

July 2012



Presidents Message

I hope everyone is enjoying the cooler weather. The heat in June was almost unbearable.

In our last newsletter, I stated that we were trying to get AKC to let us have concurrent shows on Friday and Saturday. Well, I found out that this cannot happen. AKC will only let you have a concurrent show all on the same day. Since we are having a foreign judge, we decided we did not want to be limited to just 100 entries, which is one of the rules for a concurrent show. This number includes sweepstakes and juniors. So we have decided that we will keep our Thursday date, January 31, 2013 and Griffin, the all breed show that took our date, will not have a cavalier entry.

Our judge for the 2013 show will be Sandra Ireland, Charnell Cavaliers, from England. Our Sweepstakes and Junior Handling will be Warren (Wally) Rice. I am sure that most of you know Wally and Carol, they both handle Cavaliers and other small breeds.

In the next couple months, we will be calling on you to step up to the plate and volunteer for positions, help or just to contribute to our trophy fund or the Auction. So stay tuned for that.

Our Program Chair, Sue Bess, is working hard to set up a program for our August meeting. So let all keep watch on our e-mails for that announcement. Our August meeting is August 7th. I look forward to seeing you there.

Alice Alford, President

NEW CAVALIER HEALTH SURVEY - PLEASE HELP! Super easy!

Many of you are aware of the recent request for DNA samples from us. This was in conjunction with the Van Andel Research Institute's project on early onset deafness in Cavaliers. The purpose of our request was to determine if there was enough interest for the research lab to pursue genetic based studies for other diseases affecting our Cavaliers, such as Syringomyelia, Mitral Valve Disease and Epilepsy. We're thrilled to announce that there was a terrific response.

Dr. Mark Neff, Ph.D, is the Director of the Program for Canine Health and Performance at the Van Andel Research Institute in Michigan.

New emerging technologies can now be applied in Dr. Neff's laboratory to help rapidly identify genetic markers associated with disease. This is a unique opportunity for our breed to benefit directly by collecting information and DNA samples from as many dogs as possible. The more information received -- and the more diseases that can be studied at one time (using new multipurpose platforms) will allow researchers to cost effectively investigate and advance research for Cavaliers!!

This is a unique opportunity -- if the lab can receive enough responses from Cavalier owners -- our breed may be the next breed studied in depth at no initial cost to us!

Please fill out the short 2 MINUTE, CONFIDENTIAL, online survey at: <http://projectdog.org/4c1e9daea834b53efb3da68cac960d2d>

ALL CAVALIERS ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE! EVERYONE CAN HELP!

This quick, simple, short survey has been developed for us to enter information about our Cavaliers. Both healthy controls (Cavaliers who do not have SM or MVD) and affected Cavaliers are being sought. The survey will be active for ONLY 3 weeks. The researchers are hoping to collect information from a broad spectrum of Cavaliers, so please fill the survey out as soon as possible. Your participation will allow us to stay involved in cutting edge research! At the end of the survey you will have an option to request a free DNA kit which can be mailed to your home if you would like to participate further.

PLEASE ENROLL YOUR CAVALIER NOW!

Thank you



Great Bathing Tip

Last night I was talking with our club president Alice Alford. I told Alice that I had just bathed 6 dogs and felt as though I had been run over by a truck. She asked if I bathe them in the tub, which I do. I would love to have a large dog tub but do not have an area where it could be installed. She gave me the greatest tip.....one of those “why didn’t I think of that?” She told me that a small laundry sink will fit right into your tub or shower. All you have to do is set it in the tub or shower and then when you are finished with bathing the dogs put it away. With a hand held shower attachment it is the perfect way to wash your dog. No plumbing need-

ed.....the water will simply drain right into the tub or shower. I am on my way to Lowe's this morning to get one. No more kneeling on the tile floor, no more bending over into the tub, no more dreading bath time. Thank you Alice for such a wonderful tip. Mark Fitchpatrick

I just returned from Lowe's. The one I bought was only \$53!!!! It is listed as a utility sink. It does not have any holes for faucet, etc.....only a drain hole. The ones with drilled holes for faucet were much more expensive. The one I bought had legs that come on and off, so very easy to store away when not in use. It will be a God send.....my back and knees will be most grateful! Mark



Chef's Corner

Bad Breath Banishers

2 Cups Brown Rice Flour

1 Tablespoon Activated Charcoal (find in drug stores not briquettes!)

3 Tablespoons Canola Oil

1 Egg

1/2 Cup Chopped Fresh Mint

1/2 Cup Chopped Fresh Parsley

2/3 Cup Low-fat Milk

Pre heat oven to 400F. Lightly oil a cookie sheet.

Combine Flour and Charcoal. Add all the other ingredients. Drop teaspoonful's on oiled sheet, about 1 inch apart. Bake 15-20 minutes. Store in airtight container in the refrigerator.



Dog Fancy's October 2012 Issue Featuring the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

Dog Fancy Magazine will be featuring the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel in our upcoming October 2012 issue. Not only will this breed be our Front Cover Breed but there will also be 4-6 pages of information, articles and photos devoted to the breed. We will have a full comprehensive article including history, companionship, grooming needs, health issues, personality profile, training needs, unique characteristics, etc.



Look At Us!!!!

Champion Ivylane Jacob at Pied Piper celebrated his 13th birthday on July 12. Jacob is still heart clear which is amazing at his age. Also his litter mate Sammy is also still going strong,
This may be rare for 2 litter mates to live so long and be so cute.



We have a couple of cute photos for you of our pups at the tennis courts!

Thanks, Jan Schmidt

Snakebites from Pit Vipers (rattlesnakes, water moccasins and copperheads)

OVERVIEW

Bites by poisonous snakes, also referred to as snake envenomization, affect over 150,000 dogs and cats per year in North America. In the United States, there are two primary families of venomous snakes, Crotalidae and Elapidae. The southwestern and south-eastern United States have a greater incidence of snakebites due to a higher population of venomous snakes.

Crotalidae is the most prevalent family of poisonous snakes in the United States. These include rattlesnakes, water moccasins and copperheads. These snakes have broad triangular heads with elliptical pupils, prominent curving fangs and a deep pit located between the nostril and the eye. For this reason they are commonly called "pit vipers". It is believed that pit viper account for approximately 99% of all venomous snake bites to pets.

Even though a venomous snake may have bitten your pet, not all bites contain venom. In fact, less than half of all snakebites result in signs associated with envenomation. The risk of snakebite toxicity is based on the type of snake, the size of the animal bitten and the amount of venom injected in the bite. The type, effect and amount of venom can vary with the age and type of snake and can even vary within families of snakes.

Pit viper venom is not yet fully understood and the toxicity of the venom varies from species to species. For example, copperhead venom is much less toxic than rattlesnake venom.

Most snakebites occur in large breed primarily outdoor dogs with the majority of bites located on the legs or head, especially the muzzle. Most bites occur during the spring and summer seasons. It is estimated that 90% of bites occur between April and mid October. Bites from these snakes are generally the result of aggressive or curious actions while playing in snake-infested areas.

WHAT TO WATCH FOR

A common scenario is a pet that is in the woods, near a thick grassed area or by a wood pile that suddenly cries out after which you notice a swelling on the legs or muzzle.

Other signs include:

Rapid swelling at the site of the bite	Rapid breathing
Intense pain	Dilated pupils
Oozing blood	Pale gums
Fang marks (can be difficult to identify in some animals)	Weakness
Drooling	Collapse

Tissue swelling is often worse 24 to 48 hours after the bite. Wound may drain and bleed for several days. Most snake bites require veterinary care.

DIAGNOSIS

Diagnosis is based on physical exam finding supportive of a recent venomous snake bite as well as the potential exposure to venomous snakes.

Blood work may be done to evaluate coagulation times on a blood sample taken from an affected animal. Prolonged clotting times can indicate exposure to pit viper venom.

TREATMENT

With rapid treatment, most pets with Crotalidae snakebites recover. Treatment varies depending on which species of snake was responsible for the bite as well as the signs of toxicity displayed by the pet.

Antivenin (polyvalent Crotalidae) is available and recommended for rattlesnake bites. Antivenin is a product created from antibodies produced by an animal purposely exposed to snake venom. It helps to counteract the venom in the pets system. It is a human product and availability may be limited in certain geographic areas. It can also be very expensive (\$300 to \$400 per vial with each pet needing 1 to 3 vials) and may cause allergic reactions in some pets. For this reason, pets are hospitalized and closely monitored.

For copperhead bites, antivenin is generally not recommended and rarely needed.

Diphenhydramine is typically given to reduce some signs of allergic reaction associated with the snakebite.

If the bite occurs in the area of the throat, airway support may be needed, including a temporary tracheotomy or ventilator.

Hospitalization with continuous intravenous fluids may be recommended in severe cases.

Treatment for pain and infection is also important.



Copperhead Rattle Snake

HOME CARE

After a venomous snakebite, **DO NOT** use a tourniquet. This will affect the circulation to the area significantly and may result in serious tissue damage.

Do not try to suck the venom out of the bite. Human saliva contains many bacteria and may result in severe infection.

The most helpful and important thing to do is to limit your pet's activity severely after the snakebite. The quieter and calmer he/she is, the less effect the venom will have.

Rapid treatment by a veterinarian is also strongly recommended.

After treatment for Crotalidae snakebite, you may notice oozing from the bite site for several days. The swelling in the area of the bite may take up to a week to subside.

PROGNOSIS

The prognosis in a pet with a pit viper bite is generally good with prompt treatment. Copperheads are the least toxic and generally require time for skin wound healing but are not fatal.

PREVENTATIVE CARE

The best way to prevent Crotalidae snakebites is to restrict access to Crotalidae infested areas. Snakes prefer to live in quiet and dark areas and woodpiles are popular nesting sites.

If a venomous snake bites your pet, it is unlikely that he will learn from the experience and he probably won't voluntarily avoid snakes in the future. Future venomous snakebites may result in much more severe toxic signs and might even result in death.

LEGAL DISCLAIMER

If your pet is showing any signs of distress or you suspect your pet is seriously ill, **CONTACT YOUR VETERINARIAN** immediately.



Venomous Water Moccasins have bodies that are **VERY** thick and heavy for their length, and short, thick tails. A harmless snake the same length would be much more slender and would have a much longer, thinner tail.



Diamondback Rattle Snake

Meet the Breed

What: Chattapoochie Pet Fest

Where: Chattapoochie Dog Park, 4291 Rodgers Bridge Road, Duluth GA

Date: Sunday, October 2, 2012

Time: 10am to 5pm for visitors, 8 to breakdown for vendors

Needs:

1 10x10 tent

2 -3 tables (preferably 5-6 ft tables) to set up literature and poster boards

1 cooler with ice and water (for dogs and people) Bring your own chairs to sit on

Bag of non chocolate candy for kids to give out at the tent

A photographer to take pics so we can submit pictures to the AKC RDO wrap up for the AKC Website and also use for our newsletter.

We will need people to bring and set up the tent in the morning and also someone to take down the tent and pack up after the event.

We will need folks to bring cavaliers, preferably all colors, for people to pet. If you plan on only staying an hour or so, then please let us know so we can make a schedule to ensure we have enough cavaliers to cover the entire length of the event. Just let us know the times you could be available and we would then schedule you and your cavalier. Also please let us know if you plan to stay throughout the event and the number of cavaliers that are staying. If you are staying and bringing puppies you will need to bring an xpen for them. Please be ready to answer any questions folks may have about our breed and our club.

We will notify the AKC about the event and they will send some literature about RDO days (this will be a Responsible Dog Owner Day event for us also).

Next Month's Meeting.....

We are looking forward to a wonderful meeting and program Tuesday, August 7. The board meeting will begin at 6:00 with social hour beginning at 7:00 followed by our general meeting/dinner at 7:30. As always members are invited to attend the board meeting. The August meeting will be held at Northlake Holiday Inn, 2158 Ranch-

wood Dr, Atlanta, 30345. The phone number for Holiday Inn is 770-934-6000.

Gail LaBerge from the Georgia Canine Coalition will discuss the current legislative and regulatory environment, and speak to the proposed USDA regulation changes. Gail last spoke to us in Augusta of 2009, and always provides a well thought out point of view and actionable insights.

With the comment period extended to August 15, 2012, on proposed USDA/APHIS regulations regarding the "Retail Pet Stores and Licensing Exemptions", this is a not-to-miss opportunity to hear from the experts. The AKC believes that the USDA's "one size fits all" regulations are not in the best interest of all dogs, responsible breeders, or puppy buyers. Read more at http://www.akc.org/news/index.cfm?article_id=4697 and plan to attend the August CKCSCGA meeting.

Saving your pet with CPR

With pets increasingly being treated like a member of the family, many owners are learning emergency techniques like CPR to keep their pet alive before bringing it to a veterinarian.

If there is no breathing and no pulse, begin CPR immediately.



Check for breathing and pulse
Check pulse using middle and index finger below the wrist, inner thigh (femoral artery), below the ankle or where left elbow touches the chest.



Look for other warning signs

- Gums and lips will appear gray-colored.
- Pupils will be dilated and not responsive to light.



Gums

Pupils



If not breathing, give breath to animal

Cats and small dogs
Place your mouth over its nose and mouth to blow air in.

Medium-large dogs
Place your mouth over its nose to blow air in.

Heimlich maneuver

If breath won't go in, airway may be blocked. Turn dog upside down, with its back against your chest. Wrap your arms around the dog and clasp your hands together just below its rib cage (since you're holding the dog upside down, it's above the rib cage, in the abdomen). Using both arms, give five sharp thrusts to the abdomen. Then check its mouth or airway for the object. If you see it, remove it and give two more rescue breaths.

Start compressions if no pulse

Lay animal on right side and place hand over ribs where its elbow touches the chest. Begin compressions. Do not give compressions if dog has pulse.

Animal size	Compress chest	Compressions per breath of air
Cat/small dog (Under 30 lbs.)	1/2-1 inch	5
Medium-large dog (30-90 lbs.)	1-3 inches	5
Giant dog (over 90 lbs.)	1-3 inches	10

Repeat procedure

- Check pulse after 1 minute and then every few minutes.
- Continue giving CPR until the animal has a pulse and is breathing.
- Stop CPR after 20 minutes.