



Howls & Growls

Nov - 2017

EDITOR'S CORNER

Reminder:

Club Christmas Party

Saturday, December 9th at 3:30

Chris and Mike's home in North Tustin

Optional gift exchange participation - value ~\$20

We hope you will join us!

And one more thing. During the holidays, when so many of us have friends and family visiting our "dog homes", keep in mind there may be some "little" (and big) folks who may want to "feed" the dogs. Please help ensure your dogs stay out of the veterinary clinic by making certain they are not given excessive "treats". Keep chocolate, onions, avocado, alcohol, unbaked bread dough, sugar and sugar substitutes, raisins and grapes away from the dogs.

-Chris Weimer, Editor



VICE PRESIDENT

Sherri Taylor

I truly appreciated everyone's cooperation in gathering together for the Special Meeting during our Specialty to vote the Conference Call option into our By-Laws. The Club's first Conference Call Meeting was in September and seemed to be a great success. The second one was October 24th. Each meeting took less than an hour to conduct the Club's business with ease. My hope and dream is that the rest of our membership will begin taking advantage of this new option and make a little effort to join in on future Conference Call Meetings.

In the very busy lives that we all have, let's try to remember our Club's purpose and how dedicated this club is to the Alaskan Malamute breed through all the

events we plan and hold for education, showing, working and enjoying our Mals together!

Don't forget the Club Christmas Party will be held at Chris and Mike's house in North Tustin on Saturday, December 9th at 3:30. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, the value should be about \$20.

Thank you all for your time and contributions,

-Sherri Taylor, V.P.



SCAMC Officers & Committee Positions for 2017 - 2018

President:	Steve Starks
Vice-President:	Sherri Taylor
Treasurer:	Chris Weimer
Secretary:	Patricia Starks
Membership:	Tina Dunn
Working Director:	Mike Wheaton
Ways & Means:	Karen Ulfig
Education:	Sue Carnall
Rescue Coordinator:	Tina Dunn
Newsletter Editor:	Chris Weimer
Pet Expo Coordinator:	Tina Dunn



SECRETARY

Patty Starks

Meeting Minutes
10/24/17, Tuesday, 7:00 PM
Invitees: Club Members

Board Members
President (& Meeting Facilitator) Steve Starks
Vice President (& Meeting Coordinator) Sherri Taylor

Treasurer (& News Editor) Chris Weimer
Secretary (& Specialty Show Chair) Patricia Starks
Membership Director (& Rescue & Pet Expo Coordinator) Tina Dunn
Working Director Mike Wheaton
Ways and Means Director (& Bark in the Park Coordinator) Karen Ulfig
AKC Liaison (& Education Coordinator) Sue Maranto

Attendees: Steve & Patricia Starks, Sherri Taylor, Chris Weimer, Gloria Toussaint, Mike & Diane Wheaton

Called to order at 7:05 PM

Board Reports:

- Treasurer's Report: on file
- Secretary's Report
- No mail. I gave bank statements to Chris at Bark in the Park.
- Working Report
 - We need a trailer cleaning party. The spare tire needs to be replaced and we need a tire rotation.
 - Weight pulls will be coordinated/planned with Nicole.
 - Will make inquiry re: location of Club's seco cart
- Review and approval of last Minutes. Gloria Toussaint moved to accept Minutes as they are. Sherri Taylor seconded.

-Open Issues & Old Business

- Specialty Report: July Specialty 'bombed'
- Bark in the Park: Successful, earning ~\$500 for the Club, the glitter idea was a big success and Chris and Mike paid for the new booth advertising banners. They were awesome!!! Thank you Chris and Mike. *Gloria suggested we check into Vista Print for future print needs as they offer great coupons.
- Sherri Taylor made a motion to adjourn. Gloria Toussaint seconded.

lives too! A few things should be noted about our board members.

1. Chris Weimer is our Treasurer and Newsletter Editor and yet she also helps me with some Show Chair work. Chris and Mike also help with the Club's booth at Bark in the Park and assist Tina with the booth at Pet Expo.
2. Karen Ulfig is in charge of the Club's booth at Bark in the Park's two-day event in Lancaster. She is also the chair for Ways and Means and she runs our raffle!
3. Sherri is our Vice President. She runs and maintains the club's web site. Sherri is the host for our electronic communications program. She found a way for all members to get together and it doesn't cost any money! And she sets up and maintains our Calendar.
4. Tina handles Membership and Rescue for our area and club, in addition to coordinating the booth for the 3 day event at Pet Expo in Costa Mesa. (Another board member doing multiple jobs!!!)
5. Mike Wheaton takes care of working events, which includes ensuring the Club's trailer and equipment is properly maintained. He also attends all club events with Diane and works at them.
6. Sue is our AKC Liaison and nobody wants that job! Her poor brain. She also handles the educational information and sends it to all members. Almost done!
7. I have not forgotten my faithful husband who is our President, Steve. Anyone may call him at any time for any reason and he will help you. He believes in our club.
8. I have a couple of jobs as well. I am Club Secretary and Show Chair. My challenges have increased and I'm still willing to do the work.

As a member of our club, I would hope you would want our club to shine. I would hope you would want to help keep our club alive. Please support the meetings and the events in any way you can. You would be greatly appreciated. Spread the word to Malamute people that SCAMC is here to stay!

-Patty Starks, Secretary

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**A Show Chair's Look Back**

As time has gone by, I have learned so much about dog shows, dog clubs and the ever changing rules of AKC. I have been a member of our club since 1980. I have seen our club at its prime when our shows had at least 120 dogs at our Specialty. I started writing letters to AKC and whatever club we were working with, to hold weight pulls. We finally were able to hold weight pulls at our shows, under special events. We fought hard for this privilege. We dotted all our i's and crossed all our t's. All of it was worth it, back then. I had the support of all the club members. Times have changed in many ways. First of all, AKC is not always easy to communicate with. The All-Breed Clubs are so busy trying to see who they can exchange favors with, that it is not easy to communicate with them. Many members of clubs don't get back to you in a timely manner. Our club members, (yes, you guys) have forgotten that our club runs better with member support. We need more than our faithful board, (and spouses) to run this club. You all do realize that we have



## WAYS & MEANS

**Karen Ulfig**

It was another successful fund raising event for the Club at Lancaster's, Bark at the Park the weekend of October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Steve and Patty Starks, Sherri Taylor, Mike Trcka, Chris Weimer, Diane and Mike Wheaton and I helped dogs and kids and their parents paint some phenomenal masterpieces. Patty and Steve brought along a jar of multi-colored glitter to add a bit of sparkle to the paintings. Especially the little children delighted in seeing their paintings brightened with the colorful addition. See the pictures at the end of the newsletter!

-Karen Ulfig, Ways & Means



## WORKING

*Fram Nichole Royer*

I don't have any exciting brags or much story to tell from this last year. We just did what we always do. But here are some pictures\* for the newsletter if you can use them. And if you could, add an invite. We run the dog teams up in the Antelope Valley whenever the weather is conducive. If anyone would like to come try out the sport, I have extra harnesses, scooters, etc and am always willing to lend a hand to anyone starting out.

Ed. \*The pictures are at the end of the newsletter



## EDUCATION

**Sue Carnall**

**By Dr. Becker**

As a dog parent, you know that each change of season comes with a list of potential hazards for furry family members. With autumn upon us and winter on the way, it's time for a refresher on some of the potential hazards presented by the change of seasons from warmer to cooler weather. Consumer Affairs lists five "doggy dangers of fall."<sup>1</sup>

### 5 Fall Dangers for Dogs

#### 1. Snakes

Snakes preparing for hibernation during the winter months may be more visible in the fall, which can increase your dog's risk of being bitten. Fortunately, most snakes in the U.S. aren't poisonous, but even a non-venomous snakebite can be dangerous for pets. Tips to keep your dog safe:

- If you see a snake, don't walk by it; turn around and head back the way you came
- Be aware that snakes can strike across a distance equal to about half their body length
- Clean up any spilled food, fruit or birdseed, which can attract rodents, one of snakes' favorite foods, to your yard
- Steer clear of long grasses, bushes and rocks
- Clear away snake hiding spots in your yard by removing toys, tools and undergrowth
- Keep walkways clear of brush, flowers and shrubs
- When walking your dog, keep him on a leash
- Familiarize yourself with common snakes in your area, including those that are venomous

## 2. Mushrooms

Thankfully, 99 percent of mushrooms present little or no problem for pets or people, however, the remaining 1 percent can be fatal for most mammals if ingested. And to make matters worse, very few people can tell the difference between a toxic mushroom and a safe one.

Since dogs typically come across wild mushrooms during walks and other outdoor activities, especially if you live in a region with lots of moisture, it's important to take extra care to keep pets away from areas where mushrooms might be sprouting. Dogs tend to be attracted to two deadly mushroom species: Amanita phalloides and Inocybe. Both varieties have a fishy odor, which may be the lure.

*Amanita halloides*



*Inocybe*



The Amanita muscaria and Amanita pantherina varieties of mushroom also have a fishy odor, and are also frequently eaten by dogs.

*Amanita muscaria*



*Amanita pantherina*



They contain the toxic compounds ibotenic acid and muscimol, which in rare instances can cause death in dogs. The Inocybe and Clitocybe mushrooms contain a compound called muscarine that can be lethal to dogs. Since muscarine doesn't seem to be a problem for humans, it's assumed dogs must be uniquely sensitive to it.

*Amanita muscaria*



Some Scleroderma mushroom species are also toxic to dogs, but the poisonous substance hasn't yet been identified.

*Scleroderma*



To ensure your dog isn't tempted, mushrooms in yards (yours and your neighbors') should be removed promptly before neighborhood pets have a chance to notice them. As a general rule, veterinarians and pet poison experts consider all mushroom ingestions in pets toxic unless a quick and accurate identification of the mushroom can be made.

If you know or suspect your dog has eaten a mushroom, immediately contact your veterinarian, the nearest emergency animal clinic or the 24/7 Pet Poison Helpline at 855-764-7661. If your pet throws up or poops, collect a sample, place it in a plastic bag and bring it with you.

### 3. Rodent poison

Once the weather turns cool, rats and other rodents start looking for shelter and warmth in and under buildings, and in response, people start putting out rodenticides that are unfortunately highly toxic to pets. Every fall, I see several pets that have been poisoned.

Homeowners put out bait to control the mice and rats, assuming their pet won't or can't get into it. Even people who hide the bait around their homes can wind up with a poisoned dog. Tips for protecting your pet from rodent bait toxicity:

- If you have rodents around your home, I recommend a live trap called the Havahart®, which is a humane trap that catches mice, rats and other rodents so you can remove them from your home without using toxins or poisoning your environment.
- If you must use a bait trap with a killing agent, select a product that contains an active ingredient other than deadly bromethalin. For example, diphacinone and chlorphacinone are short-acting anticoagulants, and most veterinarians will be familiar with standard methods of diagnosis and treatment. But again, I don't advocate using these products if at all possible.

- Supervise your dog when she's outside to insure she never has a chance to consume rodents or rodent bait around your home or neighborhood.

Needless to say, if you suspect your pet has ingested any type of rodenticide, get her to your veterinarian or the nearest emergency animal hospital right away, and if possible, bring a sample of the product she consumed so the vet staff knows what type of poison they're dealing with.

#### 4.Engine coolants

Another substance people use in the colder months of the year that is highly toxic to pets is antifreeze. Fortunately, antifreeze poisoning can be easily avoided by following a few simple safety tips:

- Look for antifreeze products containing the safer propylene glycol rather than highly toxic ethylene glycol
- Keep antifreeze containers tightly closed and stored out of reach of your pets
- Dispose of empty or used antifreeze containers properly
- Be careful not to spill antifreeze, and if you do, clean it up immediately; check your car radiator regularly and repair leaks right away
- Don't let your pet roam unsupervised where he may have access to antifreeze

Fortunately, U.S. manufacturers of antifreeze and engine coolants have begun to add bittering agents (e.g., denatonium benzoate) to their products to discourage pets, children and wildlife from sampling the sweet-tasting liquid.

#### 5.School supplies

Another risk the change of seasons from summer to fall presents for pets is, believe it or not, back-to-school supplies. For example, if you've indulged your kids with fruit-scented pencils and erasers, they can attract your dog like a moth to a flame. Common school supplies that present a potential choking hazard for pets include: erasers, crayons, glue sticks/bottled glue, coins, action figures/small dolls, bouncy balls, markers, pencils (small splinters can get lodged in the mouth and esophagus), Pens (watch out especially for pen caps), and paperclips.

While these items are considered "low toxicity" to pets, there is the potential for GI upset and even a blockage, so be sure the kiddos keep their school supplies out of reach of four-legged family members.

#### Unwanted Virus, Parvo, Kennel Cough etc.

Owners can do more according to Pathogend of Georgia. They are the experts in cleaning and

disinfecting of kennels and the places where puppies are whelped. How big is the problem? In June, the absentee rate for all dog shows was 38% and for all of 2016 it was only 17%. According to Dr. Merry Fitzgerald DVM, there is a high risk for the spread of the influenza virus (H3N2 CIV), kennel cough and Parvo, which means that owners must be especially careful. Dog shows, dog parks, training classes, boarding kennels and grooming parlors are all considered high risk because a coughing dog can generate virus-containing airborne sprays that travel 20 feet. Judges are being asked to clean their hands when judging and to have exhibitors show the teeth. Some owners have tried vaccines; others have tried a hospital-grade product available through Pathogend of Georgia. It can be used in the routine cleaning of kennels and places where dogs and pups are kept. I use it and I know of several handlers who use it with good results. To learn more visit: Pathogend of Georgia.

Steps Pathogend recommends for cleaning:

1. Remove dogs, toys, bedding etc.
2. Wash kennels and affected areas with good detergent
3. Scrub right to left and top to bottom, rinse – let dry
4. Apply Pathogend product with home pump, use cone spray nozzle, dwell time - three minutes
5. Let dry
6. Return dogs to area
7. Repeat weekly for best results

By **SHEILA GOFFE**

September 1, 2017 at 3:00 pm

If a wrong-headed Assembly proposal passes the state Senate and is signed into law, Californians will surrender the freedom to select the pet of their choice.

Hard to believe, but you read that correctly. Under the proposal, the state would step in and prevent you from choosing a purebred puppy if you wanted to buy a pet through a retail pet store that is subject to federal animal welfare regulations and California's consumer protection laws.

This might not have been a big deal years ago, because you could find a local breeder with relative ease. But tough local limit laws, restrictions on owning dogs that have not been spayed or neutered and even anti-breeder extremism have discouraged small, local hobby breeders. For many people, especially those who don't have access to small, private breeders, professionally-bred pets are their only option to get a pet of their choice.

At issue is Assembly Bill 485, which would eliminate the sale of dogs, cats and rabbits sourced from professional breeders in all pet shops throughout the state. Instead, pet shops would be forced to sell only those animals obtained through shelters or so-called rescues.

The federal animal welfare act currently regulates the breeding, care, conditions and other standards of welfare for professionally-bred pets sold at pet stores. By contrast, pets that are labeled as "rescue" or "shelter" are not subject to the same requirements.

AB485 effectively takes away the most regulated, health-tested and temperament-checked sources of pets on the market and promotes pets from sources that lack this regulation and oversight. Less oversight on sourcing also potentially increases public health risks for the entire community.

The proposed law subsidizes the import and sale of pets from random and unregulated sources, while taxing sellers and buyers of pets that come from regulated, humane sources.

The measure is akin to forcing someone to buy a pre-owned car with only vague knowledge of the make and even less knowledge about its history, whether it's reliable and suits their lifestyle.

Backers of the bill believe their activism would benefit the ever-rising population of dogs in shelters and rescues. But in actuality, they would exacerbate a growing problem.

Selling only shelter or rescue dogs creates a perverse incentive to import greater numbers of street dogs and dogs of unknown origins for U.S. retail rescues. In fact, the U.S. already has become a dumping ground for foreign "puppy mill" and rescue dogs, importing close to 1 million rescue dogs annually from Turkey, several countries in the Middle East and as far away as China and Korea, according to the National Animal Interest Alliance.

It's a crap shoot whether these foreign street dogs Californians may be adopting are carrying serious diseases. That's because while importation laws require all dogs to be examined by a licensed veterinarian, foreign paperwork is commonly invalid or forged, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The issue is particularly concerning because dogs from other countries are not subject to the health and welfare laws of professionally-bred U.S. dogs. A number of rescue imports have been linked to new outbreaks of serious and infectious canine diseases including rabies, bordatella and most recently, canine flu in Los Angeles County.

Even setting aside the potential health issues and the problem of making the U.S. a magnet for the world's strays and sick animals, a rescue pet is not appropriate for everyone. Many have special needs that may not fit into the owner's lifestyle or care abilities. People select purpose-bred dogs because they want a specific type of pet. They may be seeking the predictability of a purebred puppy from known and health/temperament-tested

parents or the consumer protections provided by state law over dog breeders.

If animal activists truly want to help dogs in need, they should, first, encourage responsible local and breed-club charitable rescues, while pushing to regulate importers, distributors and retailers of "rescue" pets at the same high standard that purpose-bred pets are regulated.

Second, activists should focus on boosting oversight of rescues and shelters. Despite the increasing popularity of pets marketed as "rescues," there is almost no regulation of animals that are labeled as rescues.

The decision to acquire an appropriate pet is a deeply personal choice. It should be made by the individual — not restricted by government fiat promoted by extremists who seek the end of responsible dog breeding.

*Sheila Goffe is vice president, government relations for the American Kennel Club.*

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From Sherri Taylor

This was a worthwhile FB post/article from Suzanne D. Sarlls-Hartwell, Otter Lake, Michigan (I posted on SCAMC'S FB page as well):

Here are photos that demonstrate exactly how well a double coat is designed to keep the dog not only warm, BUT COOL! This is Monk. He is an 8 yr old Siberian Husky. He has a double coat. On the day these images were taken it was very warm outside. He has not yet "blown coat." His double coat is fully intact.

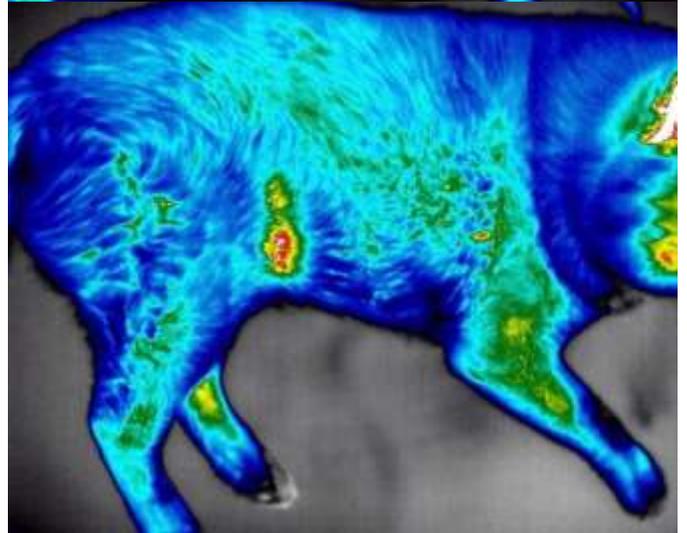
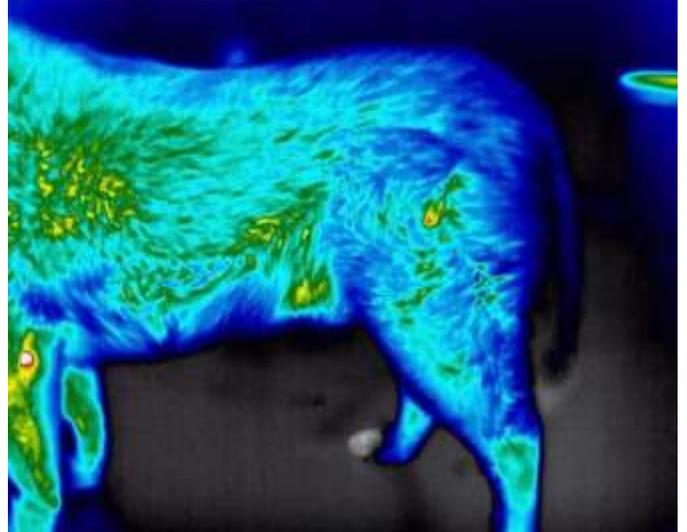
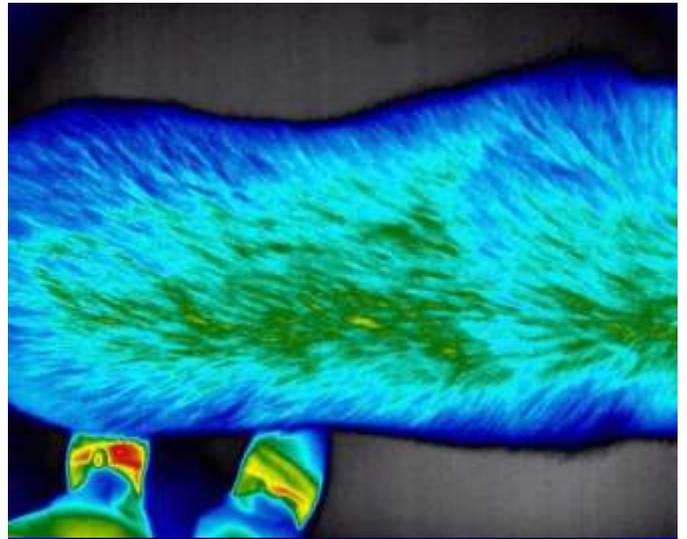
The images demonstrate how cool his internal temperature is due to that double coat.

When you shave the double coat, you remove the dog's protection from heat and cold, exposing them to the elements.

Each thermal image is shown with the actual image.

I URGE YOU...PLEASE DO NOT SHAVE YOUR DOUBLE COATED DOGS. IT IS NOT HEALTHY FOR THEM!

These photos are courtesy Dr. Degner and Animal Surgical Center of Michigan.



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## Are Rawhide Chews Dangerous for Your Dog? Katie Finlay | October 04, 2017

When it comes to choosing the right dog chews, the options are seemingly limitless. You've likely heard that rawhide chews are particularly bad for dogs, filled with awful chemicals and waiting to be lodged into your pup's intestine. But is this really the case? Are rawhide chews safe for dogs, or are they delicious death traps? Many dogs love rawhides. They are great long-lasting chews that keep puppies and dogs busy, are a tasty snack, and even help clean teeth and promote oral health. The short answer to their safety however, is "it depends." Well, what does it depend on? It turns out the safety of any rawhide depends on several factors, and we'll go over these below.

### Your Dog's Chewing Style

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It should be no secret that every dog is different. The safest treats and toys are highly dependent on your dog's individual chewing style. For example, a Chihuahua is likely to be a much softer chewer than a Rottweiler. The age of the dog plays a role, as well, because most young puppies and senior dogs have softer mouths than their adult counterparts. Therefore, it's safe to assume that your own dog's chewing style will change over time, and the treats considered safe for your dog will vary alongside those changes.

Rawhides are meant to be long-lasting chews that break down into tiny, soft pieces over time. However, strong chewers are typically able to break off large chunks that can pose a major choking hazard or cause an intestinal blockage—both are life-threatening events. You can help prevent this from happening by offering an appropriately sized rawhide, but it's best to avoid them if your dog is a very heavy chewer. For dogs that are soft chewers, rawhides are generally considered to be safe treats because these dogs don't break them down into chunks.



### Ingredients

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In recent years, many dog owners have become concerned about the ingredients in their dogs' food and treats. You may have even noticed that many rawhide chew manufacturers are promoting their "natural, digestible chews." Does that mean that rawhide chews are not all one and the same? That's exactly what it means. Rawhide chews are made from dried animal skins, which seems natural enough. What's important to consider, however, is where these rawhide chews are made. Rawhides made in the United States are few and far between, and much pricier than your average chew—but the benefits are well worth the cost.

Rawhide chews are made from the leather industry's leftovers. Most hides are taken directly from the kill floors at slaughterhouses and placed into high-salt brines, which helps slow their decay. Most rawhide chews are manufactured in China, and it can take weeks to months before these brined hides actually make it to the tanneries for their final manufacture. Once the hide arrives at a tannery, it is soaked and treated with lime to help separate the fat from the skin, the hair is removed by chemical and physical efforts, and the hide is rinsed again. Unfortunately, the salt brines cannot prevent decay, no matter how long they delay it. It is best to fully rinse a rawhide in water prior to giving it to your dog.

### Digestibility

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Rawhide digestibility can vary from dog to dog and from chew to chew. Generally speaking, rawhides are not easily digested, which is why large chunks broken off and swallowed pose such high obstruction risks. Any pieces your pup breaks off will have to pass through his digestive system in chunks, since they will not be broken down as well as the rest of his food.

It is best to manually remove the chewed up rawhide before the dog ingests it, as it can not only potentially cause an esophageal or intestinal obstruction, but it can last for months in his stomach, causing very gastrointestinal issues.

That said, dogs that truly take their time chewing on rawhides and do not swallow large pieces should have no digestive problems with the treats. Some manufacturers even make rawhide chews out of more digestible ingredients, and although they do not always last as long, they are excellent alternatives for dogs that might have stomach issues.

The decision about whether to offer rawhide chews is going to be yours and yours alone. Consider your dog's individual chewing habits and health, decide if you're willing to accept the extra expense of high-quality, American-made chews (since it's less likely that illegal or toxic chemicals were used in the manufacturing process), and consult with your veterinarian. Make sure you read the label carefully, and remember that the

thicker the hide, the better, since it will take longer for your dog to chew.

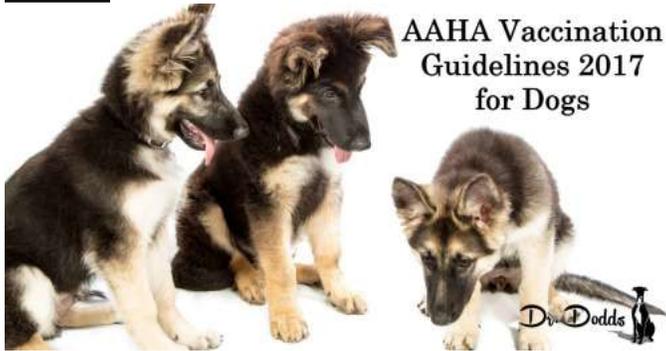
There are many great alternatives to rawhide chews, but for the right dog, these treats can be a perfectly safe option. It all comes down to your comfort level and ability to recognize the risks involved in providing them to your dog.

From The Editor

29TH OCT 2017 | 28 NOTES

## AAHA VACCINATION GUIDELINES 2017 FOR DOGS

### REVIEW



AAHA recently released its latest vaccination guidelines for dogs. The association's primary vaccination protocol has been slightly changed since the last revision in 2011. These updates, while not readily apparent, are still significant. Before we delve into those changes, let's review the core vaccination protocol compared to the one I recommend. [Note: Rabies vaccines and vaccinations are regulated by law. So, it is not in the comparison.]

### AAHA's Core Vaccination Protocol

#### Core Vaccines

- Canine Distemper Virus
- Parvovirus
- Adenovirus-2
- OPTIONAL Parainfluenza Virus

#### Vaccine Timing

- Beginning as early as 6 weeks of age, administer sequential doses of a combination vaccine at an interval of 2 to 4 weeks until at least 16 weeks of age. Dogs residing in a HIGH-RISK environment may benefit from receiving a final dose at 18 to 20 weeks of age.
- Administer a single dose of a combination vaccine within 1 year following the last dose in the Initial Vaccination series.
- Administer subsequent boosters at intervals of 3 years or longer.
- Measuring antibody levels (quantitative or qualitative) provides a reasonable assessment of protective immunity against CDV, CPV, and CAV2.

## Core Vaccination Protocol I Recommend

### 9 - 10 Weeks of Age

- Distemper
- Parvovirus

### 14 – 15 Weeks of Age

- Distemper
- Parvovirus

### 18 weeks of age

- Parvovirus only

Note: New research states that last puppy parvovirus vaccine should be at 18 weeks old.

### 1 Year After Last Vaccination (Optional Booster)

- Distemper
- Parvovirus

If the client decides not to give this optional booster, run a serum antibody titer instead. If the client intends to just retest serum antibody titers in another three years, this optional booster at puberty is wise to give for more assured protection.

Perform vaccine antibody titers for distemper and parvovirus every three years thereafter, or more often, if desired.

## Comparison of Core Vaccination Protocols

### Titers

The most significant change AAHA has made is on its position on antibody titer testing. Bear in mind that it is **not** a recommendation or an endorsement of titer testing *in lieu of* the three-year vaccination series of distemper, parvovirus and adenovirus. If this were the case, titers would be listed on AAHA's official protocol. However, it is an **admission** by AAHA that titer tests are alternatives to vaccination. The proof is on the website. In-depth diagnostic web pages are provided to veterinarians. Additionally, the pet caregiver section mentions the titer test alternative on the main vaccination guidelines webpage.

Titers, or quantitative antibody testing, can help determine your dog's protection from some diseases. Titer testing can be useful when a dog's vaccination history for distemper, adenovirus, and parvovirus is unknown—a positive result typically means he is considered protected. However, no test is 100% accurate, so in areas where these diseases run rampant, your veterinarian may still recommend vaccinating. While titer testing for rabies is available, the law still requires that the dog be vaccinated since this is a fatal, zoonotic (i.e., can be spread to people) disease.

This is definitely wonderful news and a positive step forward.

### Timing

As you probably noticed, the vaccination protocol I recommend is more specifically scheduled compared to that of the AAHA guidelines. In my opinion, the AAHA guideline needs to tighten up its protocol timeline so our

companion dogs can avoid adverse vaccine reactions and not risk the possibility of contracting parvovirus and distemper.

It is universally accepted that maternally derived antibodies are transferred to puppies when they receive colostrum milk from their dam only in the first 36 hours of life. After that, even though the breast milk contains many antibodies as well as wholesome nutrients, these antibodies can no longer cross the neonatal intestinal mucosal lining. The colostrum-derived antibodies gradually wane from birth over the next three months and most are gone by the age of 14-16 weeks. Until then, what remains in their bodies are called “residual maternal antibodies”, which are present in decreasing amounts to help protect the pup against foreign substances and infectious diseases.

Vaccinating these youngsters at too young of an age – when they have plenty of residual maternal immunity – just causes the vaccine antigen(s) to be partially neutralized so that full immunization is not achieved. Thus, the effect of vaccination is incomplete and the puppies are still at risk of getting one or more of these diseases, until the vaccine series is completed once the maternal antibodies have disappeared.

This is why the vaccination protocol I recommend starts at 9 weeks of age – the age when maternally derived antibodies start to wane. Exceptions do exist, but they are rare, namely:

- An impregnated rescue dog that has no known exposure to distemper or parvovirus. Vaccination history is unknown.
- The mother rejected the litter and pups did not nurse.
- The mother had no milk or sadly died during birth.

In these rare instances, I agree with the AAHA guidelines to start a parvovirus vaccination protocol at 6 weeks of age. Both AAHA and I agree that vaccinations for canine distemper should never be given to pups at or less than 6 weeks of age as they can cause post-vaccinal encephalitis (PVE) that resembles natural distemper.

### **Adenovirus**

At the current time, I do not recommend routinely giving the adenovirus (CAV-2) vaccination for either infectious canine hepatitis (ICH) or kennel cough. In the United States, there has only been one documented and isolated domesticated dog ICH incident in the past fifteen years. If and when a true outbreak does happen, my vaccination protocol can be revised appropriately to include CAV-2 vaccination to cover ICH for a specific region.

### **Parainfluenza**

Parainfluenza is simply a member of the kennel cough complex. By itself, canine parainfluenza produces mild to moderate upper respiratory disease or no discernable clinical disease. When parainfluenza virus is combined

with a bacterium such as Bordetella and several other potential viral pathogens, kennel cough could result. So, the attempt to pin down canine parainfluenza to specific respiratory lesions is difficult within the kennel cough complex. The current oral or intranasal Bordetella vaccines also cross protect against the other organisms in the kennel cough complex, including the CAV-2, discussed above. Plus, the vaccine needs to be reevaluated and be subjected to new clinical trials. The last one was conducted in the early 2000's.

## **Notable Guidelines**

### **Mixing Vaccines**

According to AAHA's website regarding mixing vaccines:

Can different vaccines (not part of a single commercial product) be administered to the same dog at the same appointment?

Yes. Different vaccine types can be administered to the same patient at the time of the appointment. When feasible, they should be administered into separate sites that are drained by different lymph nodes. For example, if a combination modified-live virus (attenuated) vaccine (such as, canine distemper virus (CDV), canine adenovirus-2 (CAV2), canine parvovirus (CPV)) is administered subcutaneously (SQ) over the left shoulder, a killed (inactivated) leptospirosis or rabies vaccine could be administered SQ over the right shoulder.

Actually, I strongly disagree with this approach. Almost all vaccine vials or sprays contain additional and necessary ingredients to make sure the vaccine “takes” in the body. For example, adjuvants are present in all inactivated killed product vaccines. These are substances that are added to vaccines to enhance the body's immune response to the vaccine antigen(s). As stated above, the intranasal and oral Bordetella vaccines induce the body to secrete alpha-interferon, an immune protein that affords cross protection against the other viruses in the kennel cough complex. When you add too many vials and/or sprays together all at once, the likelihood of an adverse vaccine reaction increases.

For instance, I recommend the two-way combined vaccine against distemper and parvovirus. Many clients wish to give individual, monovalent canine parvovirus and canine distemper vaccines. In this situation, they should be given in alternating fashion every 2 weeks starting with the canine parvovirus vaccine – as this disease is much more prevalent than canine distemper.

Regarding rabies vaccine, it should be spaced a minimum of 3-4 weeks apart from other vaccines, as it presents the strongest antigenic challenge to the immune system.

### **Shelter Dogs**

AAHA's 2011 Vaccination Guidelines state:

## Dogs with a Documented Vaccination History at Time of Admission

There is no compelling reason to administer vaccines to an individual dog at the time of admission to a shelter if clear documentation confirms current vaccination administered after the age of 16 wk is provided. The following is the minimum information acceptable as documenting proof that a valid vaccination has been administered:

- Proprietary name of product
- Manufacturer name
- Serial/lot number
- Date vaccine was administered (at least month and year)
- Expiration date of vaccine administered
- Signature of a licensed veterinarian

This information should be associated with a medical record that clearly describes the dog in question. If any of this information is not available at the time of admission or cannot be associated with a formal record for the dog, then immediate vaccination is indicated.

Surprisingly, this *proviso* from the earlier editions of AAHA's Canine Vaccine Guidelines was not included in the current 2017 version. Granted, the majority of dogs admitted to shelters are not responsibly owner-relinquished.

On the bright side, the veterinary diagnostic section regarding titers includes the optional titer testing of dogs in shelters.

## Conclusion

Overall, I applaud the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) for its transparency, website language, layout and tools that are very pet companion caregiver friendly. I particularly like the Lifestyle-Based Vaccine Calculator that helps pet parents determine if their pets need a lifestyle vaccination.

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[Hemopet/NutriScan](#)  
11561 Salinaz Avenue  
Garden Grove, CA 92843



## ODDS & ENDS

*From Sherri Taylor*

### Man Asks Hotel If He's Allowed To Bring His Dog And Gets The Most Honest Answer

He's taken aback to see their immediate, straightforward response.

A man wrote to the hotel that he planned on staying at while on vacation and asked about bringing his dog along. He said: "I would very much like to bring my dog with me. Hi is well-groomed and very well behaved. Would you be willing to permit me to keep him in my room with me at night?"



The man was surprised to get an immediate response from the hotel owner saying: "I've been operating this hotel for many years. In all that time, I've never had a dog steal towels, bedclothes, silverware or picture off the walls.

I've never had to evict a dog in the middle of the night for being drunk and disorderly. And I've never had a dog run out on a hotel bill. Yes, indeed, your dog is welcome at my hotel.

And if your dog will vouch for you, you're welcome to stay here too."

He makes some very valid points.

Courtesy of Pawmygosh.com



*From Patty and Steve Starks*



## BRAGS & CRIES

*From Bev Tavares*

On November 3, Shadow Blue Eyes, our sweet "malaberian" crossed the Rainbow Bridge. Shadow was my first dog. He was my therapy dog after my husband, Bob, died. He was our best buddy all his life. I learned so much about his breed from the wonderful people at SCAMC. I wish I had known all of you when he was a puppy so I could have trained him with more knowledge instead of by the seat of my pants. Thanks to Nichole, I was able to be pulled on a scooter by him. He had the chance to roll in the snow one day in Wichita. He added more members to his pack where ever we lived. I know that he and Bob are having fun together and waiting for me to catch up with them.

Ed. See pictures at end of newsletter.

*From Sue Carnall*

Aurora finished all four categories of the AKC trick dog titles. I never thought of myself as an obedience person, but Aurora doesn't know that. She has two rally titles, her CGC, and four trick dog titles. Very proud of her!



*From The Editor*

Follow-up: As you all know, Tom Dunn passed away unexpectedly this past April. SCAMC presented a memory book to Tina at Tom's memorial birthday party in August. It is full of the stories and pictures contributed by many SCAMC members and friends. Thank you to everyone for sharing those special moments.

## ddddddeadline

The deadline for submittals to the next newsletter is **January 15, 2018** – please send your articles / pictures / Brags&Cries / cartoons / odds & ends to [1chris.weimer@gmail.com](mailto:1chris.weimer@gmail.com)



<http://www.scamc.org/>

Check out our club website.  
We have photo galleries to which you may  
add pictures, updated links and info and  
lots more. If you would like to see  
something added on the website, please  
contact Sherri Taylor at:  
[taylor\\_sd\\_1@yahoo.com](mailto:taylor_sd_1@yahoo.com)



<http://www.scamc.org/>

**Club Address: P.O. Box 3582, Burbank, CA 91508**

*The SCAMC Newsletter is distributed electronically and  
will be available on the SCAMC website. Please send  
submissions to: [1chris.weimer@gmail.com](mailto:1chris.weimer@gmail.com)*



First day home in Pensacola 2004



First Thanksgiving 2004



After morning run 2009



Dancing machine 2004



Loving frozen yoghurt 2009



Milkbone contest entry 2005



Relocating to Wichita

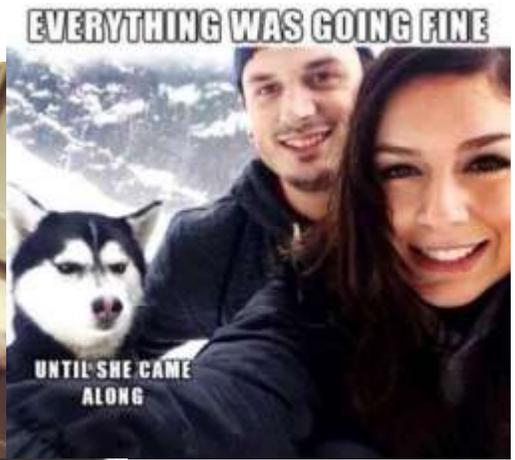


Favorite toy 2007



Shadow Blue Eyes  
9/20/2004 -  
11/03/2017





A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than he loves himself.

-Josh Billings



GRAPHICSBUCKET.COM



**"TO THE WORLD YOU MAY BE JUST ONE PERSON, BUT TO ONE LIFE YOU MAY BE THE WORLD."**

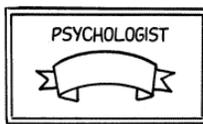
**I have some sort**



**Of idea what I am doing**



**I forgot how to dog.**



© Randy Glasbergen, 1997.  
E-mail: randy@norwich.net



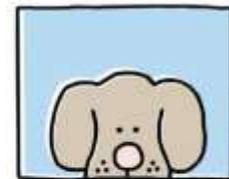
GLASBERGEN

**"My therapy is quite simple: I wag my tail and lick your face until you feel good about yourself again."**

**smart phone vs. dog**



answers if called  
plays games  
sleeps when inactive  
handy alarm  
occasionally falls in the toilet  
doesn't shed

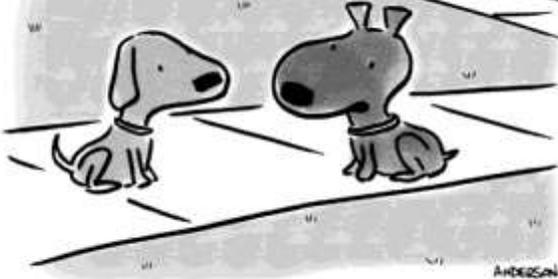


answers if called  
plays games  
sleeps when inactive  
handy alarm  
occasionally falls in the toilet  
doesn't pocket dial your ex

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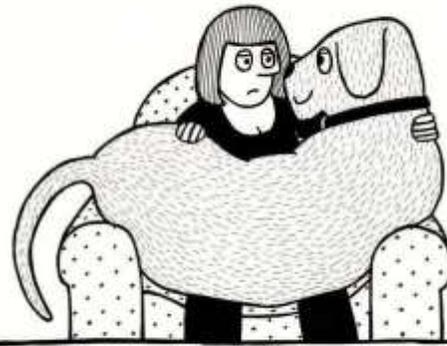
© MARK ANDERSON

WWW.ANDERTOONS.COM



"I'm at the age where not only can I not learn new tricks, I can't even remember my old ones."

FAMOUS DOG QUOTATIONS No2....



"NO DOG IS EVER TOO BIG TO BE A LAPDOG"

Oscar, New York 2010

FACEBOOK.COM/OFFTHELEASHDAILYDOG CARTOONS