

Mid-Atlantic Chinese Shar-Pei Rescue Operation Inc.

Non-Profit, Tax Exempt

Quarterly Newsletter

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RESCUES & ADOPTIONS since December 2003 – 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.

202-03 Peabody and 197-03 Lola were adopted by the same lady as they were brother and sister and missed each other when apart. Unfortunately, the lady become ill and had to return both of them to us. Alisha and Alma from Germantown came to their rescue and adopted both dogs.

217-03 Snow went to live in a big log cabin home in South Carolina with several Boxers as pals.

218-03 Dudley under went several eye surgeries with Dr. Kelly Corcoran of Veterinary Vision and it was such a joy to see him jumping and playing like a puppy as he could see again. He will have some limits but not enough to keep the Tankersley family from adopting him.

219-03* Chance, our three legged male was adopted by the Lovesteads. But now that they are away 14 hours a day they would like to find a home where he would not be alone so long. He can run, jump and get in and out of the car with no trouble at all. He is a beautiful meat mouth fawn who doesn't know or believe he is handicapped.

220-03 Toad suffered from so many problems that he needed continual care. The foster parents spent so much time in caring for him that they became too attached to let him go. So Toad now lives with Jim and Deb in Manassas, VA.

221-04 Luray, a beautiful Chocolate male came to us from Prince George's Shelter. He was adopted by the Lowders of Edgewater, MD.

222-04 Niko, a young male, came all the way to us from Winston-Salem, N.C. Gayle Monkkonen of D.C. became his “Mommy”,

223-04 Chico was only 10 months old when he was abandoned in Montgomery County, MD. But he went right back to Maryland to keep company with the Cleaves family.

224-04 Blackjack, a stray brush coat black male also came to us from Montgomery County, MD. He was quickly adopted by the Snows of Drexel Hill PA.

225-04 Grant, a tiny little puppy was abandoned in New Jersey and Linda and Don Locke saved his life. He turned out to be a sweetie and was adopted by the Keys of Woodstown, N.J.

226-04 Frodo, a stray from Prince George's County, MD., was adopted by the Smiley family of Newville, PA.

227-04 Zeus, such a gorgeous bear coat puppy from Frederick County, MD that he was quickly adopted by the Beall family and Peanut Butter, the cat, in Clarksville, MD.

228-04 Rocky, a small black male, was abandoned at a Vet's office. The Small family had a Shar-Pei who was lonely since the death of his dog companion. Rocky fit the bill and became a member of their family.

229-03 George W. also came from the Prince George's Shelter. He went to live in the heart of D.C. with Mr. Polk and two cats.

230-04 Mao came to us from Puerto Rico. The treatment of stray animals there is worse than horrible. A rescue group called "Save-A-Sato" managed to send him to us. He was so afraid of people that he lived with his foster family for over 4 weeks before he would even get near them. It took a lot of love on the part of the foster family, Pam and Curtis Robbins to get him to respond in a normal way to a touch or a kind word. Eight weeks later he was adopted by the Turners.

231-04 Shorty was the last of the "D.C. Seven" that we got. The deceased owner's son tried to keep him but his personal circumstances just would not allow it. As his name suggests, he was a little guy, chocolate horse coat. He was fostered in Georgetown and proved to be quite a runner. He is now living in McLean, VA with the Lerch family as his new forever parents.

232-04 Lucky-Joe, a fawn male was tied to a tree when attacked by two pit bull dogs. He suffered over 100 wounds. A wonderful compassionate lady rescued him and spent the night at the Vet's office with him. He has had additional surgery and his foster parent, Mr. Cumpston decided he was just too Lucky to give up.

233-04* Bucky came to us from Frederick County Shelter, MD. He is a young adult, full of spirit and friendly. He had a cancerous tumor removed from his leg but x-rays and blood work indicates that he is completely clear of any cancer. He is currently in foster care but really needs a "forever" home.

234-04 Angela, a chocolate meat mouth little girl, came to us from the Prince George's Shelter, MD. She is suffering from dog bites on her rear legs. But she is coming along fine and now living in PA with four cats in her new forever home.

235-04 Lady and 236-04 Tramp were found as strays sticking together in Hanover Md. Both a young male and female who obviously wanted to stay together. They got their wish to stay together and are living at the ocean in Hilton Head Island, SC where they are investigating the beach and new surroundings every day.

237-04* Chester was found wandering on Route 1 in Maryland and is staying with the woman who found him until he can find a new forever home.

238-04* Tina, a black brush coat, meat mouth female, was found in Prince George's County, MD. She is playful, friendly and healthy except she appears to be blind. We are, however, taking her into a specialist.

239-04* Donna, a crème, meat mouth, friendly female from Martinsburg, West Virginia is healthy and "cute as a button".

We get calls and emails every day regarding dogs needing help. But we have limited space to keep them. If you have any room in your home and heart to foster one of our dogs, please contact us. We pay all expenses and you will feel good to save a life.

INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT

1 December 2003 thru 15 June 2004

Prior Balance:	\$3,711.88
Income:	
Membership and Donations	
United Way and Raffle	
Adoption Fees	
	<u>\$ 11,809.87</u>
	\$15,521.75
Expenses:	
Dumfries Hospital	
Doctors, Meds, Surgery	\$ 3,702.82
Kenneling	\$ 2,157.16
Veterinary bills in foster	\$ 2,391.58
Merchandise	\$ 80.00
Shelter release fee	\$ 145.00
Supplies for foster	\$ 378.52
D.C. Corporation fee	\$ 75.00
Washington Post advertising	\$ 284.00
Register micro chips (13 dogs)	<u>\$ 162.00</u>
	\$ 9,376.08
Balance:	\$ 6,145.67

It's The Law

In Oklahoma the fine for cruelty to animals has increased from \$500.00 to \$5,000.00. In New Jersey cruelty penalties have increased to \$15,000.00 and up to 5 years in prison. In Vermont animal cruelty is now a felony. In Illinois all dogs & cats must be microchipped when they get rabies vaccinations. Slowly but surely, we are becoming civilized. n

Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capitol Area #7122

Government employees -- don't forget to list us as your designated charity. Thank you.

Lyme Disease Awareness

In the summer we have to be aware of deer ticks that cause Lyme disease. Symptoms are fever, rash, joint pain both in people and animals. It can be treated with antibiotics. If left untreated, it causes arthritis among other joint & fatigue illnesses. There are now tests to determine if one has been exposed and preventative shots. n

Health Articles

Solutions for Separation Anxiety

Reprinted with permission from Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

Does your dog get upset or engage in destructive behaviors when you leave him alone? Separation anxiety is a serious problem which can cause tremendous emotional distress for both dogs and owners. Misinterpreting its signs as simply "bad dog" behavior is one of the most common reasons for pet owners to give up their dogs. A dog with separation anxiety becomes abnormally anxious when separated from his owner. The severity of the anxiety and behavior the dog exhibits varies from animal to animal. Separation anxiety can result in problematic behaviors such as: whining, pacing, salivation, barking, howling, scratching, chewing, digging, urinating or defecating, or destroying personal items or household objects.

If you suspect your dog is suffering from severe separation anxiety - especially if he is harming himself or your property - please consult with your veterinarian to find the best method of treatment. For milder cases, you may want to try one or more of the following tips to help reduce your dog's anxiety.

What Can I Do to Help My Anxious Dog?

- **More exercise** - Go for more walks and throw the ball more often. Tired dogs are naturally less anxious.
- **Soften your departures & returns** - Keep your departures and returns low-keyed and unexciting.
- **Gradually lengthen periods of your absence** - Stage several short departures/arrivals throughout the day, gradually lengthening each absence as your dog adjusts.

- **Non-prescription stress reduction formulas** - A number of non-prescription calming products like [Ultra Calm](#) and [Rescue Remedy](#) use natural herbal formulas to help calm your pet for short periods of 1-2 hours.
- **Pheromone Plug-In** - Many dog owners have seen a remarkable improvement in their dog's anxiety with a relatively new product, the Comfort Zone Plug-In. Inserted in any wall outlet, and odorless to humans, it releases Dog Appeasing Pheromones (D.A.P) in the air throughout the entire room. Mimicking a new mother's natural pheromones, it reduces and prevents stress-related behaviors such as barking, whining, chewing, and soiling.

Editor's note: Rescue Remedy is available at Whole Food stores (formerly Fresh Fields) or any holistic drug or food store. It comes in a spray bottle. Two short "squirts" in the water bowl should do the trick. Do not try to squirt it directly into your dogs mouth. n

Can Whole Foods Help Your Dog?

by Pam Robbins

First, I want to say that I am not a veterinarian. I am just a pet owner who reads a lot about my pet's health and practices common sense. Our 12 year old rescued Shar Pei, Freyja, had been having problems with arthritis, sleeping most of the time, not her usual playful self and experiencing more and more bloat problems. So, I started reading and doing research. I also had conversations with other pet owners about their experiences. Here is what I found and did to help Freyja, who by the way, is MUCH more energetic and playful, hasn't had any bloat problems, and looks many years younger than she did a month ago.

I read Dr. Pitcairn's "Complete Guide to Natural Health for Dogs and Cats". This article is not saying that he is the authority on natural pet care, just to relate to you my experiences after having tried some of his suggestions. One of his suggestions was to feed your dog a natural diet. Freyja has been on Nutro Lite (Lamb and Rice) diet for years to make sure we kept her weight under control. When we rescued Freyja, she had a crushed pelvis and two broken front legs. After eight surgeries, she was whole again. The vet stressed to us that keeping her weight under control was vitally important since she was sure to have arthritis problems later. I feel that Nutro is an excellent food, but I also worried that dry food just doesn't provide all the nutrients that will keep a dog healthy. So, I started making food to add to the dry food. Each Saturday or Sunday I cook chicken, beef or pork, depending on what I have in the freezer. I boil the

meat with no salt. From the broth, I add oats, rice, brown rice, bulgur wheat, millet. I always use oats, but will choose whatever other grain, varying it from week to week. I then grate up a raw carrot or two and some fresh garlic. I also add extra virgin olive oil and flax seed oil to the mixture. Make sure you keep their food in the refrigerator and in a dark container to protect the flax seed oil. It turns rancid very easily. I also add cooked green beans, or broccoli, asparagus, squash or whatever vegetable I have fresh. I don't use canned vegetables since they are high in salt. Dogs need salt of course but they will get that from the dry food. Dr. Pitcairn stresses that dogs need their vegetables cooked somewhat since they need help digesting them. Just don't overcook them since they need the enzymes that are present to aid digestion.

I started incorporating the whole food into their diets slowly so that the intestinal track could get used to it. If you give them too much raw carrot and garlic it can cause diarrhea. They are up to 2/3 cup of whole food 2 times a day as well as 2/3 cup of dry food 2 times a day. Before I was feeding my dogs 1 cup of dry 2 times a day. If I upped the amount Freyja would gain weight. She is now eating more food, but has actually lost a pound. I am very pleased with her overall coat. It looks very good.

I have added supplements to Freyja's diet based on Dr. Pitcairn's suggestions. She is now getting Glucosamine, 250 mg, vitamin C, twice daily and a daily multivitamin. Occasionally I give her enteric coated 81 mg. baby aspirin. Our vet said this would not hurt her since it is absorbed in her intestines instead of her stomach. I buy the chewable 500 mg. tablets of vitamin C and break them in half. She eats them like they are a treat. Do this slowly, since vitamin C can cause diarrhea also. Freyja sometimes has breathing problems. Whenever this flares up, I give her more vitamin C to help with the inflammation.

Dr. Pitcairn's book has specific recipes with exact amounts if you want to totally replace their dry food with whole foods. I haven't done that yet. I want to give this method time and see how they fare. Good luck. Hope your results are as good as ours. **n**

Demodectic Mange

From *The Pet Health Care Library*
<http://www.veterinarypartner.com/>

The Culprit - *Demodex Canis*

Demodectic mange is caused by a microscopic mite called *Demodex canis*. All dogs raised normally by their mothers possess this mite as mites are transferred from mother to pup via cuddling during the first few days of life. (After the pup is older it is unable to pick up demodex

mites. Puppies raised by hand do not ever get demodex mites.) For some reason, conditions change in certain dogs to allow demodex mites to gain the upper hand; the mites proliferate and can cause serious skin disease.

- Mites are not transmitted to people or other dogs except from mother dog to pup as described. Demodectic mange (unlike sarcoptic mange) is not contagious.
- Mites live inside hair follicles — a difficult place for miticides (chemicals that kill mites) to reach.
- Mites are a normal residents of dog skin; it is only in some individual dogs that mites cause problems.

Demodicosis — The Disease Itself

Demodectic mange, also called demodicosis, has three forms:

Form #1: Localized

Usually a red, scaly, well-circumscribed lesion on the face or forelegs is present. It generally goes away on its own. **Goodwinol ointment**, an insecticide, may be used daily to control localized demodicosis. Hair regrowth should be evident after about a month of treatment; however, some localized cases appear "destined" to become generalized and no treatment will prevent this from occurring.

When ointment is used, rubbing the medication on the area may break off the weaker hairs at the margin of the lesion. The lesion may thus appear to get larger at first. **Antibacterial gels** are also used against localized demodicosis and associated skin infections. Often it is best not to treat this condition and to simply allow it to resolve on its own.

Enlarged lymph nodes are a bad sign — often foretelling generalized mange.

Form #2: Generalized

The entire dog is affected with patchy fur, skin infections, bald, scaly skin.

- Most generalized demodicosis starts as localized demodicosis.

Adult Onset— Most demodicosis occurs in young dogs. An older dog should not get demodicosis unless it has an underlying problem with its immune system, possibly even cancer. A veterinarian should be consulted regarding possible primary diseases.

Juvenile Onset — 30% to 50% of dogs under age 1 year recover spontaneously from generalized demodicosis without any form of treatment. Usually treatment is recommended, though, to facilitate recovery.

It is very important that dogs with a history of generalized demodectic mange not be bred as there is a hereditary component to the development of the disease.

Form #3: Demodectic Pododermatitis

This condition represents demodectic mange confined to the paws. Bacterial infectious usually accompany this condition. Often as generalized demodicosis is treated, the foot is the last stronghold of the mite. Old English Sheepdogs and Shar-peis tend to get severe forms of this condition. The infection can be so deep that biopsy is needed to find the mites and make the diagnosis.

Stress and Generalized Demodectic Mange

Physiological stress is an important factor determining the degree of severity of demodectic mange.

1. Females should be spayed as soon as the disease is controlled. Coming into heat, hormone fluxes, and pregnancy are very stressful. Also, predisposition to demodicosis is hereditary and should not be passed on.
2. The dog should be fed a reputable brand of dog food so as to avoid any nutritionally related problems.
3. Keep the pet parasite-free. Worms are irritants that the pet need not deal with and fleas may exacerbate the itchiness and skin infection.
4. Keep up the pet's vaccinations.
5. The mites themselves cause suppression of the immune system so the pet needs every advantage to stay healthy.
6. Skin infections are usually present in these cases and antibiotics will likely be necessary. It is very important that cortisone type medications such as prednisone NOT be used in these cases as they will tip the immune balance in favor of the mite.

Prognosis

The younger the dog, the better the chance of cure. In many cases of adult-onset demodicosis, the disease is controlled by dips and baths but cure is not always possible. Some cases can never be controlled.

Current Treatment Of Choice — Ivermectin

Ivermectin is a broad-spectrum anti-parasite medication generally used for food animals and horses. It is

licensed for use in dogs and cats as a heartworm preventive and as a topical ear mite therapy at this time, thus the use of this medication to treat demodicosis is not approved by the FDA. When ivermectin was a new drug it was hoped that it could be used against demodectic mange mites. At first it was found ineffective but later it was determined that daily doses are needed (most other parasites can be controlled with wormings spaced several weeks apart.) Ivermectin is inexpensive relative to Milbemycin (see below) and involves no labor-intensive bathing. It DOES, however, taste terrible if given orally (it may be necessary for the owner to learn how to give ivermectin as an injectable treatment.)

Editor's note: the traditional treatment is Mitaban dips, which are usually repeated every two weeks until the dog is clear. This should absolutely be done only by your Veterinarian. We know of several cases where dogs have suffered permanent painful injuries, even leading to death by being given Mitaban dips by individuals who do not give proper dosage.

Another new concept is the use of Interceptor, which is primarily a heartworm preventive. When used on a daily basis, it is effective against generalized demodicosis. Again, you must consult your Veterinarian.

We are not giving medical advice. We only want to help you identify a condition which may exist with your dog. Always consult a Shar-Pei knowledgeable Vet and we do emphasis Shar-Pei knowledgeable as we all know Shar-Pei "blow" their coats and this might look like mange.

Relapse?

Relapse is always a possibility with generalized demodicosis but most dogs that relapse do so within a 6 to 12 month period from the time they appear to have achieved cure. When relapse occurs it is often because the dog appeared to be normal and the owner did not return for the appropriate rescrappings. The final scrape is performed one month after treatment has stopped.

We Wish it Wasn't Necessary to Add This

Some 30 years ago, dipping dogs with demodectic mange in motor oil was a popular home remedy. Skin exposure to motor oil can cause rashes and skin destruction in severe cases. The hydrocarbons can be absorbed through the skin and cause a dangerous drop in blood pressure. If motor oil is licked off the coat, resultant



vomiting can lead to aspiration of motor oil into the lungs and pneumonia. Kidney and liver damage can result from motor oil dipping.

Please: Do not dip your dog in motor oil! ㄋ

Success Stories

Hi, we adopted Bear in December 2000. My, what a mess he was.....he could not see, he had the typical Pei skin mess and was a very hungry guy! Well, will you look at him now? This is him waiting on his 'Daddy' to come home from work.

I have never seen a more loyal dog then this one. Every night around 6:00 he gets anxious for Daddy and either waits by the door looking or sits at the gate waiting.....he gets along with anyone as long as a man doesn't come here when his Dad is not home ;-). He about barked the electrician into having a cornary, did not ever bite, but I think he was angry! So we schedule all things to be repaired when Dad is here. He is so cute and loveable and THANK YOU AGAIN FOR A GREAT DOG!



Robert and Michelle Chronister

Dear Joyce & pei-friends: Just wanted to send a little note and a couple of pictures to let you know how Hershey (formerly "Angela") is doing. She is adjusting so well that it's hard to imagine life without her now. Her appetite has been great since day one with us and she has thankfully been gaining weight! She is so precious when she wags her tail and gives us Hershey kisses...it's like her face just lights up. She was apprehensive of the cats at first...would even go out of the way to avoid them; now she tries to entice Apollo to play (he's in the picture sleeping behind her on her downstairs doggie bed). I'm so proud of Hershey and the cats...we've had no squabbles to report. Each new day brings a new surprise with her! She is housebroken and even knows many commands, and she's been responding to her name for a few days now. It was comical the day she discovered that she could play with her toys...we laughed until we cried. Her coat is growing in and she is quite a lovely lady, both physically and in spirit.



We can never thank you enough for the work that you do or for bringing this beautiful creature into our lives. When we lost Magic in March, I thought I'd never get lucky again in finding another wonderful dog to love. Hershey proves that I should never say never. We have been blessed!

Thanks again!!! *Sheila Harvey*

Almost 2 years ago we fell in love with Cooper when we saw his picture and story on the MACSPRO website. When we went to Virginia to pick him up, my 17 year old son, my husband, and myself were thrilled that we were taking this sweet faced cutie home with us. To my husband, Cooper became "Meat Head". To me he was always Coopie. We can't begin to tell you how much joy and love that dog brought to our home. When we got the bad news about Cooper's cancer, we knew we would have to help him to the Rainbow Bridge in just a matter of days.



This picture was taken on July 4th at my brother's place. My family wanted to say goodbye to Cooper one last time so we took him with us that day. Three days later Cooper took his final journey. Can you see his tail wagging in the picture? We can smile when we remember that.

The Rifkin-Tolley Family

“Our Gang”

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



Chester



Bucky



Tina



Donna



Chance

Adopt me now!



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 2004: \$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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