

Mid-Atlantic Chinese Shar-pei Rescue Operation

Non-Profit, Tax Exempt

Dedicated to the
rehabilitation
and adoption
of purebred
Chinese
Shar Pei

Quarterly Newsletter

March, 2007

Volume XXIX

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RESCUES & ADOPTIONS since December 2006 – below is an updated list of our rescues and adoptions since our last newsletter in December. 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.

288-06 Askim, was the brother of Sara and Kara and like them, was terribly afraid. He was adopted and returned, then adopted and lost within one hour! When he was caught three weeks later he had lost 25% of his body weight and was almost too weak to walk. Since his return he simply could not adjust and we felt that the kindest thing to do but to relieve him of his pain.

290-06* Chico, a young fawn male, may not be 100% Shar Pei, but he was gentle, sweet, frightened and scheduled to be put down if we did not take him. If you could look into his eyes you could see why we couldn't leave him.

302-06 Dalton, traveled all the way from Oakland, MD to Dumfries, VA. He was a good traveler and gets on well with people and other dogs and found his forever home in Smithsburg, MD. It's luck he is such a good traveler.

303-06 Alex was hit by a car in North Carolina and laid in a ditch for two days before anyone would call for help for him (they covered him with leaves!) He has a long recovery due to fractured pelvis and dislocated hip, among other things. His owner felt it was cheaper to buy a new dog rather than pay Alex's medical bills. Due to the big heart of the Huber family, Alex is now being cared for in his forever home.

304-07 Chloe, was a give up at a shelter but a wonderful dog who gets along well with children and other dogs and rides well in a car. Well, she found a home and rode all the way to McKeesport, PA to get there. That family had lost their beloved Nina and came back to

MACSPRO to adopt a new member for their family.

305-07 Gordo came here from South American but his owner had to return and left him here. He was adopted this past week and is joining his new family in Woodbridge, VA, where he is very happy.

306-07* Caleb was brought to the shelter because he had some allergy and skin problems. All he needed was to just need to eat some good food and get some supplements for his coat. He is a playful young fellow who is lots of fun, and is looking for a home where he will get lots of attention and playtime. He's only 7 months old and quite unhappy with kennel life. He needs someone to play with. n

Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capitol Area #7122 Government employees – We have again, this year, become eligible to receive donations through CFCNCA. Don't forget to list us as your designed charity. Thank you. n

What if?

...up to 26% of each purchase you made went to your favorite cause -- MACSPRO? Your shopping at hundreds of online stores help a cause close to your heart with each purchase! It's all free and private. Join today and change online shopping for good. Begin by registering at igive.com listing MACSPRO as your favorite charity. Peapod, LandsEnd.com, Macys.com, Staples.com are just a few of the many online stores through whom purchases you would make anyway help MACSPRO.n

INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT

1 October 2006 thru 31 January 2007

Prior Balance:	\$5,244.38
Income:	
Adoptions,	
Membership & Donations	<u>\$6,414.32</u>
	\$11,658.70
Expenses:	
Medical Care & Kenneling	\$ 2,722.02
Register micro chips	\$70.00
Foster Care	<u>\$110.66</u>
	\$2,902.68
Balance:	\$8,756.02*

*Medical and kennel bills for 5 dogs in January not yet received.

Health Articles

Chamomile for your dog

(Disclaimer- MACSPRO's members are not veterinarians. This information is provided from member's reading and studying and to be used with caution and discretion. These remedies are not meant for a very ill dog but as maintenance and for minor problems)

I am sure that we all have had a cup of chamomile tea when we are stressed and anxious. Somehow it is comforting to sit down with a piping hot cup of chamomile to sooth your senses. Well, dogs can enjoy many benefits from chamomile too.

Chamomile's primary medicinal activities are: Antispasmodic, expels intestinal gas, anti-inflammatory, sedative, antimicrobial, stimulates digestion, heals wounds and expels worms.

Strongest Affinities: skin, digestive tract, liver, nervous system, mucous membranes, smooth muscle tissues.

Common Uses: The herbal tea is useful for indigestion, gas and vomiting. It is the first herb to reach for when your dog has a digestive upset that comes from nervousness and hyper-excitability. In the digestive tract chamomile serves to ease nervous spasms, help to expel gas, and aids digestion. Chamomile is good to use for various forms of inflammatory bowel disease.

Inflammation of the skin - causes from flea bites, contact allergies, various bacterial or fungal infections, a cooled

water infusion of the flowers can be used to soothe, heal and as an antimicrobial rinse. (An infusion is created by taking the whole flowers, putting them in a stainless steel pot and covering with distilled or spring water, bring water to a very light boil and turn off. Let herb steep for 15 minutes, strain and refrigerate for 2 wks in an airtight container).

Conjunctivitis: Use cooled infusion (carefully strained through coffee filters) that has been diluted with sterile saline solution. The end product should be transparent and light yellow. This solution can be used as anti-inflammatory and antimicrobial eyewash that can be applied several times a day. **WARNING:** Do not use any other solution with the chamomile infusion but sterile saline solution that you buy from the store. When you make the infusion you must use **DISTILLED WATER ONLY!** Mix 1 part of chamomile infusion to 3 parts saline solution. Wipe eyes with clean cloth. If it irritates the eyes, do not use again. If eyes worsen, then have a vet see your dog.

Anxiety, nervousness: Chamomile serves as a general calming herb. For internal uses a glycerin tincture is best. A tincture is created when the herb is steeped in alcohol or glycerin for a long period of time. Since making tinctures is time consuming and not so easy to do, I buy mine from Vitamin Shoppe (www.vitaminshoppe.com). They have glycerin tinctures that do not have alcohol in them. I prefer to use them, but alcohol tinctures are fine. I just dilute them before I give them to my dog. The dose for a tincture is .25 - .50 milliliters per 20 pounds of the animal's body weight. Give twice daily.

Cautions and Comments: Chamomile should not be given to pregnant dogs, cats or other animals. **Start with a VERY small dosage since dogs can be highly allergic to chamomile. It is in the same family as ragweed. So if you dog has seasonal allergies, he could easily be allergic to it. Start with a drop of it on the skin. If no reaction occurs, then give a drop in the mouth. Make sure you have liquid Benedryl around in case they have an allergic reaction. If the drop or two does not cause any problem, give a 1/4 dose and then work up from there. I do this process with all new herbs that I introduce into there diet. With all herbal treatments it is best to follow a schedule of 5 days on / 2 days off. I also follow this practice to minimize side effects, although they are typically minor with herbs, they are still a form of medicine. n**

Veterinary research has reported a link with wheat gluten and seizures in some dogs. Wheat products may contain gluten. If your dog is prone to seizures, investigate the possibility that gluten may be the culprit. Another reason to look into "home cooking". Find out more on line at <http://tedebuy.tripod.com/drmichaelwfox/>. n

Vaccinosis - A “new” condition brought on by over vaccinating our pets.

Has your vet started giving 3 year Rabies vaccinations? Have you noticed that the yearly shot doesn't contain as many vaccinations as it used to? Well, maybe your vet is still giving yearly Rabies vaccinations and you are still getting the same yearly shots, but some vets are now thinking that the vaccines that our pets are getting are doing more harm than good. Some holistic vets have gone so far as to say that they think that vaccines are the leading killers of dogs and cats in America today.

A pet might come into the clinic with fever, stiff or painful joints, lethargy, lack of appetite and even a lump on their side. In the past your vet might say that your pet had the flu and that it will pass. Now they might ask you if your pet has been recently vaccinated. I personally experienced this with Parker my 2 year old Shar Pei. We had a possum in our back yard that all the dogs came in contact with so all dogs had to be given rabies vaccination. Simon and Freyja had not had rabies for 2.8 yrs (they had been given a 3 yrs rabies vaccination). Parker had just come to us so had had a rabies vaccination in the last 3 months. Even though his shot was so recent, the county of Fairfax required us to revaccinate all the dogs. Within 2 weeks of Parker receiving the vaccination, he became aggressive and very difficult to deal with. He was acting strange. Not his normal pleasant and laid back self. For those of you who have met Parker, you know how laid back and calm he is. I now had an aggressive dog on my hands. He would growl in his sleep and whine. Coincidentally I was studying about vaccinations at the time and the effects they can have on our animals and put two and two together. My school books all recommend the same treatment for vaccinosis, administering a homeopathic remedy called Thuja. Since I have a homeopathic kit for dogs, I looked to see if Thuja was one of the homeopathic medicines in the kit. Sure enough it was there. I administered two dosages of Thuja over 2 days and waited to see if Parker stopped the abnormal behavior. Within 36 hours he was back to his normal happy go lucky self. I know that we could say that it was just a fluke and that Parker could just have had a couple of bad days. That is true. There is no way for me to know for sure if it was a coincidence or not. I choose to believe that the Thuja helped.

What can we do? Well, first ask your vet to only give a 3 year rabies vaccination. Secondly, ask what combination vaccination is being given to your dog. Vets buy the combination shots for their convenience. Find out what your dog is being given. The standard combination is DHLPP, standing for Distemper, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Parvo and Parainfluenza. Your dog is being given five vaccinations in one day. That is like you going into your doctor and being given a flu, pneumonia, tetanus, hepatitis C and measles shot in one day. Imagine how you

would feel. Most holistic vets recommend that if you are going to administer these vaccinations, that you separate them into individual shots. However, trying to find a vet who will administer the shots separately is basically impossible. Dr. Marin Goldstein recommends that you give your dog vitamins two weeks before vaccinations and extend two to three weeks after to help with the side affects. Here is what he recommends:

For a fifty pound dog:

Vitamin A - 10,000 IU a day

Vitamin E - 400 IU a day

Vitamin C - 2,000 mg a day - start at 500 and increase every second day until 2,000 is reached.

If it is available administer 30C Thuja just after the vaccine is given.

Lastly ask your vet if he is using modified live vaccine (MLV) or “killed” vaccines. MLV's do confer more sustained antibody protection that the killed vaccines, but they challenge the immune system more and place the immune system under greater strain. There are still risks with the killed vaccines. Since they are less virulent than MLVs, they are less effective. Consequently, manufacturers will boost the killed vaccine with powerful adjuvants, or additives, to provoke a more sustained immune response. These additives of course can cause an adverse response.

Lastly, there is so much information on this topic, I couldn't begin to scratch the surface on the research and evidence for vaccinosis. If you are interested in reading more, Dr. Martin Goldstein's book *The Nature of Animal Healing* devotes an entire chapter on this subject as well as Dr. Pitcairn's *Complete Guide to Natural Health for Dogs and Cats*. n

Flea Allergy - a Natural Approach to Helping Solve the Problem

Recently we have had several dogs come into the rescue with skin issues that have turned out to be flea allergies. A typical treatment for a flea allergy is to start with medicated shampoos, flea control meds, and corticoid ointments. If these don't work, then oral cortisone will be administered to control the symptoms. The problem is that cortisone drugs not only suppress the symptoms, but also suppress the immune system. Long term use of cortisone drugs can cause high blood pressure, liver damage, thyroid dysfunction and heart attack. Not such a great drug to take after all.

A holistic approach to flea control would start with asking the question of why your dog has fleas to begin with. The holistic approach would first start with strengthening the animal first. Healthy animals with healthy coats and properly functioning immune systems don't have fleas. Their systems are able to handle the flea bites without issuing

the massive amounts of histamine that causes all the itching.

Internally, your pet could be given garlic and a B complex (brewer's yeast) to see if these supplements are effective. Some animals are allergic to brewer's yeast so go very slowly when starting it. I tried giving my dogs garlic in their food, but it caused Simon to get an upset stomach. Herbs such as burdock root, dandelion and red clover are useful as dietary aids to help the body eliminate waste and allows the natural defense system to work more freely in coping with the fleabites. Nettle may be sprinkled onto your dog's food as a great source of vitamins and minerals and also to provide a mild antihistamine response. I personally take nettle every day instead of over the counter allergy medicines. It works great without all the side effects and provides all sorts of vitamins. Give 1/2 - 1 tsp of the dried herb for each pound of food fed.

Externally, you can sprinkle diatomaceous earth into their bedding. Each tiny particle has sharp points and edges that penetrate the bodies of the fleas to cause their death. Put it into the bed, rub it around, wait for a little while then vacuum it out. You don't want your dog to breath in the dust. Using a steamer will also kill the eggs and larvae. I have a "Shark" that I use to steam the foam part of my dog's beds. I wash the cover in the washer but can't do that with the bed part so I steam it.

There are many flowers and herbs that can be used to make a rinse for your dog to help heal the skin. Feverfew, pyrethrum daisy, oxeye daisy, mullein are all effective. Here is a rinse you can use by making a tea of the herbs (cover with boiling water and let stand until cooled, strain and soak a towel with the rinse)

1 part feverfew flowers
1 part mullein flowers
1 part yarrow flowers, leaves and stems
1 part celery seeds freshly ground
3 parts calendula flowers

To add more punch to the formula add 6-10 drops of Bitter Orange essential oil to 8 ounces of rinse.

Happy flea hunting! n

Jealous Dogs: How to Prevent a Green Pooch

*By: Renae Hamrick, RVT
Reprinted from PetPlace.com*

Do you have a jealous dog? Do you come home from a long day at work, give your spouse a hug, then hear the barks of jealousy from your dog as he nudges his way between you and your loved one? Have you ever sat down to pet your cat only to have your dog begin whining relent-

lessly, or even seek attention by chewing a shoe or digging through the trash? When you're not directly spending time with your pooch, does his behavior turn sour?

Signs of Jealousy

Dogs become jealous when they fear their place in the "family pack" or in your heart is being threatened. A new boyfriend or girlfriend, a new pet, or a new baby can turn your dog green. Your canine companion may also become jealous if you give him less attention for other reasons, such as you're away at work more often or you've found a more time-consuming hobby.

Jealousy can lead to annoying and even destructive behaviors. Your dog may chew on household items, he may begin urinating in the house and marking his territory or he might vocalize incessantly. Other jealous behaviors include aggression, acting unusual to seek attention, "pouting", hiding, and decreased appetite. Some dogs may even display self-destruction, chewing or constantly licking themselves.

Should You Be Concerned

If your dog has changes in behavior and you suspect it may be due to jealousy, it is important to take your canine friend to a veterinarian before you hang your hat on a case of envy. It may be that your dog is acting differently because of health problem. It is also possible that the stress caused by jealousy can worsen existing health conditions, lead to new health problems, and cause depression. Therefore, it is important to closely monitor a jealous dog and actively seek a solution.

Solutions to the Problem

A break in routine is a very common cause for a dog's emotional upset. Look back to the time when your dog's behavior changed and determine if there is a correlation with some other event. Did your work hours change and you no longer could take your pooch for his morning walk? Has it become too cold out for your nightly game of fetch? Dogs like routine; doing the same things at the same time every day brings them comfort and makes them feel stable.

If your pooch is jealous of a person (other than a baby) with whom you are spending a lot of time, encourage that person to get to know your dog and do fun things with him. You and your friend can play a game of fetch with your dog, snuggle on the couch for a movie, or take a walk together. Be sure your dog feels included and not replaced.

If it's the new baby that is making your dog jealous, it is again important to reassure the dog that he is not being replaced. Give him lots of extra attention during the transition. Try to maintain his regular routine (walk, feed,

playtime, etc.) as much as possible. You can begin helping your dog with the upcoming change BEFORE the baby is born. Gradually make any predicted, necessary changes in his routine. It is also helpful to play recordings of baby noises to help your furry child adjust to the soon-to-arrive bundle of joy. Any items that have the scent of your little one can be brought home from the hospital before the baby and introduced to the dog to ease the transition.

If bringing home a new pet, anticipate jealousy from the old dog and work to minimize it. The new pet should be introduced on a neutral turf, such as at a friend's house or at a park. Allow the existing dog to keep his own food bowls, toys, bed, etc. Giving his favorite things to the other pet will increase jealousy. Also, be sure to continue to give your dog adequate attention, try to maintain his old schedule, and give him plenty of one-on-one time to remind him he is still special to you.

In any situation that might make a dog jealous, watch for appropriate, desirable behavior and reward it when it happens. If your dog politely sniffs the new baby, patiently sits while you hug your spouse, or avoids barging in on an interaction between you and another pet, give him positive reinforcement - a treat, a pat, or a "good boy".

Above all, to prevent a green dog, show him that he is loved & wanted, give him plenty of attention & playtime, & always treat him as a valued member of your family. n

Do you have any suggestions for articles? Email us at peirescue@macspro.org with your ideas.

10 Excuses for Your Dog's Bad Manners

Have you ever been embarrassed by your pet's behavior? Are you tired of the looks of disdain from family members and guests and wish you could come up with the perfect explanation? Here are just a few "excuses" you might find helpful during those uncomfortable, red-faced moments.

1. Your dog sniffs at your visitor's crotch.

- He's getting so old. He meant to jump up and lick your face but he forgot to jump up.
- I'm having him trained to search for bombs.

2. Your dog steals the roast beef off the counter.

- I guess he was tired of waiting for us to stop chatting.
- There must have been something wrong with the meat. He eats anything questionable so we don't get sick. (Funny, it is usually the meaty main course.)
- Hmm, I thought that beef may have been a little "ripe" anyway – just as well.

3. Your dog gets out of the yard and tears up your neighbor's garden.

- He's already caught three groundhogs over there!
- Oh, no! Spot wouldn't do that.
- He must really feel at home in your yard.

4. On your daily walk, your dog lifts his leg on your friend's prize roses.

- I read somewhere that urine has a protective effect on flowers.
- He thought your flowers looked dry.
- Roses are his favorite flowers.

5. Your dog jumps on little Aunt Millie at the front door.

- Such a sweet doggie. He loves his Aunt Millie and can't get enough of her.
- Now don't spoil her, Aunt Millie!

6. Your dog sheds and most of the hair lands on your guest's black trousers.

- What great pants! They make you look terrific!
- It's the newest trend. And just think – you don't owe me anything!

7. Your dog scratches and licks himself in the middle of the living room.

- He's just a show off! He knows we can't do that.
- He just had an operation; he must still feel those stitches.
- He's training for the Animalympics.

8. Your dog begs at the dinner table.

- He never does that!
- He must really like you.
- He always picks the thinnest person at the table!

9. Your dog barks at each newcomer for several minutes.

- Don't pay any attention to him.
- He never *usually* barks at our guests.
- What did you say to him?

10. Your large dog jumps up on and lies across the sofa – and your friends.

- Just ignore him.
- Does he have enough room?
- Just push him off if he gets too heavy.n



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: _____ E-Mail: _____

It's time for your dues renewal for Year 2007. It's the same low price of \$25.00

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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**MACSPRO
P.O. BOX 34034
BETHESDA, MD 20827**

Wait! Inside there is a poster suitable for hanging anywhere you want to advertise our rescues.

“Our Gang”

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



Isabella

Chico

Adopt me now!



Caleb

Look at me now!
A success story for Linus (formerly known as Atlas)

