

# Mid-Atlantic Chinese Shar-pei Rescue Operation

Non-Profit, Tax Exempt

Dedicated to the  
rehabilitation  
and adoption  
of purebred  
Chinese  
Shar Pei



Quarterly Newsletter

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Volume XXII

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RESCUES & ADOPTIONS since July 2004 – below is an updated list of our rescues and adoptions since our last newsletter in July. 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 “fell out”, as some brothers and sisters do. So, Lola found a new home with the Brigham home and Peabody has remained with Alisha and Alma from Germantown.

**218-03\* Chance**, our three-legged male is still looking for a forever home where he can spend lot of time running and playing. 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.

232-04 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 has been on a fresh veggie and turkey diet, supplemented with “Seaglow” (kelp) and Vitamin C and appears to be completely clear and healthy. He is going to stay in his foster home with his guardian Charlotte.

234-04 Angela, a chocolate meat mouth little girl, went to live in PA with the Harvey family and four cats.

235-04 Lady and 236-04 Tramp were found as strays sticking together in Hanover, Md. Both a young male and female who obviously want to stay together. They were adopted together by the Lawless family and now live on the ocean front in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. Lucky dogs!

237-04 Chester received a great deal of medical care, good food and loving care in his foster home.

He was gaining weight and seemed to be in good health. One morning, after eating his breakfast, was found in the yard dead. The Vet said he appeared to be only one to two years of age and there was no explanation as to cause. The family buried him before we could arrange for a necropsy.

238-04 Tina, a black brush coat, meat mouth female, was found to have very limited sight. The Mahady family in Baltimore had just lost a blind Shar-Pei and their remaining dog was very depressed. This was the answer to their and Tina's prayers.

239-04 Donna, a crème meat mouth friendly female went to live with the Quyang family in Chantilly and now she bosses around a big Doberman!

240-04 Nickie, a chocolate, almost black handful of a young male came to us from the Prince Georges County, MD shelter. He hated confinement in the kennel so Pam and Curtis Robbins fostered and socialized him. He went to live with the Van Gilder family and companion dog in North Carolina.

241-04 Puchi, a nine year old black male came to us from the Montgomery County, MD shelter. He had a number of medical problems that needed attention besides his age which gave us some concern. Well, he doesn't know that he is supposed to be an old guy. He is full of life and has even jumped a three foot fence to investigate the neighborhood where he is being permanently fostered by the O'Neil family.

**242-04\* Burt**, a fawn starving male with sarcoptic mange, supposedly was found and brought in to the Anne Arundel, MD shelter. There were marks on his neck where a too tight collar had been. Inasmuch as sarcoptic mange is contagious, he had to be kept in an isolation unit, away from other animals for four weeks. He is now being fostered by Jeannie Johnson and will soon go to the Robins home for further fostering.

**243-04\* Peipei**, a black brush coat male found on his own in West Virginia. He seems in good health and good spirits. He loves animals, people, and horses.

**244-04\* Charlie**, a beautiful thin brush coat fawn male, came to us from Passaic, New Jersey. He also had a number of medical problems including two infected teeth, all of which have been remedied. He is currently in foster and waiting patiently for a "forever" home.

**Just in as we were readying for publication: 245-04 thru 252-04\* Stein, Munch, Dynamite, Jet, Spaz, Ray, Giant, and Romeo**, six fawn males and two fawn females all rescued as an abuse case in D.C. We are calling them our D.C.8. They are friendly, loving dogs who have spent their young lives in crates. They seem healthy and are anxious for their very own home.

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.

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**Combined federal campaign of the National Capitol Area #7122**

Government employees – don't forget to list us as your designed charity. Thank you. n

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**Barbara "Sam" Sellers**  
(By Joyce Hanes)

It is with great sadness that we reported that our Co-Founder, Sam Sellers, lost her fight with cancer on August 20, 2004. But she put up a good fight, all the way, as was her nature. Many of you knew Sam personally and knew that you could call her any time for answers to any Shar-Pei problems. She always tried to council people to

help them fix their problem and keep their dogs. And if they could not keep the dog or there was a dog in need, she would travel where ever was needed to pick up a dog and then sit for hours at Dumfries Animal Hospital or PetCo on the weekends trying to get our dogs adopted. She took pregnant and injured dogs into her home where they stayed until old enough or well enough to be adopted. She took in Rosie, our "flowered" little gal who had cancer and didn't have long to live but was feeling fine at the time. She kept Rosie for the last three months of Rosie's life. When Sam was so sick, one of her own dogs, Harry, became terminally ill. She got out of her sick bed to be with Harry when he was peacefully put to sleep. Every time I spoke with her, right to the very end of her life, she asked about the dogs and what was happening in rescue. I miss her everyday but Rescue will continue because Sam would have wanted it that way. If you have one of our Rescue dogs, give it a big hug for Sam and remember that it probably would not be here if it hadn't been for Sam Sellers. n

**INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT**

15 June 2004 thru 30 September 2004

Prior Balance:	<b>\$6,145.67</b>
Income:	
Membership and Donations	\$1,397.26
United Way	\$ 582.92
Adoption Fees	\$2,285.00
Merchandise purchases	\$ 43.09
Closure of T Rowe Price	\$ .87
Donation for Burt	\$ 100.00
In Memory of "Sam"	<u>\$ 975.00</u>
	<b>\$5,386.14</b>
Expenses:	
Veterinary and Kenneling	\$ 5,381.78
Merchandise refund	\$ 19.50
Supplies for foster	\$ 89.20
Register micro chips	<u>\$ 93.50</u>
	<b>\$ 5,583.98</b>
Balance:	<b>\$ 5,947.83</b>

**May we please have your email address?**

We would like to be able to send out periodic notices and offers. This would be greatly facilitated with email, not to mention save the cost of postage. Please send your email address to peipal@blkmgk.com and we will add you to our list.

## Gastrointestinal Study looking for Participants

The College of Veterinary Medicine at Texas A&M is studying the heritability of Vitamin B12 (Cobalamin) deficiency in the Shar-Pei. Vitamin B12 deficiency is common to this breed and the effects can be so detrimental that they can lead to intestinal disease. The only requirement is submission of a small blood sample to their lab at no cost to the participants. If interested please contact Luis A. Terrazas, DVM at 979-220-4271 or email [LATerrazas@cvm.tamu.edu](mailto:LATerrazas@cvm.tamu.edu). The College of Veterinary Medicine is located in College Station, Texas 77849. n

## Health Tips

n Sweetener can be toxic to dogs. The Animal Poison Control Center advises dog owners to keep candy, gum or other foods containing Xylitol (artificial sweetener) out of the reach of animals. If eaten a dog may develop a sudden drop in blood sugar, resulting in depression, loss of coordination and seizures. This can occur in less than 30 minutes after ingestion. There have been over 40 cases reported to date with the APCC.

n Rescue stopped giving 6-month injectable heartworm preventive medication some time ago. If there was an adverse reaction with such a large dose, it was not reversible. We have advised using the monthly oral doses. Now the manufactures have acknowledged that there have been adverse reactions including vomiting, diarrhea, shin rashes, hives, seizures and sometimes death. The 6 month injection has been recalled.

Don't forget to continue with your monthly heartworm treatment during the winter months. This will save you having to have your dog tested in the spring. Never start heartworm medication without having the dog tested. This will not be necessary if you continue the treatment monthly.

n There is another illness going around that is called "dog show crud" but it can be picked up anywhere you take your dog where there are other dogs urine or feces (i.e. dog parks, regular parks, even sidewalks). It takes on the appearance of Parvo and tests similar to Parvo. It is therefore recommended that three Parvo tests be given to exclude Parvo. The symptoms are bloody diarrhea which becomes explosive and vomiting which may contain blood. Dogs dehydrate quickly and can die of massive dehydration.

The treatment differs from Parvo and improper treatment could cause your dog great harm. Immediate attention should be given if the symptoms appear. If you are interested in additional information, we will be glad to mail or

fax a copy of the three page informational sheets. Just call Joyce at 301-881-1221. n

## Caring for Your Older Dog

*Reprinted with permission from Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff*

For many pet lovers, watching our companions grow older is a comforting, rewarding experience. Hard to believe the same bundle of energy tearing around the yard so many years ago is now the calm and kind old friend curled at our feet.

As your pet ages, you may notice the outward signs: white around the muzzle, less exuberance, hesitation trying to stand up after a nap or difficulty climbing into your vehicle. Then there are the internal signs we can't see, like a slowing metabolism, and changing nutritional requirements.

Just as we give special attention to the needs of puppies, dogs heading into their later years require unique attention to help comfort them and extend their precious time with us. After so many years of loyalty and support, don't they deserve the best care we can give them?

If you're lucky enough to share your home with an older pet, here are some tips we recommend for the care of your mature friends:

- **Exercise & Attention** are important at every stage in your pet's life. However, with senior pets you may need to adjust the frequency and intensity of the exercise. If your pet doesn't use his muscles, he will lose mass, tone, and it will become even harder to move about. Shorter, more frequent walks or swims can help keep your dog in shape and his weight under control.

If your pet has arthritis or is stiff and sore, giving him access to a ramp to get up and down from higher areas - vehicles or furniture - will make it much easier on his joints, and allow him to maintain some of the adventure he enjoyed as a youngster.

- **Comfort for Old Joints** - To protect older elbows and haunches, provide your mature dog with a firm, orthopedic foam bed. Our veterinarians have specifically designed several beds with "medical-grade" orthopedic foam or box spring construction to distribute weight evenly and reduce pressure on joints. They are also much easier to get out of in the morning!

Another good idea is to elevate your dog's food

and water bowls. Elevated feeders make eating and drinking more comfortable for arthritic pets, particularly if there is stiffness in the neck or back.

- **Nutrition & Supplements** - With dogs that have arthritis, we recommend drug-free nutritional supplements like Joint Care Plus MSM which contain ingredients such as Glucosamine HCl, Chondroitin Sulfate, and Vitamin C. There are many excellent supplements available today.

As your pet ages, keep a closer eye on his movements, behavior, and habits. Look for the signs of aging, such as loss of appetite, excessive sleeping, irritability, changes in his gait, weakness, and incontinence, and be prepared to treat him with a little more love and care than ever before.

The care you give to your pet throughout his life is a large determining factor in how he ages. Feed him a nutritious diet, offer proper vitamin, mineral and other nutritional supplementation, and help him maintain the right weight throughout his life and your pet is more likely to age gracefully. n

## Breed Column - Chinese Shar-Pei

*By JoAnn Reddit  
orientpubl@aol.com*

If you own a breed that had its origins in England or Western Europe, consider yourself lucky. You probably know the general background of your dog as well as its pedigree for at least the last 50 to 100 years or more. We are not so lucky with our Chinese Shar-Pei. The Chinese apparently did not consider it important to record pedigrees of our dogs.

Word-of-mouth told us that the Chinese Shar-Pei was an ancient breed thought to have originated in the area round the small village of Tai Li in Kwantung province and has existed for centuries in the southern provinces of China, apparently since the Han Dynasty (c. 200 B.C.). This was mostly conjecture and there were those that believed it to be a more recent breed produced by crossing the English mastiff, the Chow Chow with a little Tibetan Mastiff thrown into the mix. Statues bearing a strong resemblance to the Shar-Pei have been discovered and dated to the Han Dynasty period. However, these statues could just as well have been attributed to the Pug or the Pekingese. More recently, a Chinese manuscript of the 13th century has been translated; it

refers to a wrinkled dog with characteristics much like those of the Shar-Pei.

Now, due to recent DNA research from 85 breeds of dogs, we can say with certainty that the Chinese Shar-Pei is one of the few "ancient" breeds. We all know that our dogs are descended from the wolf, but which of them is a direct decendent and which are "remanufactured" or a combination of various other breeds?

Rob Stein, Washington Post Staff writer, reports in May 24, 2004 issue of the paper regarding "the findings from the first detailed genetic comparison of the genes of purebred dogs." He refers to the report in the May 21, 2004 issue of the journal Science that the "team at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, WA analyzed DNA collected from 414 dogs representing 85 breeds."

Julianna Kettiewell, BBC News Online science staff, reported that the breeds studied fall into three "modern" categories associated with guarding, herding and hunting and one "ancient" group that dates back to antiquity. Their "finding was a bit surprising because most of the breeds are quite recent and were only formally isolated in the 19th Century, with the advent of breed clubs."

It is the fourth group that was "out on an ancient limb" that interests the Shar-Pei owner. "The team were surprised to find such a diversity of breeds congregating in this group. The Shar-Pei, Pekingese, Shih Tzu and Siberian Husky all showed the closest genetic relationship to the wolf, ancestor of dogs." Another surprise found was that certain breeds thought to be ancient, such as the Pharaoh Hound, were thought to be "recreated in the last couple of centuries."

It is hoped that by grouping these breeds according to their susceptibility to particular diseases, researchers can reveal genetic differences, pin down genetic "culprits" and "should find it easier to locate the equivalent genes in humans." "If we know a subset of breeds share a common lineage, then we can group them together when we're working on a particular disease, explained Professor Ostrander," a geneticist at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center.

For example, although we know (and not mentioned in this report) many Chinese Shar-Pei suffer from a currently incurable disease called amyloidosis thought to result from a compromised immune system. The Chinese Shar-Pei Charitable Trust generated \$100,000.00 for amyloidosis (or Familial Shar-Pei Fever) research through donations and matching grants from the Canine Health Foundation, the University of Missouri and Shar-Pei owners, Gary and Cammy Seamans. However, no DNA marker was found. Because humans can also

suffer from this disease, it is hoped that with the new DNA findings at the FHCRC, the search will continue.

We know that amyloidosis is caused by amyloid deposits that are laid down in any major organ, but in the Shar-Pei it is usually the kidneys that are affected. These deposits eventually overtake the healthy cells and the kidneys no longer function causing death usually between four and six years of age. We also know that in humans, alzheimer's disease is caused by amyloid deposits in the brain causing the victim to lose all cognitive skills.

Will the Shar-Pei help researchers find the cause and cure for alzheimer's disease? We would like to think so because in the process, perhaps we, too, can find a DNA marker for amyloidosis in our Shar-Pei. By having a test for this dreaded disease, our dogs can be diagnosed earlier and those who will be affected will not be bred perhaps eliminating this problem from future generations. It would make us even more proud to know that our breed holds such a special place, not only in our hearts, but in the lives of their human counterparts.

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## The Doggy Dictionary

**LEASH:** A strap which attaches to your collar, enabling you to lead your person where you want him/her to go.

**DOG BED:** any soft, clean surface, such as the white bedspread in the guest room or the newly upholstered couch in the living room.

**DROOL:** Is what you do when your persons have food and you don't. To do this properly you must sit as close as you can and look sad and let the drool fall to the floor, or better yet, on their laps.

**SNIFF:** A social custom to use when you greet other dogs. Place your nose as close as you can to the other dog's rear end and inhale deeply, repeat several times, or until your person makes you stop.

**GARBAGE CAN:** A container which your neighbors put out once a week to test your ingenuity. You must stand on your hind legs and try to push the lid off with your nose. If you do it right you are rewarded with margarine wrappers to shred, beef bones to consume and moldy crusts of bread.

**BICYCLES:** Two-wheeled exercise machines, invented for dogs to control body fat. To get maximum aerobic benefit, you must hide behind a bush and dash out, bark loudly and run alongside for a few yards; the person then swerves and falls into the bushes, and you prance away.

**DEAFNESS:** This is a malady which affects dogs when their person wants them in and they want to stay out. Symptoms include staring blankly at the person, then running in the opposite direction, or lying down.

**THUNDER:** This is a signal that the world is coming to an end. Humans remain amazingly calm during thunderstorms, so it is necessary to warn them of the danger by trembling uncontrollably, panting, rolling your eyes wildly, and following at their heels.

**WASTEBASKET:** This is a dog toy filled with paper, envelopes, and old candy wrappers. When you get bored, turn over the basket and strew the papers all over the house until your person comes home.

**SOFAS:** Are to dogs like napkins are to people. After eating it is polite to run up and down the front of the sofa and wipe your whiskers clean.

**BATH:** This is a process by which the humans drench the floor, walls and themselves. You can help by shaking vigorously and frequently.

**LEAN:** Every good dog's response to the command "sit!", especially if your person is dressed for an evening out. Incredibly effective before black-tie events.

**BUMP:** The best way to get your human's attention when they are drinking a fresh cup of coffee or tea.

**GOOSE BUMP:** A maneuver to use as a last resort when the Regular Bump doesn't get the attention you require... especially effective when combined with the Sniff. See above.

**LOVE:** Is a feeling of intense affection, given freely and without restriction. The best way you can show your love is to wag your tail. If you're lucky, a human will love you in return. **n**

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## Post our Rescues for all to see

You will find the pictures of our available rescues on a separate page inside of this issue. Please post it in your office, or at your vet's office, any place that will help us broaden our reach in finding forever homes for our rescues. **n**

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## Redesigned MACSPRO web site

Be sure to visit our web site after 1 November and see a whole new look and feel. **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: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Chance to pay the Annual Renewal Dues for the Year 2004 and remain on our mailing list: \$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](http://www.macspro.org)) Thank you for your support.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: MACSPRO, P.O. BOX 34034, BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20827

**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](http://www.macspro.org) Phone: (301)881-1221



Charlie



Chance



Burt



Peipei



Dynamite



Romeo



Ray



Stein

Adopt me now!

But wait - there's more!

Call us to learn about our other dogs looking for “forever” homes