



The Cavalier Chronicle



Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club of Greater Atlanta

Mindee Hill Newsletter Editor barknaty@comcast.net July 2007

JULY CLUB MEETING.....

The CKCSC of Greater Atlanta will hold it's monthly meeting on Tuesday evening, July 10, 2007 at the Steak and Ale on LaVista Road in Tucker. Dr. Jory Olsen, DVM, Diplomat ACVIM and Internal Medicine Specialist will be the guest speaker. Board Meeting will begin at 6:00 pm and the General Meeting will begin at 7:30pm. There will be no handling classes this month! See you there!



From the President...

Hello everyone. I hope you all are having a wonderful summer. I look forward to seeing each of you July 10 at our Club's monthly meeting where we will be hosting Dr Jory Olsen, DVM. Dr Olsen is an Internal Specialist who will speak to the problems he sees in Cavaliers.

The Board had recently met for a 5 hour working meeting. We accomplished a lot. While the Summer sizzles I think everyone would agree that we have a sizzling last half of the year planned. We look forward to offering the membership, what I believe to be, some outstanding programs. These programs will include a Club Picnic and Fun Match, one meeting Dr. Rebecca Kessel DVM, Fertility Specialist will speak, a Hands on Seminar teaching Cavalier Structure, Type and Movement, a Heart, Eye, Micro Chip Clinic, Dr Gil Jacobs, Cardiologist will also address the Club and of course our Specialty Jan 31 2008. The Club will continue with, as soon as the weather cools a little, our handling classes.

Our intent is to offer fun programs in addition to those that educate and instruct. We will be asking for you, the membership, to give us your thoughts and ideas regarding the programs, as well as your support. Watch the newsletter as well as the web site for the dates of all of the different events.

Regards to all,
Pat Lander, President
CKCSC of Greater Atlanta

SNAKES AND DOGS.....Myths and Folk Lore

Never:

- X Try to lacerate the bite
- X Try to suck out/remove the poison
- X Tourniquet the bite
- X Use any sort of electric shock
- X Wrap tobacco or any other leaf on the bite
- X Wrap chicken or any other meat on the bite
- X Bites from poisonous snakes are always fatal.



Snake Bite Facts

Only 25% of snake bites actually inject venom on the first strike.
Out of the remaining percentage only 15-20% of the venom is actually injected.
Out of the 15,000 bites annually that occur only 3% are actually fatal.
When treated with antibiotics only 1% of cases are fatal.
Snake bites are painful, and you should try and keep your pet calm.
There are 2500 types of snakes with only 200 of which are poisonous.

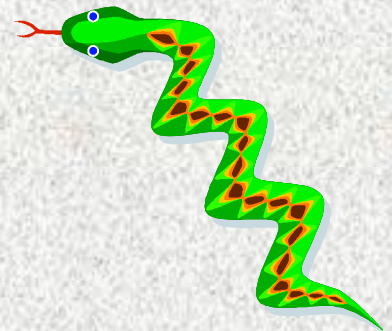
The severity of the bite depends on many factors:

How agitated the snake was, climate/weather, temperature, age and size of the snake,
weight of the snake, whether or not the snake was in defensive posture, the venom capacity of the snake and of course the type of snake.



Antidote

Anti-venoms are not widely used, for one reason they only have a 18 month shelf life,
also humans are first priority on the list, so obtaining it may be difficult. It is also
expensive for the hospital to stock. The anti-venom costs around \$100 a vial
and
a typical dosage for a dog is two vials. Additionally there is a 10% chance that
your pet could have an allergic reaction to the anti-venom which could be fatal.



What To Do

DO NOT give your dog ANY pain killers, do *not* apply any benzocaine, lanacaine,
hydrocortisone, steroid creams or anything else that might interfere with the proper treatment.
Always tell the veterinarian what you have done to the dog exactly as not to overdose your dog!

1. If possible identify the bite, if it appears triangular then it is likely poisonous;
however since you are not likely a herpetologist then assume that it is poisonous.
Try and keep the animal still and the bite below the heart.

NOTE: Because of the unique agents in the snakes venom, ice packs will keep the animals natural mechanisms from working as well. So DO NOT use them.

2. Check your dogs breathing and check for signs of shock. Some snakes/venoms cause severe shock and can quickly spread and become fatal. If your dog has quit breathing, use assisted breathing techniques (CPR minus the heart massage.)



3. If the bite wound is dirty from mud or dirt, wash with soap and water.

Apply a compression bandage DO NOT cut off the circulation to the bite. It should be just tight enough to slow/stop the spreading of the venom. If no bandages are available forge a makeshift one out of a long strip of cloth. *Keep the animal from walking around or getting too upset.*

NOTE: *If you live in an area with scorpions and believe it not to be a snake bite, but rather a sting- follow step four ONLY.*

4. Obtain some benadryl, and YES you can use the generic found at most super market chains. If your dog is a small dog only use 10mg if your dog is larger use 25mg. If the medicine doesn't include Diphenhydramine then it isn't as good as benadryl! This will sedate your dog and they will likely want to sleep, which after you follow all steps is perfectly fine, just make sure they don't stop breathing. **NOTE:** *If you have identified the snake to be non-poisonous, make sure you get your dog inoculated against tetanus.*

5. Administer an antibiotic, this part is particularly risky as far as dosage is concerned, you can give them Penicillin or Amoxicillin. This is extremely important as swelling will NOT reduce without an antibiotic. That is all the steps you can really take.

In Conclusion

From here out it is a waiting game, the first eight hours being the most critical. Remember to stay calm yourself, as if you can make it to the animal hospital you should not endanger yourself, your sick passenger and other drivers on the road. Remember most police won't consider your sick animal a necessary emergency to do 100MPH.

It's been my experience that it runs around \$118 for a vet bill, to treat a snake bite and \$300-400 for treatment with an anti-venom. But if you love your pet this will be a bargain to keep them around.

Please feel free to cut and paste this article, email it to your friends, post it to the newsgroups and print it out and stick in your glove compartment. This could save your pets life or someone else's. Don't go on a camping trip without this article

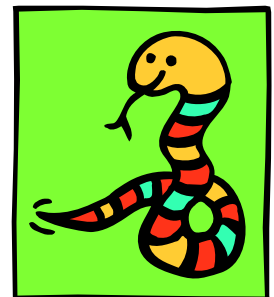
We run a Boarding Kennel so have to be aware of all the options, and have had clients dogs treated for snake-bite but thankfully not whilst boarding with us, they have called us up in a panic not knowing what to do...

BUT, THE MAIN THING TO DO IS, GET YOUR DOG TO THE VETERINARIAN ASAP ..

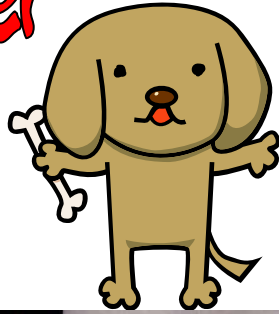
THIS GUIDE IS FOR EMERGENCY, ONLY IF YOU CANNOT GET YOUR DOG TO A VET IMMEDIATELY ...

WE ARE NOT VETERINARIANS SO THE ADVICE ABOVE IS GIVEN AS A GUIDELINE ONLY.

Akh-Anubis Hounds of Antiquity Posted via e-mail to the Kennesaw Kennel Club



Members' corner



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