

Rocky Mountain Wrinkle July, 2010 Vol. 8, Issue 3

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

Presidents Corner:



Summer is finally here and we are able to spend more time outdoors. Be sure to be careful about your dogs traveling in cars during the heat. It doesn't take long for a dog to overheat in a car and suffer from heat stroke. Be sure to read the article about how to recognize heat stroke in a dog.

I also would like to make you aware that there have been several reported cases of rabies in the Denver area. It might be a good idea to check to be sure that your pet is up to date on their rabies vaccine. We recommend getting that vaccine every three years.

Our summer picnic is coming up and we are looking forward to seeing all of you there. It is always a good time sitting by the lake at the Watsons with the beverage of your choice and a lot of good food.

We would like to welcome Pets Vet of Aurora, CO to our list of vets. Dr. Kay Metzger attended Dr. Vidt's vet seminar back in October and we are happy to add the clinic to our recommended list. They are located at Mississippi and Peoria.

I hope that everyone has a good fun summer with lots of fun times with your dogs.

Alice

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Thank You!!!!

We would like to thank the following people for their donations to our Rescue program. All donations no matter how large or small are used 100% for the benefit of the dogs that are in our rescue program.

John & Ann Feyler

Dan & Peggy Merrill

Anna Mease

David and Linda Paz

And also to those that sent memorials in honor of Brandy Dellow. Brandy recently died and our rescue took her dog in to be placed so that she wouldn't have to worry about what would happen to it after she was gone. Thank you all for your generous donations.

FDA: First Drug to Treat Cancer in Dogs Approved

For Immediate Release: June 3, 2009

Media Inquiries: Siobhan DeLancey, 301-796-4668



The U.S. Food and Drug Administration today announced the approval of Palladia (toceranib phosphate), the first drug developed specifically for the treatment of cancer in dogs.

Palladia is approved to treat canine cutaneous (skin-based) mast cell tumors, a type of cancer responsible for about 1 out of 5 cases of canine skin tumors. The drug is approved to treat the tumors with or without regional lymph node involvement.

All cancer drugs now used in veterinary medicine originally were developed for use in humans and are not approved for use in animals. Cancer treatments used in animals are used in an "extra-label" manner as allowed by the Animal Medicinal Drug Use Clarification Act of 1994.

"This cancer drug approval for dogs is an important step forward for veterinary medicine," said Bernadette Dunham, D.V.M., Ph.D., director of FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine. "Prior to this approval, veterinarians had to rely on human oncology drugs, without knowledge of how safe or effective they would be for dogs. Today's approval offers dog owners, in consultation with their veterinarian, an option for treatment of their dog's cancer."



While canine mast cell tumors often appear small and insignificant, they can be a very serious form of cancer in dogs. Some mast cell tumors are easily removed without the development of any further problems, while others can lead to life threatening disease.

Palladia is a tyrosine kinase inhibitor and works in two ways: by killing tumor cells and by cutting off the blood supply to the tumor. In a clinical trial, Palladia showed a statistically significant difference in tumor shrinkage when compared with an

inactive substance (placebo).

The most common side effects associated with Palladia are diarrhea, decrease or loss of appetite, lameness, weight loss, and blood in the stool.

Palladia is manufactured by Pfizer Animal Health Inc., New York City.

<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm164118.htm>

Editor's Note: The Chinese Shar-Pei Charitable Trust was a contributor to this research project, as well as other research project that will benefit our breed. If you would like to make a donation to the Charitable Trust, so can find out how to do that on their website:

<http://www.cspcharitabletrust.org/Home.cfm>

Right now the CSPCA will match your donation until they reach a total of \$2,500 contributed.



**CSPCA Nationals 2010
Lawrence, KS
Lawrence Holiday Inn and
Convention Center
Event Dates
October 10 – 16, 2010**

Dr. Tintle will be speaking on Thursday and Friday afternoon. This would be a good chance to see and meet Dr. Tintle.

Our club will once again be donating a cash jar for the auction at Nationals. The proceeds will benefit the CSP Charitable Trust and will be used for research projects to benefit our breed. If you would like to made a donation to the cash jar, please send your donation to:
Alice Fix, 1668 S. Kingston St., Aurora, CO 80012

CSPCA Rescue Organization and Trust Raffle

Custom designed 14K yellow gold standing Shar-Pei on scroll platform with .20 carat total weight in diamonds. The diamonds are SI-1 clarity, G/H color and ideal cut. They are bezel set adding sparkle and value to the design. The pendant supports a large enough swing bail to be worn on a 4 - 5 millimeter Omega and is securely soldered. The entire piece weighs approximately 9 pennyweight or 13.5 grams of 14K solid yellow gold and was designed by jewelry artist Jan Berger of 14k9.com – piece is valued at \$1500.



Raffle tickets are \$10 per ticket, or 6 for \$50.

The Raffle drawing for the necklace will be at the CSPCA National Specialty in October, 2010. You do not need to be present to win.

You can purchase your raffle tickets through PayPal on the CSPCA website: www.cspca.com. Be sure to make a notation that it is for Rescue Trust Raffle tickets. If you would prefer to pay by check for your raffle tickets, please send check made payable to CSPCA Rescue Trust and send to:

Anne Baker
9101 S. 55th Court
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

Questions? Email Anne (abaker@rescueasharpei.com)



Christmas 2006
 Bettie Totten, Jack
 Hoyt & Bettie's
 husband with their
 rescue dog.

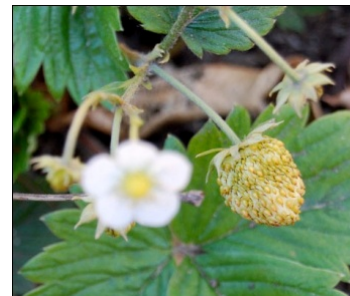
Bettie and
 Jack 2010



We would like to express our deepest sympathy to the family of Bettie Totten for the lost of her dad, Jack Hoyt. Jack was a long time member of our club, and was truly devoted to our breed. Jack will be missed by all that knew him.

Tartar on you r Dog's Teeth?

By Alice Fix



As dogs age, they begin to get tartar on their teeth. It happens to all dogs regardless of the breed. This build up of tartar can cause gum disease and tooth loss. Tartar build up is an issue that many rescue groups are concerned with, and need to find an inexpensive way to treat it. One such remedy that many rescue groups use to a product called **Fragaria Vesca**.

Fragaria Vesca is an extract from a wild strawberry plant which acts on digestion and mesenteric glands. It prevents formation of calculi, removes tartar from teeth and prevents attacks of gout. It prevents the formation of tartar, and if you dog already has tartar build up, using it regularly softens the tartar on the teeth so that the teeth are cleaned when the dog eats. It comes in pellet form and is a tiny white pellet. You just drop **two (2)** of these in a bowl of fresh water . The pellets will quickly dissolve and will go to work on your dogs teeth as they drink the water.

I have not personally tried this, I am just passing along the information from the rescue groups. I have ordered it and am trying it to see if it really does work, but haven't had it long enough to tell.

There may be other places to purchase this product but this is a link to a reliable source:

<http://www.abchomeopathy.com/shop.php>

The Irreverent Vet Speaks Out on Holistic and Natural Flea Treatments

What holistic treatments are available for fleas?

Over the years, I've learned about dozens of holistic or alternative treatments for fleas. They include:

1. **Groom you pet daily.** Check your pet for fleas. Use a [flea](#) comb. This can really help to identify fleas early, when it is easiest to get the problem under control. Flea combs have very fine teeth. The spaces between the teeth on these combs are smaller than the fleas, so when you use the comb on your pet any fleas are "combed" out. The earlier you detect and treat the problem the better. Once you have fleas they start reproducing. This leads to generations of fleas (a flea infestation). Place any fleas caught from the comb into hot soapy water. Rinse the comb by dipping in cool clean water and continue the search for more fleas.

2. **Wash bedding.** Thoroughly clean your home. Wash all bedding. They say (and this is true) that more than 90% of fleas live in your home (not on your pet). I've read that for every flea you see ON your pet, there are 200 more in your home in various forms (either as eggs, pupae, larvae or adults). Keeping your home and bedding clean is a great natural way to help control fleas.

3. **Vacuum.** This can really help control fleas. Vacuuming will pick up some of the fleas (in various forms) but won't stop your pet from bringing them into the house. Also, any adult fleas on your pet will still reproduce and drop their eggs back in your house. Vacuum under furniture and cushions as well! After vacuuming, empty and remove the vacuum bag from the home.

4. **Remember to clean all areas of the home.** Don't forget areas like the garage, laundry room, and basement.

5. **Borax and Borax Powders.** Some people believe that Borax can kill fleas. It is true that it can have natural insecticide qualities but it is also toxic to dogs and cats. Borax is a white, calcified mineral that comes off the Playas (dried seasonal lakes). It has many uses but mostly it is used as a mild detergent for laundry. There are several brands – the most talked about one is called "20 Mule Team Borax". Many people use it to kill fleas by spreading it on the carpet in its dry form (one to two cups per average sized room). Leave it on the carpet for two weeks without vacuuming to help to cover the different life cycles (e.g. eggs, larvae and adults). Some believe that by doing this household fleas will be eliminated for a year, but this is not true in our experience. Because it is toxic to dogs and cats, we recommend that if you do this you should keep your pet away from the Borax (especially as pets may walk through it then groom their paws and ingest this toxin). Leave the Borax down for an hour or so then vacuum it up (then you can allow your pet back into that area). Inhalation of Borax powder can also be irritating to your pet's lungs. Use it with care if you choose to use it at all. Also note that this Borax treatment does not prevent fleas from living on your pet and in the uncarpeted areas of your home.

6. **Hope for cold weather.** Some people believe that winter freezes can eliminate fleas. This has not been true in my experience. For example, it

was quite a cold winter in the north this year and fleas are as bad as ever.

7. **Salt.** Some believe that salt can help eliminate fleas. Some people sprinkle salt on the floor, under cushions and on bedding. In theory, if the flea eats the salt they will "swell up and die". This has not worked for us.

8. **Citrus extracts.** Citrus extracts are sometimes considered to be natural flea repellents. They should never be used on dogs or cats or with other flea products as they can cause toxicity. Personally, I have not found them to work. Also when polling my panel of vets, none of them believed that citrus extracts work. They generally don't hurt anything but they don't really help. Because citrus extracts are often used in combination with other things, some pet owners falsely believe that they work. In our experience, they don't.

9. **Electronic flea collars.** These don't work. Period. That is my opinion. I asked several veterinarians for their opinions and read several articles on electronic flea collars. Some electronic flea collars use high pitched or ultrasonic sound to repel insects, others use an electromagnetic field and newer ones use ionic air cleaning. They all claim to drive fleas away. Based on several opinions by entomologists and other researchers, they simply do not work.

10. **Essential oils.** Some essential oils may repel fleas but they don't kill them. They are not effective in treating infestations. These essential oils are diluted in water (10 to 15 drops of essential oils to 500 ml of water) and then sprayed on the pet's coat. Another option is to add 10 drops of essential oils to 20 ml of almond oil and apply 1 drop to the hair coat per 2 lbs of body weight once or twice a week. So a 20-pound dog would get 10 drops. In most veterinarians' experience it may not be harmful but it doesn't help very much either. The effort is not worth the benefit. Speak to your veterinarian before applying any essential oils to your dog's coat. You may also add Eucalyptus or lavender oil to the water when washing bedding. In my experience, this doesn't help but does smell good.

11. **Electronic flea traps.** These work by exuding small amounts of heat that attract fleas, which are then trapped on sticky paper. They can help but alone they are not effective for treating fleas.

12. **Acupuncture.** Are you kidding? How do you acupuncture fleas?

13. **Flea collars.** Well, what can I say ... flea collars are not natural and they have their own story.

14. **Pyrethrum.** This product is commonly used in veterinary flea products and is derived from the chrysanthemum flower. It can be toxic if used inappropriately.

15. Other Herbal Treatments and Such:

- **Garlic.** Some believe this is effective for treating fleas. Studies have shown it does not work.
- **Yeast.** Some believe this is effective for treating fleas. Studies have shown they don't work.
- **Vitamin B.** Some believe this is effective for treating fleas. Studies have shown they don't work.
- **Lavender - Garlic.** Some believe this is effective for treating fleas. Studies have shown that it doesn't work. It can be sprinkled around bedding. One good thing is that it smells good and most likely won't hurt anything.
- **Fennel - Garlic.** Some believe this is effective for treating fleas. Studies have shown it doesn't work. Some plant it near kennels or catteries. One good thing is that it most likely won't hurt anything.
- **Sage and wormwood.** Some believe this is effective for treating fleas. Studies have shown they don't work.
- **Rotenone** is a "natural" product derived from Derris Root. It is considered toxic – even more toxic than many of the synthetic flea products.

One thing I'd like to point out is that many toxins come from something "natural". For example, some drugs that help us cure or treat cancer come from plants. Some would consider them "natural". When used inappropriately, they can be very toxic and kill. So just because something is natural, that does not mean that it is safe.

My Final Thoughts on Holistic Flea Medications

The most effective treatments are prescription medications from your veterinarian. They really are. I'm not getting one dime for giving you my honest opinion here. If an over the counter treatment that worked as well

There are so many safe and effective products on the market that can really help that I don't think it is worth using natural treatments that don't work and can also be very expensive.

Disclaimer

The Irreverent Vet is a columnist that regularly contributes to PetPlace.com. The goal is to add a balanced and alternative view of some controversial pet issues. As happens with all of us, veterinarians can't always say what they really think without offending some clients. This commentary allows vets to say what they think and give you, the pet owner, the opportunity to consider another point of view. All opinions are those of the Irreverent Vet and not the views of PetPlace.com and are not endorsed by PetPlace.com.

<http://www.petplace.com/article-printer-friendly.aspx?id=8886>

Mutts Mingling With Pure Breeds at AKC Competitions

by [Kristen Seymour](#) May 24th 2010



"After 125 years, American Kennel Club opens competitions to mutts," reports the Washington Post. Not all events of course -- your mixed-breed pooch won't be sharing the show ring during the beauty competitions, but your mutt can prove what he's made of in the skill contests.

Vojtas adopted Charlie from a local rescue group. He proved to be a handful, eating cell phones, a couch and more. Vojtas enrolled him in obedience classes. "He was a 'C' student," she tells Paw Nation, "but one night after class, there was an agility practice going on in the arena, and we were both mesmerized. I signed up the next day for an intro agility class, and the rest, as they say, is history."



Ashley Lambert

Unfortunately, as quickly as Vojtas and Charlie became "addicted" to agility, they learned that nearly all of the agility trials near their South Florida home were held by the AKC, and mixed breeds were not allowed. Other venues have always allowed mixed breeds to participate, but these were much fewer and farther between in her local area. Vojtas, who by then had adopted another mixed breed, a shy "who knows what" mix named Quincy, was undaunted.

"I started writing letters to the AKC and filling out surveys, and

encouraging my friends, both local and on the internet, to do the same. Since I volunteered at the AKC trials, I put up a poster with Charlie's picture that said "Hey, AKC, I want to play, too!" along with a petition. At each trial, I'd collect names and send off sheets to the AKC," she recalls.

And the hard work paid off. "My club, the Dog Obedience Club of Hollywood, is proud to be one of the first in the nation to host an 'all-dog's agility trials!" Vojtas says.

Charlie and Quincy both competed at the Palm Bay Agility club's AKC trial earlier this month, and the pair earned seven qualifying runs and seven first places. Not too shabby for a former "C" student and shy pup!

Want to get your pooch started in these competitions? Find events near you on the [Canine Partners Web site](#).

<http://www.pawnation.com/2010/05/24/mutts-mingling-with-pure-breeds-at-akc-competitions/?icid=main|htmlws-main-n|dl1|link4|http%3A%2F%2F>

Familial Shar-Pei Fever

By Linda J.M. Tintle DVM

Familial Shar-Pei Fever (FSF) is an autoinflammatory syndrome (**not** autoimmune). The underlying genetic defect is most likely a disruption in how the messengers of inflammation are controlled which causes chronic elevations of these mediators in the bloodstream. It is a periodic fever syndrome that is characterized by random inflammatory events with fever, sometimes with joint swelling, that usually last 24-36 hrs. It appears that the complex disorder involves multiple interactive genetic mutations, including one that has been found at a previously identified site in the genome associated with one of the human periodic fever autoinflammatory disorders. Shar-Pei may have abnormal initiation (fever disorder) and also amplification (other mutation/s) of inflammation. The severity of their disease and risk for amyloidosis will vary with the amount of inflammation initiated and their autoinflammatory over-reaction.

The chronic background inflammation puts them at risk for developing reactive systemic amyloidosis which can lead to early death from kidney failure. Not every dog with FSF will develop amyloidosis but the fevers

are a big red flag that they have one of the defects leading to aberrant auto-inflammation and are at high risk for kidney disease. Shar-Pei with FSF CAN live to over 10 yrs of age. Two of my mother's Shar-Pei lived to 12 ½ and 15 ½ years respectively with lifelong FSF. By doing everything you can to reduce their chronic inflammation and monitor their disease, you can help them live their best possible lives - however long that may be.

Your veterinarian will usually make this diagnosis after ruling out other causes of fever with diagnostic tests as indicated by your dog's condition but a baseline of urinalysis on a first morning urine sample, CBC, blood chemistry profile, T4 +/- a panel for tick-borne diseases is most common. Other tests, including those for autoimmune disorders, may be needed. It is a diagnosis by exclusion now but scientists are working on developing DNA and other tests for the genetic mutations that put them at risk.

Because fever events are a marker for the presence of autoinflammatory disease, therapy should be started early to prevent complications. Some dogs have only one observed fever event yet die prematurely from amyloidosis – the number and frequency of fever events does not correlate with the severity of underlying chronic inflammation.

My current recommended treatment of Shar-Pei Fever includes 0.025-0.03 mg/kg of colchicine twice daily. I recommend that the dog start on a low dose and try to gradually increase to the maximum recommended amount or the most of that that they can tolerate without gastrointestinal (GI) upset (usually diarrhea) twice daily. For most average weight Shar-Pei, this is one X 0.6 mg tablet twice daily. Colchicine is a potent drug but it accumulates in white blood cells (the desired target for treatment) and GI signs occur long before other serious side-effects appear. I have never seen evidence of any damage from colchicine except for a transient, treatable diarrhea that goes away when the drug is withdrawn in sensitive patients. Colchicine treats the underlying pathology by blocking the movement of neutrophils (one of the white blood cells), decreasing levels of cytokines (the messengers of inflammation) and blocking the formation of amyloid protein (a waste by-product of inflammation). In humans, it has proven to be safe in infants, pregnant women and when given lifelong. Treatment is for life. I have been using the drug since 1993 and have had individual patients on

the drug safely for over 10 yrs. Some dogs cannot tolerate colchicine without chronic diarrhea and they are given small amounts or none if it is severe. Colchicine and cyclosporine (Atopica) should not be given together because of increased risk of bone marrow suppression.

I treat the fever events with 50% dipyrone injectable (usually 1.0 ml/dog under the skin) (an IL-1 beta blocker) or Metacam (meloxicam, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug or NSAID) by weight per package insert instructions. Some fevers are very serious and can require emergency veterinary treatment if they approach or exceed 106 degrees F (41 degrees C). You will need to discuss treatment with your veterinarian because treating the fever as early as possible in the inflammatory cascade can often stop it from becoming life-threatening and it is best to have medication available on-hand at home. Do not give NSAIDs with corticosteroids like prednisone and alert your veterinarian if your dog is vomiting.

I would also recommend adding some or all of the following antioxidants and other supplements to your dog's diet to offset the chronic inflammation that is the silent killer and because rancid fatty acids and oxidized cholesterol in cell membranes have been linked to chronic inflammation and the deposition of reactive amyloid in current research: 50-100 mg alpha-lipoic acid once daily (do not exceed 100mg/day), a good quality human multi-vitamin (with A, D, E and complete B-complex vitamins), at least 2000 mg omega-3 fish oil (can be given 1-2 capsules twice daily of the over-the-counter fish oil capsules – I use a product that supplies a highly concentrated amount of pharmacologic grade fish oil in ½-1 tsp (1800mg EPA, 900mg DHA/tsp) once daily, 100-500 mg curcumin with bioperine per day with meals, 100-300 mg Boswellia twice daily. Feed a good quality diet and avoid rancid polyunsaturated, hydrogenated or trans- fats. Colchicine can lower levels of vitamin B12 (cobalamin) in the body and some Shar-Pei are already deficient in vitamin B12 so B-complex supplementation is important. Vitamin B12 is important in the biochemical pathways of inflammation and may be depleted because of their chronic disease. Vitamin B12 deficiency can cause chronic diarrhea and low-grade anemia in some Shar-Pei and I now routinely supplement with 1000 mcg/day by mouth. Recent studies have shown that oral absorption in humans is as effective as injectable and I have seen improvement after

oral therapy in dogs. MSM has been reported to decrease the severity of fevers anecdotally but should be supplemented with molybdenum if given at high doses (50-75 micrograms/day if dose of MSM > 1000 mg/day). 100-200 mg Resveratrol/day may decrease levels of IL-6 and dampen effects of cytokine cascade. (Resveratrol should not be given along with Quercetin as the latter blocks its effects). Vitamin K2 (menaquinone, MK7) may also suppress IL-6 production by fibroblasts. Production of mucin (hyaluronon or HA) requires magnesium and I often prescribe 200 mg of magnesium (not oxide) daily after finding hypomagnesemia to be a frequent abnormality in S-P chemistry profiles.

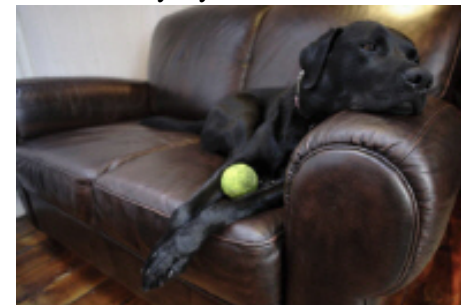
Your dog should get regular and routine monitoring of first morning urine with urinalysis as well as a CBC, blood chemistry profile and T4. Dilute urine is often the first sign of kidney trouble and, if present, the urinalysis should be repeated to see if the dog has a consistently low specific gravity. Medullary amyloidosis is the most common kidney disorder in Shar-Pei and proteinuria is usually a late-stage event but urine protein levels should also be monitored and a urine protein to creatinine ratio performed if proteinuria is found. FSF patients should be examined and tests performed whenever they are not eating well or at all, if they are vomiting, having diarrhea for more than a few days or acting sick in any way – if they are just “not right”. The bare minimum is annually in the healthy active young dog and many dogs should be checked more often.

Treatment/supplements to consider:

Colchicine	Vitamin B12	Resveratrol
Magnesium	Alpha-lipoic acid	Curcumin
Vitamin K2 (menaquinone, MK7)		Boswellia
High dose omega 3 fatty acids	Multi-vitamin & mineral supplement	

The Anatomy of a Dog Attack

by Ryan O'Meara



“Out of the blue, it attacked for no reason”

When a dog attack is reported we will often hear the same old phrases bandied about.

“It came out of the blue”

“It was totally unprovoked”

“We didn’t see it coming”

“It was totally out of character”

Ring any bells? Well let’s try and understand how and why a dog might attack someone.

Dogs rarely, if ever, attack for no reason. Us humans often misinterpret a dog attacking “out of the blue” and “without warning” because we simply missed the signs.

Let’s be clear about one thing. A dog who is prepared to bite someone has his reasons. Can we, as humans, justify those reasons using the social values of people?

Probably not. But of course, dogs do not live their lives according to human social values.

Here is the story of John, Henry and Max.

John has no wife or children. For the last five years he’s lived with his best friend in the world a playful Labrador called Max.

John is exited today. Henry, an old friend from school who he hasn’t seen for many years is visiting.

John decides today would be a good day to get his garden tidied, make a good impression on his old school chum.



As John gets busy in amongst the weeds in the front garden, he spies his old mate making his way up the street.

Henry’s been looking forward to catching up with John for weeks and, as he’s never been to his home before, finds himself feeling somewhat jubilant to realise he’s managed to find the street on which John lives without too much trouble and can now relish the prospect of seeing his friend again as well as finally getting to meet the only true love of John’s life, the much talked about Max.

It’s a hot and sunny day and Henry is wearing his sunglasses. Further up the street he spots John working in his front garden.

John’s already noticed Henry making his way towards him and yells out, “Hi Henry. Fancy a beer?”

Henry shouts back, “Sounds just the job. Can you believe this heat?”. As per usual, Max has been ‘helping’ John with his gardening exploits by digging holes of his own all over the lawn. John doesn’t mind. He only wanted the garden so he could have somewhere safe to play fetch with Max on sunny days like today. He’s never been one for trying to keep it immaculate when Max’s favourite hobby is trying to tunnel his way to China.

Max has stopped his gardening though. He’s become preoccupied by the exchange between John and Henry and he’s taken a trip the front gate to see what’s going on.



“I wonder who this bloke is?” ponders Max.

“Why would he and John be shouting at other?” he thinks to himself. “I’d better be on full alert.” he concludes. “John’s just shouted at this chap so he obviously wants me to keep an eye out.”

Max fixes himself in position at the front gate and hoists his tail high into the air, he’s keen to let the oncoming stranger know he’s about. John doesn’t notice.

Henry’s still coming. So Max decides he needs to be more clear. He starts to emit a deep, low growl in Henry’s direction just to make certain the stranger who’s purposely striding towards him, his owner and HIS garden is left in no uncertain terms that he’s not moving.

Henry’s still coming. And now he’s close enough for Max to notice his sunglasses. “This is getting more serious by the second”, thinks Max. “He’s not only not listening to me, he’s staring right at me. I know, I’ll stare right back at him. See if he’s as brave then.”

Problems. Henry is still as brave. To Max, Henry’s sunglasses look like wide, staring eyes, boring straight ahead and as he marches staunchly toward the increasingly anxious Labrador, Max wonders what his next move might be. As body language goes, Henry is showing all the signs of refusing to listen to Max’s advice.

Now tense and feeling genuinely threatened, Max is offered an escape. John jogs inside to fetch a couple of bottles of beer and Max is only too pleased to hurriedly follow his master. Max is somewhat relieved to suspect that John, his idol, is just as scared as he is about the relentless stranger pursuing them both from outside the garden gate.

“Shut the door John, shut the door” Max worries. “He’s still coming and you haven’t closed the door”.

Too late. Max’s heart leaps as he hears the gate swing open. Too late.

His worst fears are confirmed. The unrelenting Henry is now purposefully making his way up the garden path and toward the the house where Max and John are isolated, cornered and in Max’s case, petrified.

Gathering up every ounce of his canine courage and without a second’s thought for his own safety Max charges out of the house, tail hoisted aloft and barking his war cry as loud as his voice will muster. He heads straight for Henry wondering why this stalking maniac refused to listen to all of his earlier warnings.

“You might kill me but you’ll never take John”, Max decides.

Henry, his face very quickly drained of all its colour, is shocked and taken aback to be confronted by a clearly furious Max, the dog he’d heard so many nice stories about from doting John. This isn’t at all the dog he thought he’d be meeting.

Henry, alarmed and frightened makes his way toward Max, attempting to offer a hand of reassurance and friendship.

Max is having none of it.

“John warned you. Then I warned you. Why wouldn’t you just listen?”, reasoned Max.

Undeterred by Henry’s advance and determined not to let his owner come to any harm, Max lunges in Henry’s direction.

The realization that Max is a long way past the stage of being able to be pacified dawns on Henry fast and he hastily tries to beat a retreat back out of the gate from which he entered.

John, hearing the commotion and now panic stricken by Max’s attack bellows “No! Max, no.”

Acutely tuned to his owner’s emotions and sensing the fear and alarm in John’s voice, Max forges ahead and launches into a full scale attack on Henry.



And then, as quick as it began, it was over.

An ambulance arrives to take Henry away and, hearing the commotion, John's neighbors have summoned the Police.

John can be heard explaining, "He's never done anything like this before", the attack came "totally out of the blue", Max was always "such a trustworthy dog", he's "never shown any signs of aggression in his life", the attack was "totally unprovoked".

But we know differently don't we?

Let's look again at how Max saw things unfold:

1. Max spots a man walking toward his and his owner's garden – 'his territory'
2. Not unduly worried, Max paid little attention to the stranger until John shouted in Henry's direction. To Max, this was a clear signal to 'watch for danger.'
3. Obediently, Max sat at the front gate and watched for that danger.
4. He attempted to signal to Henry by putting his tail in the air and growling, that he was prepared to defend his owner and territory.
5. As Henry gets closer, Max again postures but now spots Henry's aggressive body language, his wide eyes refusing to overt their gaze a clear signal of intent. Henry's point blank refusal to alter his path, a sure fire gesture of defiance.
6. As John runs inside, Max's thoughts turn to escape. He now believes John is as scared as he is and they should both seek shelter from the safety of the house.
7. Too late. As Henry enters the garden (Max and John's territory) Max does what he thinks his owner needs him to do. He defends against the threat.
8. As Henry runs away and John panics, Max takes this as a sign that he should increase his attack, his canine instincts now in complete overdrive.

So let us again question whether John was correct when he explained to Police that Max's attack was unprovoked.

Was it unprovoked? Not at all.

Was it unjustified in human, social terms? Absolutely.

Was it avoidable? Totally.

The Aftermath

Henry, his pain eased only slightly by drugs lies motionless in a hospital bed and starts to face the reality that a visit to see a dear, old friend has left him disfigured for the rest of his life. He ponders how best to explain to his young children that he's still their Dad even though he knows his mutilated features will upset them deeply. He wonders how life will be from now on, how people will react to him.

Max, confused and still frightened by the terrifying ordeal earlier in the day is now wondering why he's found himself confined to a small, secure cage at the vet surgery.

He stares through the bars and looks longingly towards the door, hoping against hope that he will soon be reunited with his trusted friend and master, John.

Unbeknown to Max, he'll never see John again.

As the door swings open, Max's tail momentarily begins to wag but he's deflated. It's not John. It's a vet nurse.

He's still pleased to see her. He's lonely and upset and he just wants to go home and be with his friend.

He's too pre-occupied to wonder why the vet nurse seems so wary of him. Wanting to put her at ease, he submissively offers up his paw. As the vet nurse holds it, she carefully shaves a small patch of fur away from his leg.

Max didn't even notice the injection.

On this day it wasn't only Max's body that was destroyed as John's memories of a kind, gentle, fun loving dog died too.

He asks himself once more, "Why did my dog attack someone for no reason?"

John may never know it, but Max had his reasons.

Dogs do not bite people without reason. They do not attack out of the blue. They do not launch into savage, frenzied assaults without provocation despite what you will undoubtedly read in news reports when the next dog attack hits the press.

There are NO devil dogs. There are NO unprovoked dog attacks. There IS a huge gap in understanding amongst some dog owners about why dogs attack and until we can bridge that gap in education people will continue to be attacked and more and more dogs will join Max, their memories destroyed along with their bodies.

Killing individual dog breeds is not the solution to a problem which runs through an entire species. Oh, and if you were left in any doubt, that species isn't canine.

<http://www.k9magazine.com/the-anatomy-of-a-dog-attack-2/>

Happy 15th Birthday, Dusty Rosenberger!



The Concert for Dogs - Was It a Howling Success?

by Josh Loposer

Last weekend, the iconic Sydney Opera House was overrun by furry, four-legged patrons as it played host to a high frequency concert entitled "Music for Dogs." The concert, created by musician Laurie Anderson, was part of a festival curated by Anderson and her husband, rock legend Lou Reed.



The couple said they make music for their rat terrier, Lollabelle

Billed as an "inter-species social gathering on a scale never seen before in Australia," none of the concert-goers, human or otherwise, had any idea of what to expect. Even the producer, Andrew Spencer, who Paw Nation interviewed before the event, didn't know exactly what was going to happen.

What concert-goers got was a four-piece band, led by Anderson, that played eerie, high-pitched compositions to a crowd of extremely cultured canines.



Greg Wood, AFP / Getty Images

Partly inaudible to the human ear, the experimental performance was reportedly one of Laurie's favorite concert experiences ever. She certainly had high praise for Sydney's sophisticated dog populace. "The dogs are a really wonderful audience. They're grooving and dancing and uninhibited," Anderson told Sky News.

According to Sky News, the show went off without a hitch, though there were a few barks, yips and howls as the dogs soaked up some culture on the opera house steps. And of course there was a fair amount of dog poop. But what about the music? Did the dogs like it?

At the start of the performance, Anderson noted that "We actually don't know what kind of music dogs like." However, now that the first ever large-scale dog concert has come and gone, we don't know if the music industry has learned anything about how to cater to this new four-legged demographic.

What we do know is that Laurie's performance didn't result in a single walk-out and, perhaps even more impressive, there wasn't a single dogfight.

<http://www.pawnation.com/2010/06/09/what-happened-at-the-concert-for-dogs/>

Rescue Poem

Author Unknown

One by one, they file past my cage
Too old, too worn, too broken, no way
Way past his time, he can't run and play
Then they shake their heads slowly and go
on their way
A little old man, arthritic and sore
It seems I am not wanted anymore
I once had a home, I once had a bed
A place that was warm, and where I was fed
Now my muzzle is grey, and my eyes slowly
fail
Who wants a dog so old and so frail?
My family decided I didn't belong
I got in their way; my attitude was wrong



Whatever excuse they made in their head
Can't justify how they left me for dead
Now I sit in this cage, where day after day
The younger dogs all get adopted away
When I had almost come to the end of my rope
You saw my face, and I finally had hope
You saw through the grey and the legs bent with age
And felt that I still had life beyond this cage
You took me home, gave me food and a bed
And shared your own pillow with my poor tired head

We snuggle and play and you talk to me low
You love me so dearly, you want me to know
I may have lived most of my life with another
But you outshine them with a love so much
stronger

And I promise to return all the love I can give
To you, my dear person, as long as I live
I may be with you for a week or for years
We will share many smiles, you will no doubt shed tears
And when the time comes that God deems I must leave
I know you will cry and your heart it will grieve
And when I arrive at the Bridge all brand new
My thoughts and my heart will still be with you
And I will brag to all that will hear
Of the person who made my last days
oh, so dear

FACT: The number one cause of death for healthy animals in our country's shelters is euthanasia. Please adopt. For every animal that dies in a shelter, there is a Human somewhere responsible for his/her death.



Pets Vet of Aurora
12597 E. Mississippi Ave. Unit 300
Aurora, CO 80012
(303) 360-0760

<http://petsvetaurora.vetsuite.com/>

Heat Stroke in Dogs - Prevention, Symptoms and Treatment

As with children, it is very dangerous to leave a dog inside a car during warm weather, especially when the car is parked in the sun. This action may result in the dog suffering fatal heatstroke and/or the owner receiving a large fine, should the RSPCA or Animal Welfare discover the dog.

Heat Stroke in Dogs - Prevention and Symptoms

The simplest way to prevent dogs from suffering heat stroke is to never leave them in the car and avoid crowded places in warm weather. Sadly it is not uncommon to hear of dogs left in a car and ending up dying of heat stroke; remember dogs can't sweat like humans, making them much more susceptible to the condition. Always make sure that a dog has plenty of fresh water, which should be replenished regularly and may be brought along when out walking in summer.

Symptoms of heat stroke to be aware of in dogs, typically include:

- * Distress
- * Redder than usual mouth
- * Salivating
- * Weakness
- * Collapse, unconscious
- * Rapid panting, quickly weakening
- * Wide eyes
- * Staggering
- * Pale, dry gums

On hot days it is best to walk the dog early in the morning or later in the evening, especially avoiding the heat of the day.

Heat Stroke in Dogs - Treatment

If a dog is showing any of the above heat stroke symptoms, it is crucial to get it to the vet as soon as possible, as this condition can be fatal when left untreated. The dog may also benefit from being hosed down, put in an ice cold shower or bath, or being treated with ice packs. It is most important to quickly get the dog's head cool.

As highlighted above, prevention is definitely better than cure, which is especially the case when it comes to dogs suffering from heat stroke. The best prevention is to never leave a dog in the car when the weather is warm and always ensure the dog has easy access to fresh water.

<http://dog-care.suite101.com/article.cfm/heat-stroke-in-dogs---prevention-symptoms-and-treatment>

Officers of the Centennial Chinese Shar-Pei Club

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Rescue: Louise Watson
Show Chairman: Alice Fix & Jeanne Hill-Jurik
Webmaster- Laura Brown

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 throughout 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 Best CSPCA Newsletter-2005, 2008, 2009
Awarded 1st Runner- Up CSPCA Newsletter- 2006, 2007
Awarded Best CSPCA Club Website-2006, 2007, 2008, 2009

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