs riding on [uncovered pickup beds](#). The sun heats up the metal truck bed and can burn your pet's pads. Have Rover ride in the cab with you, put him in a secure crate, or please leave him at home and inside a cool place.

### The Sun

- If you leave your pet out in the yard, provide plenty of shade and water.

- Light colored pets may get [sunburned](#). Check with your veterinarian before applying sun block to your dog or cat's nose.
- Walk time for your dog should be in the morning or at dusk when the temperature drops - avoid strenuous play time outside in the heat of the day.

### Best Place for the Heat of the Day

The best place for your pet to be during the heat of the day is **inside with you** - especially if you have an air conditioner or fan.

### Pet Heat Emergencies

Symptoms of heatstroke could include restlessness, excessive thirst, heavy panting, lethargy, lack of appetite, dark tongue, vomiting, and lack of coordination. Contact your veterinarian.

If your animal is overcome by heat exhaustion, immediately immerse or spray him/her with cool running water (not cold water as that could cause shock) and continue until body temperature lowers. Give him/her water to drink and consult your veterinarian right away to determine if additional treatment is needed.

If you suspect an emergency situation has developed and an animal is in immediate danger from the heat, first consult the owner if possible and then contact your local animal control agency or local police department.

<http://www.oregonhumane.org/petcare/summer.htm>

## DOG FACTS

Dogs (and wolves and foxes) are descended from a small, weasel-like mammal called Miacis which was a tree-dwelling creature and existed about 40 million years ago.



Dogs, as we know them today, first appeared in Eurasia about 13,000 years ago, and were probably a direct descendant of a small, grey wolf.





## PARLIAMENTARY LESSONS

FIVE – THREE HOUR LESSONS

BASED ON THE UPDATED 10<sup>th</sup> EDITION (published 2000)  
OF *ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED*

ONCE A WEEK FOR FIVE WEEKS ON TUESDAYS:  
First Lesson – Starting May 20 and each Tuesday through June 17

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\***

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**COLORADO FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS'  
HEADQUARTERS  
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DENVER, COLORADO 80218**

**TIME: 9:00 a.m. TO NOON**

### INSTRUCTORS:

**JOAN FRANSON, PROFESSIONAL REGISTERED  
PARLIAMENTARIAN  
MARY BAHDE, PROFESSIONAL REGISTERED  
PARLIAMENTARIAN**

For reservations, send check to Joan Franson, 6804 Dover Street, Arvada, Colorado 80004. 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.

\*Cost for former full time students, repeating - \$25.00.



Amazing 3-D Sidewalk art by chalk artist **Julian Beever**. Beever is an English artist who's famous for his art on the chalk drawings on pavement. If you would like to see more of his work, just do an internet search of his name.



# DR. JEFF VIDT

With a special interest in the medical problems of the Chinese Shar-Pei.



## The AKC Canine Health Foundation National Parent Club Canine Health Conference (NPCCHC)

Was recently held in St. Louis, MO October 19-21, 2007. It was the sixth meeting of this biannual conference which enables parent breed club health representatives, canine health researchers, cancer specialists, geneticists, immunologists, veterinarians, representatives of the pet industry and AKC Health Foundation leadership to gather in one place. At this conference these point people discussed new research information, strategies for new research projects, dissemination of information to the parent breed clubs, innovative new cancer treatment and diagnostic procedures, and how we can continue to fund these important initiatives. Oh, we also had a little fun and relaxation along the way.

The new research grants were highlighted and cover allergic disease, autoimmune disease, cancer, blood disorders, canine genome mapping, endocrine disorders, eye diseases, gastrointestinal disease, heart disease, kidney disease, livers disease, neurological disorders, respiratory disorders, skin disease, urology and vaccine research. Specific research projects funded by our own Chinese Shar-Pei Charitable Trust are:

1. Identification and Characterization of Genetic Mutations in Canine Mast Cell Tumors
2. Heritable and Sporadic Genetic Lesions in Canine Lymphoma
3. MicroRNAs and Canine Lymphoma
4. Generation and Analysis of Canine Bone Marrow Derived Mast Cells
5. Characterization of Fluorine-18-Fluorodeoxyglucose Uptake in Dogs with Cutaneous Mast Cell Tumor and Malignant Lymphoma
6. Measurement of Acute Phase Reactants as a Diagnostic Tool in Shar-Pei Fever
7. Patellar Luxation in Dogs: A Molecular Approach

Throughout the three days of panel discussions and presentations topics covered a wide range of material including genetics, canine reproduction, infectious disease, probiotics, stem cell research, oncology (cancer therapeutics), ophthalmology, immunology and vaccinology.

Topics that were particularly encouraging and interesting to me were the discussion on stem cell research, and the evolution of the Canine

Comparative Oncology and Genomics Consortium. Stem cell research in dogs has mainly involved adult bone marrow stem cells and do involve the use of embryonic stem cells. Stem cells are primitive cells which retain the ability to differentiate into specific cell types such as muscle cells, nerve cells, pancreatic cells, etc. when grown in media containing various growth factors. The emphasis is using stem cells as a therapeutic modality. Currently stem cells are being used in orthopedics to produce new bone in fractures and hasten the healing process. Other research areas in dogs are the treatment of canine cardiomyopathy, spinal cord injuries, degenerative spinal myelopathy and idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis in Westies. The AKC CHF is in the process of developing 3 regional centers to harvest bone marrow stem cells in the U.S. Another exciting area is the development of a national canine cancer biospecimen repository. In June, 2004 an informal group of canine cancer researchers collaborated in the formation of the Canine Comparative Oncology and Genomics Consortium (CCOOG). In 2007 this group incorporated as a Non-For-Profit and obtained 501©3 status. Funding obtained from the AKC CHF, Morris Animal Foundation and Pfizer has allowed the establishment of the Pfizer-CCOOG Biospecimen Repository in Frederick, Maryland. The repository houses tumor tissue, normal tissues, serum, plasma, peripheral blood mononuclear cell preparations, genomic DNA, RNA and urine samples. Materials will be collected at 3 institutions – Colorado State University, Ohio State University and the University of Wisconsin – Madison. It is hoped an additional 7 collection sites can soon be up and running. The importance of this project is that researchers can share samples for their research without calling for samples and using many dogs – the samples can be purchased from the repository. These samples would have patient histories, genetic information and be cataloged for maximum usefulness.

Lastly, it was pointed out many, many times at the conference that human researchers are becoming very interested in dogs as human models of cancer. The elucidation of the canine genome has very directly shown how closely the human and canine genomes are. This realization has strongly contributed to rapid advancements in genetic testing, cancer research and genetic advancements in both species. The human scientific community has begun to realize the importance of funding research in canine diseases which will result in rapid advancements in the canine field – this will directly benefit dog owners and our companions.

Jeff Vidt, DVM 01/12/08

<http://www.drjvw.com/>



2008 CSPCA National Specialty  
Ft. Mitchell, KY

Sunday 9/28 through Saturday 10/4  
Drawbridge Inn, 2477 Royal Drive, Ft. Mitchell KY  
859-341-2800

**Regionals Judges- Monday, 09/29/08 Regionals**

BOB, BOW, Best Veteran - Doris Karch

Dogs, Bitches, Veterans, Junior Showmanship - Gayle Gold-Creasman

**Nationals Judges- Tuesday, 9/30/08 - Saturday, 10/4/08**

Sweeps:

Puppy Dogs, Veteran Bitches, Best Puppy: Pat Pramuk

Puppy Bitches, Veteran Dogs, Best Veteran: Cyndi Skinner

Obedience and Rally: Catherine Thompson

Futurity/Maturity: Bill Cunningham

All Regular and Non-Regular Dog Classes, Brace & Team:

Roger Pritchard

All Regular and Non-Regular Bitch Classes, Juniors: Lois Sanford

Breed, Best Veteran, Best Bred By: Karen Kleinhans

The Centennial Club is busy making our plans to host the 2009 CSPCA National Specialty Show in Denver, CO. If you would like to help us with those plans, let us know, so you can inform you of the meeting dates. Please let Alice know that you would like to participate with this planning.

**More pet owners turn to custom-built wheelchairs to keep disabled pets moving**

By Stephanie Reitz- Associated Press



Donay Queenan's 11-year-old auburn Welsh Corgi named Max waits at the door of Eddie's Wheels in Shelburne Falls, Mass. on Saturday, March 8, 2008. Max is healthy except for the degenerative myelopathy progressively paralyzing both back legs. Queenan brought Max in to pick up the custom aluminum wheelchair made so he can recapture his mobility. / **Associated Press**

When Gary Mikus learned that an incurable nerve disease was starting to paralyze the hind legs of his German shepherd, he immediately dismissed the idea of putting the dog to sleep.

Then he spotted an ad in a pet food store: "Eddie's Wheels For Pets. Help for Handicapped Pets." Now the dog named Bear, who has been Mikus' constant companion for a decade, has a lot of living left to do — much of it in his new pet wheelchair.

"He's healthy in every other way," said Mikus, of Shelburne Falls. "Until something tells me otherwise that he's failing, I'll do everything I can to keep him mobile and happy."

A growing number of pet owners are turning to custom-built wheelchairs to restore mobility to furry friends whose legs, hips or backs don't work. The owners' goals are simple: to reward their pets' unconditional love with whatever it takes for the animals to live normally.



The two-wheel carts support the dog's midsection with a padded saddle, and are secured with a shoulder yoke and chest strap. Most dogs have rear-wheel carts to compensate for lame hind legs, though a growing number of front-wheel carts are being ordered for animals with front-leg problems.

Donna Blain's 7-year-old Maltese named Gizmo hopped and hobbled on his deformed front legs before she adopted him a year ago. She ordered his cart after learning the odd gait had damaged his spine and would have required surgery.

Now he wheels himself around for hours on sidewalks, in parks and anywhere he can find treats and praise.

"He's into everything," said Blain, of Woodstock, Conn. "He just wants to live, after all those years of really hobbling and not being able to get where he wanted to be."

Other similar businesses have been popping up across the country. Eddie and Leslie Grinnell, founders of Eddie's Wheels, built their first pet wheelchair in 1989 when their 10-year-old Doberman, Buddha, lost the use of her rear legs because of disc disease and spinal problems.

Their veterinarian, impressed by Buddha's revived mobility and vitality, started referring others to the Grinnells. In 1998, they started their own business.

Since launching the business, Eddie's Wheels has shipped carts worldwide — the largest to a 220-pound Saint Bernard in Great Britain — and has made wheelchairs for several cats, a ferret, alpacas, goats, sheep, a rabbit and a possum.

They even keep a supply of tiny wheels on hand for a gerbil or hamster.

Many of the dogs who need the chairs become disabled from degenerative myelopathy, a neurological disease common in German shepherds, golden retrievers, Labradors and other large sporting breeds. Others, like Corgis and Daschunds, are vulnerable to disc and spine problems that eventually leave them lame.

"Dogs don't understand why this is going on, but they're very accepting: 'Oh, this is the way I am today.' So when we put them in the cart, they're like: 'Oh, now I'm back to normal. I can go where I want,'" Leslie Grinnell said.

That was the case with Max, an 8-year-old German shepherd whose owners, Gordon and Linda Landry of Granby, said his degenerative myelopathy left him dejected and hobbling behind their other dog, Molly.

As he tried his new cart for the first time, the dog whimpered at the door to go outside and promptly wheeled his way down the walkway, around the parking lot and past Molly as she peered at him from the Landrys' truck.

"This just amazes me," Linda Landry said as she watched him, laughing at his vigor. "We never get to see him like this anymore. It's like having a younger Max back."

[http://www.newburyportnews.com/pulife/local\\_story\\_095054540.html?keyword=secondarystory](http://www.newburyportnews.com/pulife/local_story_095054540.html?keyword=secondarystory)

### Cool New Products for Your Pets

Outdoors when the **KoolCollar** is filled with ice. The melting ice runs down the front of the dog and not only offers a comfortable cool sensation, but also more importantly promotes evaporative cooling over the very vascular chest area of the dog. The action of the water evaporating cools the blood and the core temperature of the dog. \$15.99 to \$17.99.



[www.KoolCollar4Dogs.com](http://www.KoolCollar4Dogs.com)



The Zoombak™ Advanced GPS Dog Locator

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WholeMeals introduces a new, innovative way to feed your dog--all the goodness and essential nutrition your dog needs in an unique shape your dog craves. \$4.99 to \$24.99

To read about more new cool dog things, go to:  
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/23256414/>

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### DISCLAIMER

This newsletter is for informational purposes only, and the intent is to provide sources of possible information and help for owners of dogs. The editor/publisher does not in any way endorse or make claims as to the accuracy for any of the medical, treatments, therapies, medicines, or information, described or quoted herein. Readers are directed to consult with licensed veterinarians for all medical advice. Although every effort is made to avoid factual errors, we cannot guarantee the accuracy of any of the content of the publication.

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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

**Awarded Number 1 CSPCA Newsletter-2005**  
**Awarded 1<sup>st</sup> Runner- Up CSPCA Newsletter- 2006, 2007**  
**Awarded Best CSPCA Club Website-2006, 2007**

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