

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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RESCUES & ADOPTIONS since August 2005 – below is an updated list of our rescues and adoptions since our last newsletter in May. 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.

257-05 Zipper a fawn female, has finally found a forever home in Alexandria with the English family.

258-05 Honey is also a fawn female. The Robbins brought her back to health and she is now in a forever home in Fairfax with the Bryans.

262-05 Babe who went to live with a gentleman who lives south of Richmond died of cancer just a few months after being adopted. We know that she was given all possible medical care. We are sincerely sorry that her life was cut so short and so much sorrow was heaped upon her adoptive parent who had several months previously lost his other Shar-Pei.

252-05 Ray (now Thai) was one of the “D.C. 8” and was adopted along with Giant soon after arrival. He could not have found a better home than in Arlington, VA where he has other dogs with whom to play.

263-05 Shadow came to us from Prince George’s shelter. He was soon adopted by a family that has a nice home near the ocean where he gets to walk for miles several times each day. Lucky Shadow!

265-05 Benny, a black male, was in a home with six undisciplined children. A friend brought him into us. He is now living in a quite family atmosphere in Manassas.

266-05* Pacino is a crème male with some serious scars across his back. He came from Prince George’s shelter and we don’t know his background. He is dog aggressive but very good with people. He is looking for an alpha family with no other pets.

267-05* Arthur, a fawn male, is also dog aggressive. He gives kisses and loves to be scratched, but he also needs an alpha family with no other pets. He could be a great guy with some work.

268-05 Manny was brought in as a stray with 269-05 Shannon. Both fawn males with black masks that looked like brothers. They stayed together while running loose and we were so lucky to keep them together when adopted to a family with a large farm in Pennsylvania.

270-05 Eddie was a “blue” Pei didn’t stay with us long. He was adopted to console a Pei whose Pei companion had recently died. He now lives with his new friend in Arlington, VA.

271-05* Coco is a sweet young chocolate who has heartworm. She is being fostered in Baltimore while she undergoes lengthy heartworm treatment.

272-05 Darlene was another sweet young fawn gal that came to us from Montgomery County shelter. She now lives in North Beach, MD where she is much loved.

273-05* Fannie is a “blue” female from Prince George’s shelter. She is currently at Dumfries having all her health work done. She should be ready for adoption before Christmas.

274-05* Niko is a very energetic crème male who came from the D.C. shelter. He is currently being fostered by Pam & Curtis Robbins. He should have been named Linus as he drags his blanket from room to room.

275-05 (141-01) Tenchii came back to us as his family situation had changed. He is such a good guy and appeared completely confused at being in a kennel. One of our long time members lost their dog to illness and had another dog that was grieving the loss of his companion. Tenchii fit in right away and now they are all happy.

276-05* Mary Kate is not a purebred nor is **277-05* Ashley**, her sister. They are under one year of age, crème in color but have long beige ears. When they were brought into the shelter, they were covered with bleeding sores, infection and a severe skin condition. With the tender care of Peg Perez in South Carolina, they are totally recovered; have grown hair; had their eyes done and been spayed. We could not bear to see them “put down” just because there was no money to vet them. Lots of kind people sent money to help but more is needed to cover their vet bills. When you see their picture, you would not want to be the one to say “no” to these girls.

Urgent Plea for help:

Pacino and Arthur have been with us for several months, in the kennel and we are running out of funds to continue to care for them. We need a foster home with no other dogs and someone with the time to work on training them.

Alternatively, we could use additional funds to pay a trainer to work with them so that they could be blended into a home situation. Please help save these two dogs.

Holiday Hazards

Remember this season that there are many things that could injure and even kill your dog. XYLITOL is an artificial sweetener that is found in some mints and so called “sugarless” products. After just a few minutes of your dog eating a few of the products that contain xylitol, vomiting and seizures can begin followed by a coma. This compound is toxic to dogs and if immediate action is not taken by a Vet, it can kill your dog.

Remember anti-freeze is also a killer to birds as well as animals. It tastes sweet but is poison. If you see any spilled on the street or parking lot, please get some water and wash it away. The few minutes you do that may save a life.

Poinsettias can be poisonous to both cats and dogs. There are a number of plants that can be injurious to animals. Make it a point to look them up on the web before putting them where your pets can get to them. n

INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT

8 August thru 10 December 2005

Prior Balance:	\$3,238.65
Income:	
Adoptions	\$1,500.00
Membership & Donations	\$2,684.98
Combined Federal Campaign	\$612.11
Katrina Donations*	<u>\$1,150.00</u>
	\$5,947.09
Expenses:	
Medical Care	\$ 3,106.93
Register micro chips	\$87.50
Kennel	\$2,068.00
Bumper Stickers (advertising)	\$165.70
Foster Care	\$150.00
Release Fees	\$224.50
Web Site	\$40.00
Merchandise for sale	\$35.00
Katrina purchases	<u>\$774.75</u>
	\$6,652.38
Balance:	\$2,533.36

**There is \$375.25 in Katrina funds left. We are determining which facility is in the most need and the funds will be sent there. Tylersville shelter is still in operation and Best Friends is renting vans to transport unclaimed animals back to their sanctuary in Utah.

We have unpaid Vet and kennel bills exceeding \$2,500.00.

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

For The Person Who Has Everything

How about giving a donation to MACSPRO in lieu of a gift? We will send a lovely card indicating your gift in their name. It's the gift that makes everyone happy.

Also, how about those tax exempt donations that you must make before the end of the year. We are a 501©3 tax exempt organization and you can claim the deduction on your schedule B tax return. n

Health Articles

Canine Influenza

For several years there have been there has been rumors of a canine influenza in various areas around the county. This influenza, first notice in horses over 40 years ago, is now affecting dogs. But not as prevalent as previously reported. But we felt we should report it to you and you can check with your local vet to determine if it is being seen in your local. It is an airborne disease that could be picked up in any area where dogs congregate such as vet offices, dog parks, etc. The affected dog will cough; have a fever and possibly a discharge from the nose. Symptoms are similar to a bad cold in a person (by the way, like other dog related illnesses, people can't catch it from their dog).

If your dog exhibits these symptoms, you should contact your vet immediately. Although this disease might only affect your dog for a week, it could last much longer. It could also be more dangerous to an older dog. If you think your dog might have influenza, be sure to tell your Vet before going in to be taken directly to an examine room to insure that you dog does not expose other dogs. There is no vaccine and the only help at present are antibiotics.

For further information contact the American Animal Hospital Association at www.healthypet.com. n

Cancer News

Recently we have been hearing of more and more dogs dieing of various types of cancer. So we thought that when we heard a little good news, we would pass it on. A vaccine produced at the Animal Medical Center of New York is showing promise in treating advanced malignant melanoma. In Colorado there is hope for dogs with osteosarcoma with bone transport osteogenesis which grows new bone. And in California-Davis veterinary school there is an oral drug working to prevent tumor growth in dogs with mast-cell cancer.

These advances seem to be years away but some of the experiments have been ongoing for four of more years and look promising. n

Katrina Report

By Joyce Hanes

When we first asked for donations so we could take things for the animals, we had a pickup truck ready to roll. Besides posting on ours and other web sites, we put a large poster on the street by my driveway. Each morn-

ing I would come down to find more and more items left there. We knew that the truck would not be big enough. Courtney O'Neil, who has one of our dogs, got the rental of a large van through funds donated by POGO Landscaping Co. Walden Plumbing donated the gas money.



Altogether we got 40 crates, many fans, and heavy-duty extension cords, tons of towels, pooper scoopers, food, food, food, water and food for the workers.

Caroline Figgett, Mike Lombardo, Courtney and I spent the day sanitizing the used crates and washing dog bedding and towels. Michael Anderson of GraytKey Weimaraners drove all the way from Stewartstown, Pennsylvania to bring items and help us pack the truck. There was not one inch of space when the packing was done.

Courtney drove the truck down and was graciously given housing by B. Lee Parker's mother, as the closest room available was in Texas. Courtney stayed the week helping with everything from dog walking and comforting to helping at the reception desk with people who were looking for their animals.

After all of the purchases, we have \$375.25 promised and left in the Katrina donation fund. The work of The Best Friends Sanctuary continues every day. Besides working in Tylerville, they are transporting unclaimed animals to the sanctuary in Utah where they will be cared for and housed forever, if necessary. We hope those of you who donated will agree that the balance of the money go to Best Friends from their friends at MACSPRO.

To further see Best Friends good work, go to www.bestfriends.com. n

How to Successfully Integrate Your New Family Member into Your Home

By Pam Robbins

Disclaimer: *I am not a professional trainer. I have owned dogs for many many years and have successfully fostered 16 dogs for MACSPRO in the last 3 years. We have only had 1 bad incident where a foster dog attacked my Shar Pei. He was a dominant male and felt that Freyja (Shar-Pei) was too old to be the boss. No one was hurt badly but could have been if I hadn't been on the ball watching the situation. The recommendations above are from my own personal experiences. Some of the advice has been validated by Cesar Milan (The Dog Whisperer) and are some of his techniques.*

Usually the first couple of weeks are calm. You find yourself saying "this is going to work out fine, no problems". Your dog has been quiet and meek and has occasionally acted scared. During this time the number one activity you should be doing is bonding with your dog. This does not mean hugging and kissing and playing all the time. You must remember that in order for your dog to behave and be part of the pack, he must believe that YOU ARE THE PACK LEADER! If you do not set boundaries for your dog, he will soon own the house and will be behaving badly. The number one best way to bond with your dog and at the same time to establish that you are the boss (Alpha) is to walk your dog. Yes, even when it is cold outside. Bundle up yourself and buy your dog a sweater and head out doors. You need to be strong and assertive yet calm. You must not be nervous or meek. You must be in charge of your dog or he will misbehave and your walk will be a disaster. It is best to use a Martingale collar when you are walking (No spikes please!). DO NOT LET THE DOG PULL YOU. The dog must walk on your left side and walk beside you. If he pulls, stop. When you start up again, use the word heal and tug on the leash. This will take practice and patience. Walk your dog as much as your can. The more your walk him/her the more bonding will occur and the better behaved your dog will be.

Crating your dog: MACSPRO recommends that all dogs be crated when you bring them home. They are frightened, don't know what is going to happen to them and need to feel safe. The crate offers that safeness. We recommend that you purchase a heavy galvanized wire crate. As large as you can afford and have room for. Your pet needs to be able to lie down and have room enough for a water bowl. The crate that we use when we foster is 4' long, 3' wide and 3.5' high. Yes it is a big crate. But the dogs don't feel confined in it. I put a soft pad in the bed and always have scraps of fake fur that I use for them to cuddle up in. We crate a new dog

for several reasons, I already told you one. Some other reasons are for the safety of the dog. If you have a young dog that is a chewer you don't want to leave him loose in your house. He could get badly injured. He could also injure your home, something we want to avoid. When I first get a new dog, I don't leave him unattended at any time. I ALWAYS know where he is and what he is doing. If I need to take a shower, I crate the dog. If I need to go upstairs and no one is at home but me, I crate the dog. MACSPRO doesn't recommend the soft sided crates that have recently come out on the market. We have seen dogs bend the heavy wire of a crate and get out let alone cloth.

Integrating the new dog with your dog: Whenever we bring a new dog home we don't immediately expose him to the other dogs. This can be really intimidating. We walk him alone in our back yard and then bring him into the crate. I usually give him a treat and then leave him alone. Occasionally I walk by and talk to him. I don't let my dogs go around the new dog for a couple of hours. I will then let my dogs come visit. I do this since the new dog will feel safe in the crate and it also tells my dogs that this is their house and that the new dog is not a threat. Everyone gets used to each other with NO possibility of anyone getting hurt. It usually takes us 36 to 48 hours before we allow the dogs to meet. Each dog is on a leash so that the situation is controlled. If you are alone, ask a friend to help you. The new dog is going to be afraid and could lash out. Your dog could be upset that a new dog is in your house and lash out. It can be a very volatile situation. Be cautious. Watch body language. Dogs will always smell each other, which is normal. Some dogs however get upset with this so watch their body language. You will know when it is safe to release the dogs and let them be without control. I am always VERY cautious especially since Simon (English Springer) is so jealous and territorial. He basically is a fearful dog which makes him somewhat unstable. My Shar Pei is 14.5 years old and basically is fine with all dogs since she KNOWS that she is the BOSS. She quickly lets the new dog know that she takes no crap. Yet she has NEVER attacked another dog.

Giving affection to your dog: This might sound cold but please take it as it is intended as advice from someone who has done this and now has a dog with a behavioral issue. Do not show your dog affection when he/she is expressing fear and fright. When you show affection during this time, you are reinforcing the fear. Once a dog learns that this behavior is ok, he will soon turn that fear to aggression. It is necessary of course for you to give your dog affection, but on your terms. Call your dog to you, get him to sit (hopefully he knows this command) and then pet him and show him affection. I don't allow my dogs up on the furniture any more. I used to. I have learned the hard way that this sends the

Continued on page 7

“Our Gang”

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



Pacino



Arthur



Niko



Fannie

Adopt me now!



Mary Kate



Ashley



Happy Holidays from the 2005 MACSPRO Rescues

dog the message that the dog is on the same social level as you. If you have a dog that has behavioral problems, letting him on the furniture will just reinforce the behavior. Don't get me wrong - for some dogs this isn't an issue, but I would wait a while before you allow this. We allowed our English Springer (Simon) up on our bed; couch, where ever he wished when he was a puppy. I was always giving him love and affection, letting him sit in my lap etc. Little did I know that this was going to cause a major problem with him and my husband. Simon is so jealous of my husband that he tries to get between us whenever my husband comes near me. He has bitten my husband (jealous of another dog that time). Now Simon has his own bed and is not allowed on any furniture. This was Very hard for us, but necessary in order to get him under control.

Socializing your dog: It is necessary for you to socialize your dog as much as possible. Expose your dog to people, places, and other dogs (with caution of course). The more that you do this, the better your dog will be adjusted. We do not recommend that you take your dog to a dog park and just let him go! For most of our dogs we have no history on them. We don't know what they will do, so please exercise caution in all your socializing. When walking your dog, be prepared when a stranger is walking by. Don't let strangers approach your dog until you are comfortable. Some dogs learn to hide their emotions and don't let you know that they are going to strike. Pay attention to your dog's body language. Other people DON'T pay attention to their dogs. They think that their dog is perfectly behaved and won't cause a problem. "My dog just wants to visit your dog". If you are not comfortable with this, tell them that you are a new owner and don't know your dog well enough to determine if it is a safe thing to do. Always err on the side of caution. The one thing you don't want to happen is that your dog gets into a fight with someone else's dog and gets hurt. You can be sued. Since Simon (my English Springer) is not normally dog friendly, I tell people to keep their dogs back and away from him. Of course this is a bad thing for my Shar Pei (who is almost always dog friendly) since she never gets to visit other dogs.

Leashing your dog: When I first bring a dog home I leave a leash on the dog all the time (except in the crate). This makes it easy for me to get the dog if he doesn't come to me without me traumatizing the dog. When I need to get the dog, I just calmly walk and step on the leash. I also let the dog go outside on the leash even if I am not with him (assuming you have a fenced yard). Leashing also sends the message to the dog that he is subservient. I have leashed a dog for as long as 8 weeks before I felt comfortable that the dog would not run away from me in the house. Don't EVER let your rescue dog go outside unleashed in a non-fenced

back yard. **Rescue dogs will run when given the opportunity.** I had my Shar Pei for 6 years before I let her walk around without a leash.

Urinating and Defecating: Ok, you've had your dog 2 wks or maybe a month and he starts urinating or defecating in your house. This is not unusual but could have been avoided if you hadn't let your dog have free run of your house. Your dog is now feeling that your house is his house. Unfortunately some dogs mark their territory by peeing in the house. Some dogs will start going to the bathroom in your house when you leave them along. They fear that you are going to abandon them. Crating will help control the fear that your dog is feeling. That is assuming that you have been using the crate from day 1. You should continue to crate your dog until he feels that he is safe and sound and no longer frightened of being abandoned again. If your dog does defecate in the house do not rub your dog's nose in the urine or feces. If you actually catch your dog in the act, then you can reprimand him, otherwise you can't do a thing to him. He will not understand.

Aggression towards strangers: A few months (or weeks) have passed, things are going pretty good and you start having problems with your dog being aggressive to people coming to your house. If this happens your dog is telling you that you are not being the Alfa in the pack. When the door bell rings and the dog takes off for the door, calmly walk over to the dog and bump him just to get his attention. This is not a kick or anything that can hurt the dog. Once you get the dogs attention, detract his attention (calmly) from the door and make him sit (this is an act of submission). Once he sits, then direct him to his bed or to where ever you want him to go. If you do not calm the dog down before you make him go to his bed, then he is still in an excited state and will not learn that he cannot do this behavior. Now I give you this advice but will admit that Simon (English Springer) minds my commands but NEVER stops barking the whole time. When someone does come into my house, I give him a minute and he quickly will settle down. He has never bitten anyone. I caution you though that until you know your dog and have him under control you should never let your dog get access to the person entering your house. If this behavior continues to occur you should contact a trainer for help. I will admit that I am still working on this one with Simon. We practice by knocking on the door and getting him used to the sound.

Obedience Training: MACSPRO recommends that you invest in obedience training for your dog. PETSMART, PETCO offer training classes at a reasonable rate as well as many dog schools in the area. Your dog should be able to sit, stay, down, come as a basic set of commands. It could save his life someday. **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 for dues renewal for Year 2005: \$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: _____

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

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