

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 XXXI

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RESCUES & ADOPTIONS since June 2007 – 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.

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.

313-07* Sophie came to us with seven new puppies. All puppies were adopted and went to their homes on April 27+ 28! Sophie had to go to Dumfries to start her heartworm treatment and be spayed. Sophie needs to find a new home. One of the puppies' parents is thinking about adopting Sophie. We sure hope they do. Sophie deserves to find her permanent home soon.

321-07 Neil was rescued out of a backyard by generous and loving people. He had heartworm so the people who rescued him treated him and were fostering him. Now the same generous and loving people decided to keep him, so Neil is happy and so are they!

322-07 Saffie (formerly Suzanne) is a young shy female who came to us recently from the DC shelter. She is now presently being fostered but unfortunately will soon need a new home as her foster parent is going away to school.

323-07* Savannah is a young female who thought she found her forever home until her new owner found out he was going to have to travel for weeks at a time. She probably needs to be in an “only dog” family. She sometimes doesn't get along with other dogs but is totally beautiful.

324-07 Taffy is a young female who came to us from

Johnson City, TN. Her “Shar-Pei” dance won over the heart of her new owners and she is now in her new forever home in Oakton, VA.

325-07 Lavender is a fawn young female from Montgomery County, MD who moved to a farm in West Virginia and lives with a Bull Mastiff now.

326-07 Bubba was placed in a shelter by his owners who were having trouble with him and did not relate that information. We contacted the prior owners when the kennel people were having trouble managing him only to determine that he could not be placed in a home. We painfully had to have him put down.

327-07 Manny is a sweet young male who came into the Baltimore shelter with a micro-chip but his owners moved and forgot to update the micro chip information so they couldn't be found. He found love and a new home, with Deb and Allen May, long time MACSPRO supporters.

328-07 Sammy is a sweet, timid but loving black brush coat found wandering in D.C. Sammy's foster mother did not have Sammy a week before she called and said “I'm in love” sign me up. We are just waiting to clear up some health issues before we sign the paperwork.

329-07 Lan Mai is another one who wormed her way into the hearts of foster parents. She is about 2 years old and traveled two days in a car transport to come all the way from Mississippi. She has been adopted by Pam and Curtis Robbins.

330-07* Gansu (pronounced Johnsu) is only 8 months old and was found in Ohio. She is great in a car, and loves everyone, including dogs, people and kids. She has had all of her shots, has been spayed and would love to get to her permanent family.

331-07* Nanjing is only 10 months old and in real need of a lot of love and care. She is at least 20 lbs underweight. She is full of love and affection and do fine with other dogs and currently being fostered by MACSPRO members the Breedens.

332-07 *Andy is a sweet black brush coat male whose owners were evicted from their home. They left him there alone with no food or water. Perhaps they planned to come back for him – but didn't. The neighbors heard him crying for days before calling animal control. By this time he had cut his face badly trying to get out of the house. He is currently receiving good care at Dumfries Hospital.

Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capitol Area We have again this year become eligible to receive donations through CFCNA. Our designation number is 38983 so please designate us for your donations! n

INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT

1 June 2007 thru 31 August 2007

Prior Balance:	\$7,906.10
Income:	
Adoptions	\$1,250.00
Membership & Donations	\$1,145.00
iGive	39.44
Combined Federal Campaign	<u>\$99.96</u>
	\$2,534.40
Total Income:	\$10,440.50
Expenses:	
Veterinary, Medical Care, & Kenneling*	\$6,390.39
Newsletter	\$250.00
Transportation	\$50.00
Shelter Release	\$236.98
Foster Supplies	\$72.44
Home Again Registration	<u>\$29.98</u>
	\$7,030.29
Balance:	\$3,410.21

*A number of our recent dogs came to us with heart worm, needing entropian surgery, and spaying/ neutering. In addition, kenneling fees have gone up.

Thank You!

MACSPRO would sincerely like to thank Larry Sayre and Tracy and Rodney Breeden for helping transport Nanjing and Gansu to VA. It worked out so well, Tracy is going to foster Nanjing. Thanks again!

Health Articles

Dog CPR Classes

By Pam Robbins

As some of you might know, Curtis and I lost Parker unexpectedly on July 6th. We found him unconscious on the landing of our stairs. We sadly realized that we did not know proper CPR or how to check his pulse. We lost him. I don't think we would have been able to save him even if he had known CPR, but we'll never know. Due to this experience, Curtis and I have signed up for a Pet CPR course at the local Red Cross. MACSPRO is trying to find people who are interested in taking the course and becoming trainers. There are presently no classes scheduled but if enough people call we could have one. I am including the phone numbers for the local Red Cross offices. Please call and ask for this class and make plans to attend. We certainly are. I don't ever want to be in the same situation again.

District of Columbia	202-243-7200
Fairfax County	703-584-8700
Ft. Belvoir	703-805-2057
Montgomery County	301-588-2515
Prince George's County	240-487-2100

First Aid Kit for Dogs

Emergencies can occur anytime and the best thing to do is be prepared. Having a first-aid kit ready will help to reduce anxiety if an emergency does happen. Keep the kit readily available and periodically check to make sure all the items are up to date and present. A small plastic toolbox or fishing tackle box works well to hold all the necessary equipment.

On the outside of the box, write your name, address and telephone number in case you lose it. Also include the telephone number of your veterinarian as well as the telephone number of a local veterinary emergency facility.

If someone is taking care of your pets while you're away, be sure to discuss your pets with them. Make sure they understand what you consider an emergency, how to contact you, the name and phone number of a secondary contact person you trust to make decisions on your behalf if you were unavailable, and where to take your pet in case of an emergency.

You may want to consider leaving a credit card number to pay for any unplanned expenses relating to your pet's health.

Once the emergency information is complete, it's a good idea to have separate information sheets for each pet. Include a photo of each pet with the name, age, breed, sex, identification (microchipping information), and any health problems. This can help if your pet is lost or if someone unfamiliar with your pet is needed to care for him.

A well-stocked first aid kit for dogs includes:

- Roll cotton
- Some cotton balls
- Gauze pads
- Gauze tape
- Hydrogen peroxide (check the expiration date)
- Hydrocortisone ointment
- Scissors
- Eyewash
- Silver nitrate
- Tweezers
- Oral syringes
- Pedialyte® or other balanced electrolyte fluid
- Baby food – meat flavors work best
- Large towel
- Exam gloves
- 1 inch white tape (in addition to gauze tape)
- Rolls of elastic wrap
- Emergency ice pack n

The Benefits of Using Coconut Oil in Your Dog's Diet

by Pam Robbins

For years we have all been told that Coconut oil is a saturated fat and therefore bad for us. As usual with the health community, after years of researching and reviewing common practices it has been found that Virgin (unrefined) Coconut oil is not the culprit the medical community thought it was. We are all now familiar with the "trans-fatty" problem. Well it was trans fats that took the place of coconut oil when the medical community said it was so bad for us. Most people do not know that coconut oil is used in baby formula since it is a medium-chain fatty acid, one of the few saturated fats from a vegetable source. Coconut oil is also used with people in the hospital who have absorption problems. Coconut studies have revealed the following health benefits: reduces the risk of cancer, improves cholesterol levels, improves digestion and nutrient absorption, heals digestive disorders like Crohn's, irri-

table bowel syndrome, colitis, contains antibacterial, antiviral and antifungal agents, prevents and treats yeast infection and fungal infections, helps prevent and treat viral infections, promotes normal thyroid function, helps prevent and control diabetes, rejuvenates skin and protects against skin cancer, acne and age spots, reduces allergic reactions, supplies fewer calories than other fats and burns as energy in the liver.

Impressed? That is just a short list of its benefits. I have been using it in my dog's diet. Simon (English Springer) has had Pyoderma (bacterial infection of the skin). Since he is getting older and had to have bowel surgery years ago (a large portion of your immune system is in the intestines), his immune system has never been very good. He has been on antibiotics and antifungals for almost 4 weeks with 2 more to go. We started adding the coconut oil about 2 weeks ago and have been amazed at how much his coat has changed. He also loves the stuff. When I couldn't get him to eat well, all I had to do is add the coconut oil and he would eat. I started out slow since too much too fast can cause "kill off" if your dog has an infection such as bacterial, fungus, or yeast. It will make the dog feel like they have the flu. I started with just a ¼ tsp a day for a week, then ½ tsp etc. Simon is now taking 2 tsp a day. Oh yes, it will also help expel parasites. The only oil that has all these health benefits is the unrefined Virgin Coconut oil. No processed oil please. I buy mine by the gallon over the internet. By the way, I started using it and have lost 2 lbs in 2 wks. If you would like more information, there are plenty of books on the subject. n

Chronic Ear Problems

by Pam Robbins

Note: I am not a veterinarian. I am only recounting personal experience in this article.

As owners of Shar Pei we all know what it is like to have a dog with chronic ear infections. There are plenty of antibiotic ointments that work to kill bacteria and yeast but they seem to harder and harder to kill. There is a new product out on the market called Zymox. It contains enzymes that "eat" the bacteria. We have been successful using it for our dogs. It does require a vet to dispense it. During my herbal studies, I found out that there is an herb that is great to keep the ears free of yeast and bacterial. Mullein has antimicrobial, antiviral properties and lubricates and soothes. I started using Mullein oil in Freyja's ears and found that we had very little problems with her ears. It is best if you can get the ears infection free to begin with and then once they are clear, the mullein does a great job keeping them infection free. I use Mullein oil in a glycerin tincture. I buy it at



Vitamin Shoppe in a 1 oz bottle. If the dogs do get an ear infection, I add 3 drops of garlic tincture to the mullein oil to clear them. For maintenance I use ½ dropper full 2 times a week. I am including a picture of the oil as an example so you will know what it looks like. I am not promoting Vitamin Shoppe. I do not get any sort of compensation from them. This is just the product that I personally use. n

Pet Obesity

It is estimated that 40% of dogs and cats are obese in the U.S. Why are there so many fat dogs and cats?

Pampering your pet is more popular now than ever. Jeweled collars, canopy beds, complete wardrobes, doggy daycare and gourmet treats are the norm for today's spoiled dogs. All this pampering has led pets to start packing on the pounds.



What's Wrong With Having an Overweight, Spoiled Pet?

Pet obesity is on the rise and spoiled pooches are leading the pack. The unhealthy effects of obesity are similar for people and pets.

Excess weight can lead to an increased risk for diseases like Diabetes; complicate problems like arthritis; and is linked to certain types of cancer – not to mention making them uncomfortable.”

Why Are So Many Pets Spoiled Into Obesity?

Many people barely have enough time for themselves, let alone their pets. This means quality time with pets becomes extremely infrequent. With little time to show your pet how much you love them, special treats become a means of compensation. For others, it may not be a matter of time but of love. For many pet crazy owners, their pets are their kids. They want to pamper their pets with tons of love and special treats. There are tons of gourmet treats available!

Doggy birthday cakes, frosted jumbo bones, and giant jerky treats are some of the extravagant goodies selling out. Although luxury pet treats are becoming bigger and fancier, other alternatives exist for spoiling your pet.

Healthy Ways to Spoil Your Pet

There are healthier ways to spoil you pet that can still show your pet that you love him or her without helping them pack on the pounds. Here are some suggestions:

- Trade up for healthier treats. Fresh baby carrots are a great, low-calorie alternative to fatty biscuits and permit the frequent treat-giving that many dogs have become accustomed to.
- Make them work for it. Interactive toys keep pets busy while rewarding them with small treats throughout the play activity. For already obese pets, using pieces of their regular dog food as treats is helpful.
- Forget the treats and get moving. Increasing play time with your pet can greatly increase calories burned in a day. Spoiling your pet doesn't have to involve food. Playing ball, going for a run or visiting a dog park are fun and healthful ways to interact with your pet.

Changing the trend of spoiled, obese pets requires a change in perception of pampering. It's important to understand that keeping a pet healthy is the best treatment of all. n

Healthy Dog Treat Recipes

Banana Pupcakes

Perfect for doggie Birthday parties!

Ingredients:
2 cups water
2 bananas
1 tsp vanilla
3 cups flour
1 Tbsp baking soda
1 egg
3 Tbsp honey

Instructions:
Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.
Mash bananas add the rest of the ingredients to the mashed bananas.
Mix well.
Pour batter into cupcake pans.
Bake for 20 minutes.

Cheese Cookies

Ingredients:

2 cups flour
1 ¼ cups cheese
1/2 Tbsp vegetable oil
4 to 5 Tbsp water

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 400 Fahrenheit.
Mix all ingredients well.
Bake for 10 minutes. **n**

The History of the Chinese Shar Pei

By Joyce Hanes

The Chinese, one of the oldest civilizations in the world, have detailed their history in pottery, statues and archaeologically in well preserved burial sites.

The Han Dynasty, 202 B.C. – 220 A.D., left statuary which clearly depicts the dog we know of today as the Shar Pei. By the way, there is no plural form in the Chinese language. So Shar Pei is both singular and plural and is properly pronounced sah -pay.

The dog played an important part in China centuries ago. One of the symbols in the Chinese calendar is a dog. Statues that are unmistakably the dog that we know today were found in tombs during the Han period and can be found in museums throughout the world. Initially they were considered the dogs of royalty and used as sacrificial dogs in ceremonial events.

With the advent of Buddhism, this practice, as well as the eating of dogs, was forbidden. The Buddhist credit the dog with having a soul and therefore is essentially no different from man on spiritual grounds. Statues of the dog, then dubbed “the tomb dog” were placed in the tombs to guard and accompany the departed as a pet or “house dog”. Fragments of fabric, pottery and bronze pieces show the dog as playing a close part in Chinese life.

The Neapolitan Mastiff and the Chow figure prominently in the background of the Shar Pei. But inasmuch as the DNA of the Shar Pei is one of the oldest on record, it might indicate that the Shar Pei contributed to other breed backgrounds. During the Roman Empire dogs were brought to China from Europe and later from Portugal. Crossbreeding occurred which helped develop the dogs we have today.

Well preserved bones of dogs found in the western part of China have shown a dog that developed heavy heads, thick

coats, short muzzles, short legs and drop ears. These dog skeletons were well preserved and found in burial pits in desert areas westward throughout China.

The Shar Pei was used for hunting by the royalty and herding by the farmers. Marco Polo wrote of royalty having packs up to 15,000 dogs used for hunting. Farmers used Shar Pei for herding and those not smart enough to help around the farm were culled out (and probably eaten by the farmers who had little access to meat).

They were recognized for the strength and intelligence by the gamblers in southern China and alas were used in fighting. Their coat was developed to be more “bristly”; their skin around the jowls became looser so they could actually turn in their own skin to grab an opponent. Other bigger, stronger breeds were developed and the Shar Pei, as a fighter, fell to the sidelines.

When the Communist came to power in China, Chairman Mao placed a tax on dogs which limited the dog to only the wealthy families. Breeding was almost forbidden and later it was determined that there was no room in a Communist society for dogs and they were systematically destroyed.

In 1971 an article in a magazine noted that the Shar Pei pictured therein was possibly the last surviving specimen of the breed in the world. There were at that time only 17 recorded Shar Pei living in Hong Kong. Using this article as an opening for beginning a rescue operation, Mr. Matgo Law beseeched the United States to open their doors to saving the breed. Mr. Law knew that Hong Kong, which was then ruled by England, was going to revert to The People’s Republic of China in a few years. Mr. Law feared that the SharPei would then become extinct. In 1973 further articles on the Shar Pei brought in hundreds of request from people wanting to save the dog. The rescue of the Shar Pei was so successful that in past years there has been as many as 1,000 registered annually with the AKC which does not included those dogs from “backyard” breeders who are never registered. Of course this success also had it’s downside as now many Shar Pei are in shelters and rescue organizations. Today more Shar Pei are euthanized in the United States each year than existed in the world in 1971.

References and Sources:

Archaeological Canine Discoveries by R. G. Horsnell, Orient Express
The Chinese Shar-Pei by Paul Strang & Eve Olsen
Various periodicals & magazine articles **n**

In our next issue: some personal observations by early Shar Pei owners



The Mid-Atlantic Chinese Shar-Pei Rescue Operation, Inc.

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Application for Membership

Name: _____

Address: _____

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There is still time to renew your dues 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.

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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



Sophie



Chico



Nanjing



Gansu



Savannah



Andy



Adopt me now!