

#### President's Corner:



We have had another good year and have had some really good news for our breed. Dr. Linda Tintle announced that there is a test for markers for the Shar-Pei Fever that should be available shortly. This test should help breeders make better decisions in their breeding programs so we can re-

duce the number of dogs that are affected by this disease. Our club was in on the ground floor with the research that lead to these wonderful results. Thank you to everyone that had blood drawn on their dog so that we can improve the health in our breed. I think that it was definitely a worthwhile project!

Our rescue program is always in need of foster homes and people to transport dogs. If you can help with either of those things please let Louise know- 303-772-7325.

# Alice Fix, President

### **Can Pets Remember and Tell Time?**

Daniel Estep, Ph.D. and Suzanne Hetts, Ph.D. www.AnimalBehaviorAssociates.com Copyright ABA, Inc.

Our Dalmatians, Mocha and Ashley, are again at "summer camp" while we are out of town. They are spending a week with our

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friend in Gunnison, who also took care of them last summer while we were traveling. Our first report from Kathy was that both dogs definitely recognized her house when they arrived. Mocha went right to the back door, wanting inside, while Ashley immediately ran to the side of the house to say hello to the other dogs.

Owners frequently ask us if their pets can remember things and if they can tell time. As Mocha and Ashley demonstrate, it is certainly true that dogs (and cats) remember past events. If they didn't, it would be impossible for them to learn anything.

Animals definitely can remember particular people and places. They can remember people who have been good to them, such as our friend Kathy, but they can also remember people with whom they have had bad experiences with as well. We don't know how long animals can remember such people and places but some individuals may be able to remember events for years.

Although Mocha and Ashley remembered being at Kathy's, it's much harder to know if they can judge how long ago they were there. All species of animals seem to have internal clocks that allow them to regulate their internal physiological processes and behavior. Some animals clearly use their clocks to tell time.



Honeybees can tell what time it is to within 15 minutes. It is not clear whether dogs and cats can tell time in the same way but they probably can tell roughly what time of day it is (early morning, late afternoon and so on) and can probably discriminate between the passage of just a few minutes from several hours.

The observation that dogs are often just as excited to see their owners if they've been gone five minutes or five hours probably has less to do with the amount of time that has passed than it does to the fact that excited greeting behaviors have become a conditioned response.

When Mocha and Ashley come back home, they probably won't know whether they've been gone for a week or for several days. And because animals are not spiteful or revengeful, we also know they won't be mad at us for not taking them along. We know they will remember us, and we'll be just as happy to see them as they will to see us.

Edited version first published in the Rocky Mountain News, Denver, CO.

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CSPCA Dationals

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# Dog Blessings You Shouldn't Overlook!

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN WRINKLE** 

By: PetPlace Staff





There are things dogs do that we may consider little "blessings". Just wonderful little unexpected things that can make you smile. Here are some of our favorites.

- 1. The sound of a wagging or thumping tail when all else is quiet
- 2. Dogs that "listen" to you

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- 3. Dogs that look in your eye like they know what you are thinking or feeling
- 4. Watching a hungry dog eat well
- 5. Watching a sick dog start to eat
- 6. The look of happiness when you pet or talk to a dog
- 7. A dog's warm welcome when you come home
- The excitement dogs feel when they are about to go "out" or "bye-bye"

http://www.petplace.com/dogs/dog-blessings-you-should-notoverlook/page1.aspx?utm\_source=dogcrazynews001et&utm\_medium=e mail&utm\_content=petplace\_article&utm\_campaign=dailynewsletter

### Flame Retardants at High Levels in Pet Dogs, Study Finds

ScienceDaily (Apr. 26, 2011) — Indiana University scientists have found chemical flame retardants in the blood of pet dogs at concentrations five to 10 times higher than in humans, but lower than levels found in a previous study of cats.

Their study appears this month in the journal *Environmental Science & Technology*. Authors are Marta Venier, an assistant research scientist in the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, and Ronald Hites, a Distinguished Professor in SPEA.

Venier and Hites explore whether pets could serve as "biosentinels" for monitoring human exposure to compounds present in the households that they share. Dogs may be better proxies than cats, they say, because a dog's metabolism is better equipped to break down the chemicals.

The study focuses on the presence of polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) in the blood of dogs and in commercial dog food. PBDEs have been widely used as flame retardants in household furniture and electronics equipment. The compounds can migrate out of the products and enter the environment.

"Even though they've been around for quite awhile, we don't know too much about these compounds' toxicological effects on humans or animals," Venier said. "The bottom line is that we still need to keep measuring them, particularly in homes."

PBDE mixtures made up of less-brominated compounds are regarded as more dangerous because they bioaccumulate in animal tissues. These mixtures were banned by the European Union and were voluntarily removed from the U.S. market in 2004, but remain in the environment. Mixtures with more-brominated compounds remain in use in the U.S. but will be phased out by 2013.

Venier and Hites report on an analysis of flame retardants in blood from 17 pet dogs, all of whom live primarily indoors. They also examined samples of the dry dog food that made up the pets' diet, attempting to determine if food was a major source of PBDE exposure.

The average concentration of PBDEs in blood from the dogs was about 2 nanograms per gram, about five to 10 times higher than

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the levels found in humans in the few studies of human exposure that have been done in North America.

In dog food samples, the researchers found PBDEs at levels averaging about 1 nanogram per gram. That is much higher than levels found in meat and poultry sold as food for humans, suggesting the PBDEs in dog food may result from processing rather than from the food sources.



A 2007 study by Venier, Hites and several co-authors found concentrations of PBDEs in house cats that were 20 to 100 times higher than levels found in humans. A 2010 article by Venier, Hites and two Clemson University researchers also reported high levels of PBDEs in nesting bald eagles.

Venier said the evidence shows dogs metabolize the compounds more rapidly than cats. A previous study showed that dogs produce an enzyme that breaks down organochlorine pesticides, and a similar mechanism may be at work with brominated compounds.

The current study also detected newer flame retardants that have come onto the market as PBDEs have been removed, including Dechlorane Plus, decabromodiphenylethane, and hexabromocyclododecane. The chemicals are largely unregulated but pose concerns because they are structurally similar to organic pollutants that have been linked to environmental and human health effects. "The concentrations of these newer flame retardants were relatively low compared to the PBDEs," Venier said, "but the fact that they are new and not regulated suggests their levels are going to increase in the future.

#### http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2011/04/110426071021.htm

Editor's Note: This is another warning to be careful when you choose toys for your dogs. Flame retardants are used to fill all children's stuff animals. If your dog breaks the outer layer of material and gets the stuffing in his mouth, the retardants leach into the dog's body through his mouth. The stuffing can also block a dog's intestines and cause some serious medical conditions. Be sure to read the tags when you buy stuff animals designed for dogs as well. Some of those may also be filled with flame retardant materials.

#### Ever Heard of "Chaps" Disease? By Alice Fix

Our rescue group was recently called about taking in an eight year old dog into rescue. The children in the family were allergic to the dog. They had been able to manage it for several years but the kid's allergies were getting worse and the doctor instructed them to get rid of the dog. The owner called us about taking the dog into our rescue program. As we always do, Louse Watson told him to call the breeder and see if they would take the dog back. Good breeders will be responsible for the dogs that they breed, and are willing to take their dogs back in a situation like this. When he contacted the breeder she would not take the dog back. She said that it would be inconvenient for her to do that, and all she could do with a dog that old is to put it down.

Instead of calling back our rescue group, the owner dropped the dog off at a shelter. As it sometimes happens, the shelter called Shar-Pei rescue to see if they would take the dog. They were told by their vet that the dog had the terrible "Chaps" disease and that the dog would eventually die from the disease. The shelter wanted us to know about this disease up front so we would know what we were getting involved in.



Photo by Louise Watson

Louise and I discussed this rescue and did what we could to find out what Chaps Disease was and how to treat it since neither of us had ever heard of it. We could not find anything on the internet about Chaps, not one word of information. We contacted Dr. Vidt and he had never heard of it either but said that he would do some research and see what he could find out. Now we are getting really scared because this disease is so rare that most people don't even know about it. Louise called the shelter back and asked them to please see if they could get more information from the vet on this disease and to ask if it has any other name, and if there was any treatment for it. The shelter contacted the vet and was told that Chaps was the only name for the disease, and that there was no treatment for it. The dog would just have to suffer from it until it eventually kills her. Louise asked them if they could describe that the disease looked like on the dog. She was told that dogs that had the disease had hair loss, loss of appetite and open wounds. We were also told that the dog had tried to snap at the vet.

My daughter and I went to evaluate the dog. It took forever for the dog to get to the room for us to evaluate her because she was

walking so slowly. The poor dog was so skinny that you could see every one of her ribs. As always I had a bag of all kinds of treats to use for bribery if she didn't want to be friends. I sat on the floor but Maggie did not want anything to do with me or my treats. The foster director said that Maggie wasn't eating and was losing weight. I tried everything in my snack bag and Maggie wasn't having any part of me or the snacks. Finally my daughter sat on the floor with us and Maggie ran over to her and started kissing her. It was like my daughter reminded Maggie of someone she knew. After she was finished kissing my daughter she came over and started kissing me too. She would not take any of the treats but at least we had seen a very positive sign.

Maggie had some open wounds and cuts on her face. When I asked about those, I was told that it was part of the "Chaps disease". I wish that there had been a camera there to catch the expression on my face when she gave me that answer! All I could say was "Oh really!" It looked exactly like the dog had been in a



Photo by Alice Fix

dog fight to us. Then she pointed out some places with missing hair on the dog and said that was also a result of Chaps and it would only get worse and worse. I asked if she was sure about April, 2011 ROCKY MOUNTAIN WRINKLE Volume 9. Issue 2

that and I was told mostly definitely yes. Their vet had 20 years of experience and knew all about Chaps. I had to turn my head away to keep from laughing.

I am not a vet, a vet tech or anything like that. I have only been a dog owner all my life and had Shar-Pei for over 25 years. I would hope that would qualify me to know what a dog blowing it coat looks like, and especially a horsecoat. So that was what they were talking about with the dreaded "Chaps disease". I believe that we could handle that! They promised to keep Maggie over the weekend so that we could find a place to keep her while we fatten her back up and treated her wounds. As they are slowly taking Maggie back to her cage, she is trying with all her heart to get back to us and to head for the door. Poor Maggie. I hated to see that door close after she walked through it going back to her cage. It almost broke my heart.

I discussed it with Louise and it was decided to take Maggie into our program. We knew it was going to be hard to find her a home since she was so old, and we were told she wouldn't go up and down the stairs and that she wasn't leash broken.

Louise called the shelter and told them that we would pick Maggie up on Monday morning and get her right to the vet so see why she wasn't eating. We picked her up as planned and thought she might start eating once she was in Louise's home. That was not the case. Our rescue vet did a UA and ran all kinds of blood work including a thyroid panel. Everything looked great except she was slightly low on thyroid. The problem was that Maggie was now having a hard time breathing, was very lethargic and still would not eat. We knew for sure that Maggie was homesick. She came from a family with kids so we were wondering if she was dying of a broken heart. We absolutely had to do something to get this dog going again and to give her a will to live.

The decision was made to bring Maggie to my house because we have all kinds of kids running in and out all day long. We tried force feeding Maggie and found that feeding her baby food with a syringe worked the best for her. The dog was so weak that we had to watch her every minute that she was outside because I

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was really scared that she would fall over dead while she was outside. But the good thing was as soon as she heard a child's voice she would perk up as best as she could. It was obvious that she loved the kids and she used what little energy that she had to greet the kids.



Photo by Alice Fix

It became imperative that we find something that Maggie would eat. She would gag on soaked dog food run through a blend, canned dog food and everything else we tried. We finally found that we could feed her jars of baby food meat etc. with a syringe in the back of her mouth. After about 4 days, she finally would lick the baby food off of a spoon, but she still was not improving in her physical condition.

The decision was made that she must have some kind of cancer that wouldn't show up in the blood work, and we made an appointment to get chest and stomach x-rays. We were fully prepared to find out that Maggie will full of cancer and that we might have to made an on the spot decision to put her down. When we got to the vet's office, something clicked in Maggie. I

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am not sure what it was, but she took off running to get inside that clinic. We had never seen Maggie move that fast before. We wondered if that might have been the same place her old owners had taken her to the vet. We got 4 x-rays in short order and Maggie was good as gold. It took all of 10 minutes to get those xrays. They were all clean and much to our surprise Maggie is acting like a puppy there. The vet got a small can of dog food and Maggie gobbled the whole thing up. We were in total shock. From that point forward, Maggie made a huge turn around. She began eating, running to see the kids and anyone else new to come in the room. She was happy as a lark from that point on.

Of course after doing all this work with Maggie and seeing how far down she went when she lost her first family, we decided to keep Maggie. We didn't want her to have to go through that trauma again. Another lesson to be learned is that not all vets know what they are talking about when they are speaking about our breed. There is no such thing as "Chaps Disease", and don't let anyone try to tell you that there is. If you get a weird diagnosis about your dog from your vet, there is nothing wrong with getting a second opinion from another vet.

#### Female dogs are 'more intelligent' than male canines



By ANI | ANI – Sat, Apr 30, 2011

London, Apr 30 (ANI): A study has found that female canines are more intelligent than males, and that in at least once task the females have the dge. Scientists studied a range of common household dogs of both sexes to see whether they understood a simple cognition task that humans understand by the age of one. The task involved the realization that objects do not change shape simply because they disappear from view.

They set up a wooden board and used a system involving blue tennis balls and four different scenarios. In the study, 25 female and 25 male dogs were each firstly shown either a small or large ball emerging and then reappearing. The animals were then shown a small or large ball disappearing and being replaced by the opposite of what had been taken away. Scientists then measured the dogs' reactions to something that they would consider "impossible" by measuring how long they stared at the new ball.



"Valentino" photo by Amanda Bauer

"If something unexpected or, say, impossible is to happen, children and animals will look longer at the event," the Daily Mail quoted Professor Corsin Muller, from the University of Vienna, who conducted the experiment as telling Live Science. "When you start looking, you get some very interesting and instructive results," Muller said.

When Muller and his team first analysed the results they found that all the dogs looked at the ball for longer. But when they broke down the results they discovered that the male dogs had not noticed anything odd at all - yet the females had stared at the unexpected object for up to 30 seconds. This was more than three times the time they spent when the ball did not change. The scientist explained there are three possible explanations for the phenomenon. The first is that evolution may have caused differences in the brains of the animals, while another is that females duties as child bearers meant their brains show greater nurturing skills. However Muller believes that neither of these explanations is relevant in dogs and suspects that differences in the brain are a side effect of other biological differences. "It is most likely this is just a by-product of sex hormones working on the brain, without necessarily having a function," Muller stated. Although this experiment gave female dogs the cognitive edge, Muller said it's likely that future findings of sex differences would even the intelligence scale. (ANI)

http://in.news.yahoo.com/female-dogs-more-intelligent-male-canines-082116722.html

#### Canines Going To The Head Of The Class At USF Law School

SAN FRANCISCO (KCBS) – What's furry, has four legs, a tail, and an uncanny ability to ease the pressure cooker-like atmosphere of law school? The therapy dogs roaming the halls of University of San Francisco's Law School.

Lawyers-in-training already know that the legal profession can be a dog-eat-dog world, and the stress is just as great during law school exams. But, thanks to a new person-to-pet program at USF, those stressed-out students are more likely to be blissed-out students in these spring days leading up to challenging tests.

USF students can thank Law Library Director Ron Wheeler for

greasing the wheels on the program. He first heard about the concept from a law school on the East Coast.



USF students can thank Law Library Director Ron Wheeler for greasing the wheels on the program. He first heard about the concept from a law school on the East Coast.

"To sort of break the stereotypes about librarians shushing people and also to let the students know that the library is not sort of a downer place but also a fun, interesting place to come and interact," he explained why he was open to having canines in his facility.

"I've seen a lot more smiles and a lot more laughter here," he proudly declared of the recent change in tone ahead of finals. "That's for sure."

Perhaps the only downside to the program, which is being run with the help of the SPCA, is that there are only 5 therapy dogs – meaning a lengthy wait list exists.

"They sent out an e-mail saying they had stress-relieving dogs

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and I could always use a stress reliever, so I took advantage," explained first year law student Jackie Falk, who will enjoy a session with a therapy dog next week.

She already felt the stress melt away when she played with a Weimaraner mix this week.

"This is Sophia Loren. She's about, between 4 and 5 years old. She's a rescue from the SPCA," explained the SPCA's Carol Sing. "She does tricks for people, like high five, we can get her to do a roll over."

"She's relaxed and she's fun and she's cute and I don't know how I would describe the physical reaction but, just, soothing," Falk said of Sophia Loren after spending ten minutes with her. "She is relieving my stress and giving me a reason to smile."

That came as little surprise to Sing, who likes to sing the praises of therapy dogs.

"It helps to reduce your stress levels, your blood pressure, things, you know, and yeah, it's just kind of fun. It's fun to pet a dog."

It's something that puts a smile on Wheeler's face in the library, too. "The students' minds get far away from exams or grade pressure and all that and when I see the smiles I feel like we're doing something positive for the students."

http://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2011/05/06/canines-going-to-the-headof-the-class-at-usf-law-school/



#### **FALLEN ANGELS**

#### MEITING DELIRIOUS "Dusty"

Our condolences to Bob and Kay Rosenberger in the loss of Dusty. She lived a long wonderful life with them, but our time with our dogs is never enough. So long Dusty, thanks for being such a loyal companion all those years.

AKC Lists Denver's Top Dogs for 2010



The AKC came out with its list of the most popular dogs in the US based on breed registrations. They also came out with another list - Top Dog by City. I find this interesting. Here it the list of top dog breeds in Denver for 2010.

#### **Denver's Top Dogs**

- 1. Labrador Retriever
- 2. German Shepherd Dog
- 3. Golden Retriever
- 4. Bulldog
- 5. Boxer

Registration data pulled from Denver zip codes as specified by U. S. Postal Service

## New Products for Dogs



#### LED Lighted Sports Vest

Be Seen! Be Safe! When you walk your dog after dark. This fashion friendly black mesh design is lightweight and comfortable. The L.E.D. illuminated stripes are flexible, and shock resistant. Made of 3M Scotchlite reflective material. Price: \$ 32.99 SALE: \$ 13.99 http://www.dogtoys.com/ledsportvest.html

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# Bamboo Mud Magnet Paw Cleaner

This unique 2-in-1 design converts from a glove to a mitt to make cleaning your dog's paws easier. Wipes paws clean without water. The mud magnet is made of super absorbent microfiber holding six times its weight in dirt and water. Price: \$9.99 SALE: \$4.99

www.dogtoys.com/pawcleaner.html

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#### Doggie Fountain

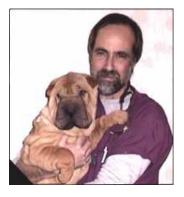
The Doggie Fountain gives your pet access to cold, clean, fresh water at all times. No stale, stagnant, dirty, slimy,

bacteria infested water...ever! Price \$26.00 http://www.petgadgets.com/product\_details.cfm?product\_id=1367&content\_id=14



#### Dr. Vidt's Corner- S

#### SHAR-PEI DENTISTRY



Dental disease in dogs and cats has always been around but only in the last 10-15 years has its impact on animal health been appreciated. With this recognition has come the application of human dental procedures, techniques and therapies to the benefit of our pets. The veterinary community now recognizes a veterinary dental specialty group – the "veterinary dentists" if you will. Much of the health issues associated with poor dental

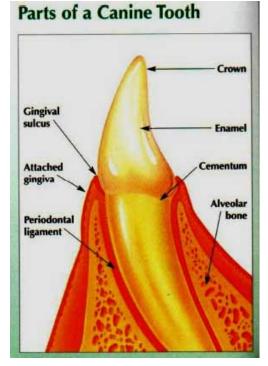
health in humans directly relates to health issues in animals as well. We know that poor dental health increases the bacterial load on the body and can result in bacterial heart, kidney and liver infections. There certainly is the pain aspect of dental disease and animals do feel pain but don't have the ability to do much about it unlike humans. Loose and broken teeth, bacterial oral cavity infections, weakening of the jaw bone, draining tracts in mouth due to root abscesses, difficulty in picking up food and chewing can all be the result of dental disease. As you can see (and smell!) bad breath is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to evaluating your Shar-Pei's dental condition.

Shar-Pei may be prone to developing dental disease for the following reasons:

- There is a breed predisposition to IgA deficiency/insufficiency. IgA is an immunoglobulin that is found in high concentrations in secretions such as mucous, saliva, tears, etc. It functions in decreasing bacterial levels/invasion on mucosal surfaces of the oral cavity, gastrointestinal tract, urogenital tract, and the eyes. The IgA problem in many Shar-Pei may enhance bacterial survival in the periodontal pockets around the teeth promoting periodontal disease.
- "Tight lip" syndrome which primarily involves the mandibular (lower) incisors and canine teeth can trap food debris, and hair in the "mandibular vestibule (the space between the lower front teeth and the lip).
- The Shar-Pei has a fairly tight "vestibule" which is the space between the teeth and lips around the entire oral cavity (as anyone who tries to pill a Shar-Pei knows). This traps food, hair, debris and saliva around the teeth and gums with resultant

periodontal disease. You're aware of this if you ever pill a Shar-Pei and they spit the pill out  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour later.

- With the heavy lips in the breed caused by excessive hyaluronan (mucin) deposition in the subcutaneous tissue it is not easy to brush the teeth due to lack of room.
- Shar-Pei also seem to have a predisposition to lip fold infections (pyoderma) which can augment bacterial load in the mouth.



Periodontal disease is a common problem in all dogs but more so in Shar-Pei due to some of the aforementioned anatomical considerations. What is periodontal disease? Periodontal disease is really a progressive deterioration of the teeth and associated structures over time. It begins with periodontitis which is inflammation of some or all of the tooth's support structures – the gingiva (gums), periodontal ligaments which hold the tooth in the bony socket (alveolus), the alveolar bone itself and, in advanced cases, even the bone of the jaws. We know that dental health is dependent on normal host defense mechanisms to prevent or limit the penetration of bacteria or their products into the body through the oral tissues. These mechanisms include salivation, swallowing, tongue action on the teeth and inside of the oral cavity, proper diet, intact mucous membranes in the mouth, IgA levels in the saliva and a

healthy immune system. When these mechanisms aren't adequate for whatever reason bacteria adhere to the surface of the teeth and accumulate in the gingival space at the base of the tooth. The result is plaque which becomes mineralized and transforms into calculus. Ultimately, oxygen depletion occurs, anaerobic bacteria take over and their products result in inflammation, tissue destruction and periodontitis. Risk factors for periodontitis include: self-grooming (hair becomes embedded in the gingival space), concurrent debilitating diseases and poor nutrition. I've heard statistics that most dogs over 3 years old have some form of periodontal disease.

There are four stages of periodontal disease:

STAGE 1: Gingivitis



STAGE 3: Moderate Periodontitis STAGE 2: Early Periodontitis



STAGE 4: Advanced Periodontitis





**Stage 1** – This stage is gingivitis only without attachment loss. Gingivitis can be seen grossly as increased redness of the gum along the base of the teeth.

**Stage 2** – At this stage there is less than 25 percent loss of attachment. Attachment loss is the combination of the periodontal pocket depth and measurement of root exposure. Pocket depth is determined by using a

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periodontal probe to measure the gingival sulcus at the base of the tooth. This usually has to be done under anesthesia in animals.

**Stage 3** – Here there is a 25-50 percent loss of attachment to the alveolar bone. Usually root exposure is beginning to become evident.

**Stage 4** – This stage is advanced periodontitis and there is greater than 50 percent loss of attachment. Here there is significant root exposure, loosening of teeth and purulent (pus) buildup around the roots as well.

One of the major diagnostic tools used in evaluating periodontal disease is dental radiography. This allows us to visualize the alveolar bone (the root socket), measure and document bone loss for comparison purposes later on. At West Suburban Veterinary Associates we have the ability to take digital dental X-rays giving superior quality record tracking – many human dentists do not have this technology yet. Additional diagnostics consist of periodontal probing as was previously mentioned.

While a dental examination can be conducted in the exam room during a routine physical exam it is better done under anesthesia while doing a dental prophylaxis procedure. The dental prophylaxis includes charting the teeth, probing the periodontal pockets, an ultrasonic teeth cleaning and polishing. The goal is to control plaque and slow down the progression of periodontal disease. Additional periodontal procedures may be necessary in many dogs and consist of dental radiographs to evaluate tooth roots and alveolar bone health, root planing, extracting loose teeth or those with excessive root exposure and therapy such as placement of local antibiotic gels into the periodontal pocket. Often systemic antibiotics and pain medications are given before and after dental procedures. We are very fortunate at our hospital to have certified veterinary technicians do most of the dental procedures and who update their skills via continuing education courses on a regular basis.

The most effective home care is tooth brushing and I will be honest -- it is also the most labor intensive. I usually start brushing using a gauze pad or short strip of roll gauze wrapped around my finger. Pet toothpaste is put on the gauze and I scrub the teeth with the gauze. Dogs seem to know not to chew on the owner's finger and train to the program pretty well. Often then a tooth brush can be incorporated to do the brushing later on. Daily brushing is best but whatever you can do is better than nothing. Other products such as sprays, washes, toys, dental treats and foods are useful but do not replace brushing.

I'd like to make a comment about anesthesia and veterinary dentistry. Many owners are nervous about putting their pets under anesthesia to do dental procedures. The use of gas (inhalant) anesthetics has greatly increased the safety of anesthesia. At West Suburban Veterinary Associates we use sevoflurane gas anesthesia which is very safe, we have anesthetic monitoring equipment which continuously monitors blood pressure, respiratory rate, heart rate, end-tidal CO2 levels, an electrocardiogram and pulse oximetry (blood O2 levels), the animals lay on warm water heating blankets and we have very good technicians who continuously monitor our dental patients as well. We often utilize intravenous fluids to help maintain blood pressure and to have ready venous access for drug administration if needed.

Lastly, a new technology has recently been introduced in the veterinary dental field. Porphyromonas Denticanis- Gulae-Salivosa Bacterin, a canine vaccine that prevents canine periodontitis. This vaccine targets the most common periodontopathogens found in dogs, anaerobic bacteria which colonize the periodontal pockets, plaque and calculus. I think this vaccine will prove to valuable in those dogs with frequent/severe periodontal disease.

We're primarily concerned about having a clean mouth with as little dental disease as possible. For endodontic treatment such as root canals, fillings, orthodontics, caps and so on you can be referred to a veterinary dental specialist. For basic dental care see your veterinarian.

http://www.drjwv.com/newsletter/



Yao at his new home with the Bahnson family

#### Officers of the Centennial Chinese Shar-Pei Club

President- Alice Fix Vice President- Jeanne Hill- Jurik **Secretary**- Bob Rosenberger Treasurer- Louise Watson Board of Directors- Kristin Reynolds '11 Marchelle Heslep '12

#### Committees:

Breeder Referral: Louise Watson Fund Raising: Kristin Reynolds Legislative Liaison: Alice Fix & Laura Brown Public Education: Jeanne Hill-Jurik 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 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 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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