

Mid-Atlantic Chinese Shar-Pei Rescue Operation Inc.

Non-Profit, Tax Exempt

Quarterly Newsletter

Volume XVI

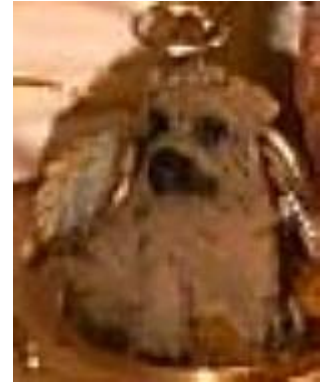
May, 2002

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Rescues & Adoptions since February 2002 -- below is an updated list of our rescues and adoptions since our last newsletter in October. Those listed with an "*" next to them are dogs that are still available for adoption. All our dogs are spayed or neutered prior to adoption (health/age permitting); have been heart worm tested; parasite tested and have all necessary shots.

135-01: * **Bear** is currently being fostered by Peg Perez in Greenville, South Carolina. He was adopted twice and twice returned because he was escaping. Since he last return, he was getting more and more depressed in the kennel. Peg took Bear to her place with a tall fence and several other rescues, where he is having a ball.

151-01: **Hitch Hiker** has hitched his way to a new home with the Czap family in Chambersburg, PA.

155-01: **P. J.** has found a forever home in Laurel, MD with Sophia McRoy.

161-01: **Petey** is doing wonderfully and gained over 15 pounds. His new forever mom, Leslie Albertson, says, "He plays will with other dogs and 'mostly' obeys my commands".

162-01: **Little Girl** recovered so well in her foster home that she decided to stay there. Fortunately for her, Ms. Nemetz in D.C decided to keep her as well.

164-02: * **Mr. Bonz** has been taken to a foster home in Pennsylvania. With Operation Scarlet where he can get lots of attention, playmates, and gets lots of small meals a day to put on much needed weight.

166-02: **Deuce** went to Reisterstown, MD to live with the Lipman family who write "What an amazing boy. He is already a part of our family after only 3 days. I love how he jumps on my bed and just flops down to cuddle". Lucky Deuce!

167-02: **Jasmine** found a forever home in Baltimore MD with the Murray family.

168-02: * **Chocolate** was a good mother to her puppies and now that she is spayed, she is ready to be adopted and give lots of kisses to a new family. And believe us when we tell you, she loves to love!

169-02: **Yoda**, one of Chocolate's five chips with the little wrinkled face, was adopted by the DiLorenzo family in Cabin John, MD.

170-02: **Mattie**, another 'chip', went along with Yoda and the DiLorenzo family.

171-02: **Mimic**, 'chip #3', traveled all the way to Yardley, PA to live with the Mitchell family.

172-02: **Gulliver**, 'chip #4', now terrorizes all the other dogs (and cat) at the Pope and Pearl home in Manassas, VA.

173-02: **Tippie**, the last chip, is now in his forever home with the Yothers family in Columbia, MD.

174-02: **Chuck** came from the Fairfax County Shelter. Jeannie Johnson fostered him and took him visiting to the Paisley's horse farm in Laytonsville, MD. He instantly knew that was where he belonged.

175-02: **Fat little Fanny** came to us from the Montgomery County Shelter where she just sat around as no one

had time for her. At the Lanigan home in Salisbury, MD, she got her weight down by having someone to play with. No more couch potato!

176-02: **Big Abu** came to us from the Howard County Shelter and was so handsome that the Ogletree family of Alexandria, VA quickly adopted him.

177-02: **Tia**, a female sable brush coat and
 178-02: **Renn**, a male fawn horse coat, came to us from a broken family who were told they would be destroyed if brought to the shelter due to overcrowding. Renn is very shy and a complete "basket case" when he is separated from Tia. The second he sees Tia, well, if a dog ever smiled, it was Renn when he was with Tia. We were so fortunate to have the Coulson family of Dahlgren, VA agree that Renn and Tia should not be separated.



Harry Potter's Corner --

If you lay your head on someone's lap, some food will fall.

Letter from the President

Due to Ms. Sellers hospitalization and recovery from back surgery, there will be no letter from the President in this issue.

Ms. Sellers would like to state, however, that she is feeling much better and I am sure I speak for all of her friends in wishing her a speedy recovery. n

374 STORES JUST WAITING TO GIVE MONEY TO MACSPRO!

Shop on iGive.com for books, electronics, food, clothings, toys, computer supplies and more using MACSPRO as your designated charity and a percentage of your purchase goes to us. n

Health Articles

The Origins of Cancer

By Linda Tintle, D.V.M.

From the November/December 2001 issue of The Barker magazine. Reprinted with permission.

The theme of the Keystone conference was "Genes, Dogs and Cancer." A diverse group of dog owners, breeders, practicing veterinarians and research scientists in genetics and molecular biology gathered in Colorado in late May this year. The goals were to foster new collaborations between researchers and practicing veterinarians, identify multi-generational high-risk cancer pedigrees, present new research findings from the laboratories and clinical trials and new state-of-the-art research methods to advance canine cancer research. Several dog owner/breeders were given a chance to present to the scientists their personal experiences with the tragedy of early heritable canine cancer deaths, putting a vivid face on the disease as we shared their sorrow and frustration.

As Dir. Vidt has already presented an overview of some of the presentations from scientists, I thought I would briefly explain some of the current theory on the development of cancer and how this is directing further efforts at prevention and cure of disease.

Cancer is not a single disease. It is many diseases in a progression along a continuum from a normal healthy cell to widespread malignancy. There are more than one hundred distinct types of cancer and there are further variations on these types. There will be no single silver bullet that "cures" cancer, but recent advances in the understanding of cancer suggest that we are on the verge of a paradigm shift in how cancer is understood and intervention planned.

INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT

February 1, 2002 through May 31, 2002

Prior Balance: **\$3,195.76**

Income:

Membership and donations	\$2,113.25
Adoption fees	\$3,200.00
	<u>\$5,313.25</u>

Expenses:

Dumfries Hospital	
Kenneling	\$4,033.16
Medical	\$1,344.38

D.C. release fee \$70.00

Foster care	\$200.00
	<u>\$ 5,647.47</u>

Balance: **\$2,861.47**

Accounts payable: April & May kennel & vet bill

The genetic control of cell growth, cell death and DNA repair is being examined and maps of detailed signaling pathways of this control are being drawn. A large body of research suggests that cancer develops in a Darwinian fashion from a series of heritable, spontaneous, or environmentally induced genetic mutations or combination thereof. An early step in this evolutionary process is the development of the "mutator phenotype," as described by keynote speaker, Dr. Lawrence Loeb. This change prevents the body from repairing or removing mutations. Cancer cells have many mutations, sometimes thousands, and selection for a mutation that allows the cancer to bypass the body's defenses against these sudden genetic changes speeds its development. The genome of the cell becomes unstable and this instability allows further mutations to change the cell from healthy to pre-cancerous to cancer. The first enemy over the wall disarms the guards and opens the doors to his cohorts, or, in the case of an inherited mutator phenotype, the disarming is done by a native traitor.

Drs. Hanahan and Weinberg suggest in an article in *Cell* last year that there are six essential alterations that most, if not all, cancer cells must acquire to collectively dictate malignancy. The first is the ability to grow without a signal from outside the cell to move from a quiet to proliferating state. Normal cells require an outside signal, but cancer cells become self-sufficient. They need not wait for someone to tell them to grow. Researchers have been able to describe dominant oncogenes (genes which initiate cancerous changes) that target this ability to become self-sufficient.

Second, the ability to avoid anti-growth signals: the healthy body has signals that control overgrowth by telling actively dividing cells to go into a quiet phase or to develop further into a cell type that cannot reproduce further when appropriate. Cancer cells must circumvent these control mechanisms if they are to grow malignantly.

A third mechanism is that cancer cells must be able to evade the healthy body's signals for an abnormal cell to commit suicide ... a mechanism called apoptosis. Many heritable cancers have mutations in the normal control mechanisms for signaling apoptosis, e.g. colon cancer in humans. Researchers are targeting pathways that would turn back on this programmed cell suicide and kill cancer via apoptosis.

Normal cells can divide just 60 to 70 times until they exhaust their ability to reproduce. A fourth acquired mechanism of cancer cells is the ability to replicate limitlessly. At the Keystone conference, Dr. Barbara Kitchell described how her laboratory was using dogs with tumors as a model for methods of inhibiting telomerase, an enzyme that has been found to trigger the most common method by which cancer cells become immortal.

Cancer cells need a food supply to grow. Without blood vessels to provide oxygen and nutrients, tumors could grow to only a very small size. The fifth acquired trait is the ability to call for the growth of new blood vessels or angiogenesis. There are several cancer treatments in late stage clinical testing that target and angiogenesis and cut cancer off from its fuel supply.

And ultimately, the sixth trait needed by cancer cells is that they must be able to invade nearby healthy tissues and spread else where in the body. They conscript healthy cells and alter themselves or they're nearby environments so that they can flourish. It is this that most commonly leads to the death of the patient from cancer.

Cancer develops over time and in many cases offers opportunities for early detection, prevention and interference with development of the above needed traits. Research is targeting the above pathways for new methods of halting cancer's progression.

Researchers at the Keystone conference described the mapping of the cancer susceptibility genes in dogs and how their presence or absence might someday be used to predict response to conventional therapies and survival times. The mutations in proto-oncogene c-kit have been identified in several malignant mast cell cancer lines by scientists sponsored by the CSPCA Charitable Trust and have been associated with more aggressive mast cell cancer. Dr. Roy Levine described how the PTEN tumor suppressor gene was mutated or down regulated in a high percentage of canine osteosarcoma cell lines and tumors. Dr. Brewer presented data that lowering a patient's copper levels could be used to control angiogenesis by cancer cells. Recurrent chromosomal aberrations in canine lymphoma were described by Dr. Rachael Thomas and others described genetic determinants of metastasis in canine osteosarcoma (70 to 80% of dogs with osteosarcoma die from the metastases despite early elimination of the primary tumor). Plans for genetic mapping of familial canine cancer susceptibility genes were discussed.

The conference offered an opportunity to peek at how far we have come in understanding cancer and how scientists continue to unravel its mysteries. As we mature in our understanding of this disease, I have great hope that we will be able to offer all cancer patients earlier detection and less toxic, more health-building treatments. Dr. Loeb emphasized how, even now, a person that takes known preventive actions can vastly increase the probability that cancer will not occur in his or her natural lifetime. Our canine friends are benefiting from serving as animal models for human cancer (and the reverse, as humans serve as models for our canine cancer treatment protocols) in a powerful synergism. I am very grateful to the CSPCA Charitable Trust for the opportunity to take part in this conference. **n**

A Note from the Secretary/Treasurer

Although we could not afford the audit necessary for consideration in the National Federal Combined Campaign, we were able to apply, using our own financial statement, with the National Capitol Federal Combined Campaign. This combined campaign covers Federal workers in the Washington Metropolitan area. They have acknowledged timely receipt of our application but no final word on approval yet.

Due to "Sam" Sellers illness, we have had to go on a temporary hiatus. Dumfries animal Hospital would not accept or release a dog without a member of MACSPRO personally on the premises. We do not have enough volunteers who are local to that area able to be there every time a dog is released from a shelter and needing to be admitted to the hospital. This has led to a very stressful situation with the hospital and we are now deferring our dogs to other locations while Sam recovers from her back surgery.

We are still very active in rescuing Shar-Pei. Over the past week, we have been responsible for the direct adoption of one dog from the Anne Arundel Shelter. Operation Scarlet has come to our rescue in their generous concern for the welfare of our local rescues. We have transported one rescue from Montgomery County Shelter, one rescue from Frederick County Shelter, one rescue from the D.C. Humane Society, and one rescue from Dumfries, all to Pennsylvania into the capable hands of Dawn Herzog and Operation Scarlet.

We will still continue our work until Sam Sellers is up and back to "doing her thing". In the meantime, we still have bills to pay and dogs to rescue from shelters, placing them in other facilities or foster homes.

Joyce Hanes, Secretary/Treasurer

Something Smells Fishy!

Well, not really, but if you are not giving your dog fish oil capsules, you should be.

Fish oil gives the needed ingredients to your dog's diet to bring moisture to the skin and a shine to the coat. In just a short time you will notice the visible difference.

But possibly more important, if your dog is fed a grain-based commercial diet, it may be lacking in essential fatty acids (EFAs). Fish oil provides omega-3 fatty acids that improve heart function by correcting EFA deficiencies and balances.

Your dog should be getting a multi-vitamin containing E, C, and B complex to keep the old ticker working right. Oh, by the way, you could also benefit from the same vitamins and fish oil.

For more information, you might want to read "How to Have a Healthier Dog" by Wendell Belfield or go online to Holistic Veterinarians at www.ahvma.org. n

FLASH – We are approved for the Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area

If you work for the government you know what that means. You can donate to MACSPRO through your work by indicating the designation number of: **7122**

Our participation starts immediately and we will be listed in the local campaign brochure. n

We receive so many letters and emails telling us how great the rescue dogs are. We thought we might pass a few on to you.

Deuce – *"Wow! What an amazing boy. Thank you so much for this wonderful dog. Even though he has only been here 3 days, he is already a part of our family. He has taken to the kids and they to him."*

Petey – *"Just a quick note to tell you that Petey is doing wonderfully. I've put 15 lbs on him. He's just a great dog. Friendly, plays well with other dogs and mostly obeys my commands. Thanks for saving him – he has proven to be worth it."*

Bailey – *"We've had her almost a year now. Ed and I are in love with her! She is a wonderful companion and we consider ourselves very lucky to have found her. Many thanks for the work you do."*

"Thank you so much for the article on Myositis. Our Pei has had some problems and although the vet told us that it was not a serious problem, I still worry. I haven't been able to find much information on the condition and your article really helped to set my mind at ease."

Piggy Bear – *"We adopted Piggy Bear in Dec 2000. What a blessing it is to have him. Bedtime is his playtime and he wont let us in bed till we play with him and you can count on him giving loving sloppy kisses"* (Piggy also lives with Crickett, who came from Operation Scarlett 1½ years earlier. They are playmates).

“Our Gang”

Available for Adoption through the Mid-Atlantic Chinese Shar-Pei Rescue Operation
Website: www.macspro.org Phone: (301)881-1221



Bear



Mr. Bones

Adopt me now!



Chocolate



The Mid-Atlantic Chinese Shar-Pei Rescue Operation, Inc.
Non-Profit, Tax Deductible
Application for Membership

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Occupation: _____

Annual Renewal Dues for the Year 2002: \$25.00

We can not continue without your support. Your entire contribution will be used for medical and boarding expenses. If you enjoy the various information available in the newsletters, please show your appreciation by sending in your contribution today. Thank you.

Contribution enclosed: _____

(You may pay by credit card via our web site: www.macspro.org) Thank you for your support.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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*"Kindness to animals and respect for all life
are the only foundation for a civilized world"*
Michael Mountain

Last chance to pay annual dues for 2002 and remain on our mailing list