

Hot Topics at American Kennel Club



AKC/Eukanuba National Invitational Championship Offers Bred-By-Exhibitor Group Classes and Best Bred-By-Exhibitor in Show Competition

-- New Significant Cash Prizes--

In recognition of the outstanding and unique contributions of the purebred dog breeder, The AKC and The Iams Company are pleased to announce that the 2003 AKC/Eukanuba National Invitational Championship to be held on December 3 in Long Beach, California, will add Bred-By-Exhibitor Group classes and Best Bred-By-Exhibitor in Show competition. The winners of the 2003 Best Bred-by-Exhibitor in Breed/Variety Awards will be eligible to compete.

Thanks to the support and generosity of The Iams Company, all class award winners will have significant cash prizes including these new classes. The winner of the Best Bred-By-Exhibitor in Show competition will receive \$15,000. There will also be substantial cash prizes for the Bred-By-Exhibitor Variety Group winners and placements.

"Offering these new classes and prizes at the AKC/Eukanuba National Invitational Championship provides an unique opportunity to further recognize the purebred dog breeders who are the heart of our sport," said Show Chairman Ron Menaker.

The prize money for the 2003 AKC/Eukanuba National Invitational Championship Bred-By-Exhibitor classes will be as follows:

- Best Bred-by-Exhibitor In Show \$15,000
- Bred-by-Exhibitor Group 1 Winners: \$1,500
- Bred-by-Exhibitor Group 2 Winners: \$1,000
- Bred-by-Exhibitor Group 3 Winners: \$750
- Bred-by-Exhibitor Group 4 Winners: \$500
- Best Bred-by-Exhibitor in Breed/Variety Winners: \$200
- The Judging Panel for this new competition will be:
 - Best Bred-by-Exhibitor in Show: Miss Maxine V. Beam
 - Bred-by-Exhibitor Sporting Group: Miss Dorothy M. Macdonald
 - Bred-by-Exhibitor Hound Group: Mrs. Gloria R. Reese
 - Bred-by-Exhibitor Working Group: Dr. Klaus Anselm
 - Bred-by-Exhibitor Terrier Group: Hon. David C. Merriam
 - Bred-by-Exhibitor Toy Group: Mrs. Anne Katona
 - Bred-by-Exhibitor Non-Sporting Group: Dr. Lee Anthony Reasin
 - Bred-by-Exhibitor Herding Group: Dr. Carmen L. Battaglia.



Harmony Bay Notes

Official Newsletter of Harmony Bay Chinese Shar-Pei Club

Volume 3, Issue 6

June/July 2003

Molly's Story

"Operation Harmony" has finally been deployed...unfortunately. This past month, a humane veterinarian's office decided to give a dog a chance—a chance that her owners refused to give to Molly.

Molly was first abandoned at the age of six months at the Camas Animal Shelter. She was dumped, because the owners decided she was too big for their family. Molly was soon adopted by another family. Molly lived with her new family for 2 years...and then was left with her family's veterinarian to be euthanized. The veterinary staff was told that Molly was vicious and "needed" to be put down. After careful evaluation, the veterinarian and his staff determined that she needed another chance, because she showed no signs of aggression.

The first breeder they contacted refused to help. The second breeder they contacted was DeeDee Wells. DeeDee called Cyndi Skinner, asking about Harmony Bay's rescue network. Cyndi immediately called the vet's office and got permission to take Molly out of their care. The next two calls were crucial, since Molly would need to be fostered and evaluated for eventual placement. Dawn Hyatt agreed to be Molly's new foster home. When Cyndi's family arrived at the vet's office, the first thing Savanna noticed was that Molly was not a purebred Shar-Pei—and the vet's office panicked, thinking we wouldn't give her a chance. The first breeder contacted told them that it was NOT their "responsibility," because she wasn't a purebred. As Savanna explained, "Molly is every breeder's responsibility," and brought her home. Molly is clearly a Shar-Pei/Lab mix.

That evening, Cyndi & Savanna drove to Olympia to Molly's first stop on the rescue line: Donna & Gina Michaelson's home. Molly spent the first night of her new life in Olympia. The next morning, Molly was delivered to Dawn in Shelton.



More on Molly

Dawn's family has discovered that many of the things told to the vet were not true –however, after three weeks of careful evaluation and observation, we had to make a critical decision regarding Molly. Molly was exhibiting classic signs of “aura” type seizures, typical of brain injury or tumor. She would become disoriented, fearful and aggressive—then “relearn” her surroundings and be fine, which is why the initial diagnosis was missed at her regular vet's office. Unfortunately, due to very poor prognosis for recovery or meaningful life for Molly, the decision was made to let her go peacefully. Rescue can be heartwarming and rewarding, but not all stories can end that way. Molly was given a few extra weeks, surrounded by love...but now she is romping where she has no pain, no judgment and no fear. Rest well, dear Molly...you'll always be remembered.

Notes from the July 12th, 2003 Meeting

Harmony Bay Chinese Shar-Pei Club Minutes

July 12, 2003—DeeDee & Gary Wells Home

Members Present: Cyndi Skinner, Todd Skinner, Savanna Skinner, Linda Graling, Donna Michaelson, Gina Michaelson, Dee Dee Wells, Gary Wells, Vicky Teshera, Danielle Mattern

Guests Present: Mark Parris, Wendy, McKenzie & Mariah Graling, Baron & 2 boys

Board Members Absent: Don Graling, Board Member

The meeting was called to order at 8:40 pm by President Cyndi Skinner

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Secretary Gina Michaelson. Correspondence was read.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Treasurer Linda Graling. Our account will remain with Bank of America. Linda persuaded them to refund the \$110.00 in fees, and they will waive all future fees.

Unfinished Business:

New Show Secretary: Vicky Teshera volunteered to be our newest Show Secretary.

New Business:

Trophies: Fall 2003 trophies will be useful items such as cool coats, fans, crate pads, etc.

Dues: Notices have been sent out that membership renewals are due.

Operation Harmony: The club has a rescue dog, Molly, who has been placed with Dawn and Billie Hyatt for foster care.

Club Donation: Harmony Bay, through Todd and Savanna Skinner, donated shadow boxes to Thurston County Dog Project, for use as prizes at the Thurston County Fair.

New Member Application:

New member application reading for Mark Parris. Second reading and voting to take place at August meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Health Points to Ponder

Concern about protein causing developmental bone problems in large-breed puppies has led some breeders to reduce the amount of protein they feed. However, in research published in 1993 based on studies of Great Dane puppies at Utrecht University in the Netherlands, it was shown that dietary protein does not contribute to these problems.

Herman A. Hazewinkel, DVM, PhD, professor of veterinary medicine at Utrecht University, led the research that found no detrimental effects from protein levels up to 32% of the diet. However, puppies fed a diet of only 15% protein showed evidence of inadequate protein intake.

“Too low protein decreases the growth rate of puppies and also their immunological response,” Hazewinkel says. “This is true for large- and small-breed puppies. An adequate protein level should be higher than 15%.”

This study, conducted in young Great Danes during their first half-year of life, concluded that dietary protein increased to 32% does not negatively affect skeletal or cartilage development in these dogs. The research also confirmed that dietary protein did not have detrimental effects on liver and kidney functioning.

Soy Protein

Soy protein in dry dog food has been targeted as a potential cause of bloat because soy can sometimes cause flatulence, or gas, in dogs. Bloat, a potentially fatal disease in which swelling of the stomach compresses important body organs and blood vessels, most often occurs in large, deep-chested dogs.

Nutritionists at the College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University looked at whether ingredients, such as soy protein, could cause bloat. They reported no evidence that either soybean meal or any dry expanded dog food contributes to bloat. Rather, they found that dogs consuming meat-based diets are just as likely as dogs consuming soy-based diets to develop the condition that leads to bloat. Other research has shown that the gas associated with bloat actually is swallowed air rather than gas caused by fermentation of soy or other dietary components.

Dogs who develop bloat are often called “greedy eaters” because they scarf down their food. They also tend to “gulp” their water. Canine bloat is a complex disease. While many associated factors have been suggested, no causes have been proven. Further research is needed to identify the causative factors of bloat and to recommend proper pre-

ventive or curative measures. Despite the myths, soy-based diets are not a cause of bloat.

No single source of dietary protein is perfect. Neither meat nor soybean meal is an ideal protein; however, they both can be an excellent source if fed in combination with another source of amino acids, the substances that make up protein. As noted earlier, a combination of soybean meal and corn protein is effective because they complement each other, and the amino acids that are deficient in one are present in the other.

While the protein digestibility of pet food varies according to the quality of the protein source used and the processing, the protein in balanced dog foods made with soybean meal can be more digestible than those made with some meat or poultry meals.

Nutritional research also shows that soy contains a group of chemicals called isoflavones that are natural antioxidants and help protect cells from oxygen damage. Oxidation causes changes that are thought to lead to cancer and other diseases.

The key point is that soybeans provide an economic source of good quality protein and other nutrients. When properly processed, soy can be an excellent part of a complete dog diet.

Health Points to Ponder

disease or other problems for which protein restriction may be beneficial, there is no reason to recommend a change to a low-protein diet.

Research on dogs at other universities and at the Purina Pet Care Center has generated similar results. Julie Churchill, DVM, assistant clinical specialist in companion animal nutrition at the University of Minnesota, was an investigator in studies to learn whether altering the amounts of dietary protein and fat could protect the kidney in aging dogs.

"We found there is no benefit in restricting protein in geriatric dogs," Churchill says. "We observed no changes in morbidity or mortality. So, the question is, 'Why restrict protein if there is no benefit.'"

Similarly, preliminary findings from the Purina Pet Care Center indicate that healthy geriatric dogs fed 45% dietary protein have maintained health and body condition, with no evidence of increased kidney damage due to protein intake. The evidence supports other recent research that protein at any level consistent with complete and balance nutrition has no adverse effect on the kidneys of normal, healthy dogs.

It is known that as dogs age they become less efficient in metabolizing protein than young dogs so that older dogs

require more protein than young adult dogs to fully replenish their protein reserves and maintain protein turnover. The specific amount of protein needed, as a percent of diet, depends on several factors.

"Geriatric dogs should be treated individually," Churchill says. "I think it's important to conduct a good health examination and blood biochemical profile by the time a dog is 7 years old in order to evaluate organ functioning and determine the best diet for that individual dog."

Similar to how the nutritional needs of dogs change with their age and lifestyle, their energy requirements tend to decrease with age. However, not all geriatric animals are less active or overweight. In fact, a greater proportion of older dogs are underweight than any other age group.

Many inactive older dogs need fewer calories, so it is important that they consume less food or a lower calorie food than they ate when they were younger. For this reason, many foods for older dogs are formulated to contain fewer calories, but it is important that they receive adequate intake of protein and other nutrients while reducing calorie intake.

The quality of the protein in dog food is also important. It must contain the right balance

of amino acids and be digestible. This is usually accomplished by using two or more complementary proteins to achieve an optimum balance. For example, soybean meal and corn protein complement each other because the amino acids that are deficient in one are present in the other. Protein digestibility is achieved by the selection of ingredients and the processing. Processing that become too hot can destroy the amino acid content and lessens digestibility.

Large Breed Puppies

Dietary protein requirements are much higher for growing puppies than for fully grown dogs. In addition to supplying the protein needed to support protein turnover and normal cellular metabolism, protein is needed to build growing muscles and other tissues.

Research at the Purina Pet Care Center and at other facilities has shown that puppies fed inadequate protein do not grow as well and are more susceptible to health problems than those fed nutritionally complete diets. At the Pet Care Center, English Setter puppies that were fed a low-protein diet showed stunted growth compared to puppies fed higher levels of protein. However, when the protein level was increased in the puppies at the Pet Care Center the deficiency was corrected.

Notes from the June 8, 2003 Meeting

Harmony Bay Chinese Shar-Pei Club Minutes

June 8, 2003
Puyallup Fairgrounds

Members Present: Cyndi Skinner, Todd Skinner, Savanna Skinner, Tiffany Skinner, Shea Skinner, Don Graling, Linda Graling, Donna Michaelson, Gina Michaelson, Dee Dee Wells, Danielle Mattern

Board Members Absent: Steve Best, Vice-President; Deb Lewy, Secretary; Kim Howick, Board Member

The meeting was called to order by President Cyndi Skinner at 1:05 PM.

There was no President's Report.
There was no Secretary's Report.

The minutes of the last meeting were published and sent via email to members. They were accepted as published.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Linda Graling – accepted as presented.

Election of Officers:

Vote was taken by secret ballot. Results were:

President:
Cyndi Skinner
Vice President:
Dee Dee Wells

Secretary:

Gina Michaelson
Board Member (2 year position): Todd Skinner
Board Member (1 year position): Don Graling
All results were unanimous.

New Member Application:

Dawn Hyatt and William Hyatt applied to join Harmony Bay Chinese Shar-Pei Club for a family membership. Their application was submitted and read at last meeting; their application was read again, and their membership was approved unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

Show Contracts:

Judges Contracts have been sent out, and were received under the deadline imposed by AKC.

Outside Show Secretary:

We will continue to pursue the option of an outside Show Secretary/Show Chair for our specialties.

New Business:

No New Business

The next meeting will be on Saturday of the Brush Prairie Show, Time to be announced.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:37PM.

**General
Membership
Meeting
Sunday,
August 10th @
Nisqually
Show Site
time to be
announced**

**Don't let this
be your last
newsletter -
membership
renewals are
due NOW!**

President's Message

WOW—two years have passed since we established Harmony Bay Chinese Shar-Pei Club. Since we've just completed our first full biennium, I decided that this would be a good time to give you a "State of the Club Address." And believe me, we've got a LOT to be proud of in our first two years!

We've established ourselves as a pretty "giving" club—we've donated to the CSPCA Charitable Trust, several 4-H clubs, the CSPCA Junior Fund, the Save the Barker Fund, the CSPCA Rescue Fund, the NASPR Rescue Fund, the National Specialty Trophy Fund, the Operation Harmony Fund...all of which are very deserving of our donations. Over a two year period of time, our charitable donations have exceeded \$700.00. Y'all need to give yourselves a pat on the back for voting to support worthy causes!!

We've also tried to do "our" part to support our National breed publication, The Barker. As we all know, The Barker has been flagging in recent years, and we've done our part in helping The Barker stay afloat. Harmony Bay has spent nearly \$700.00 with The Barker—pitching in to keep our breed magazine going!

Hosting regional specialties is a daunting task—and we've successfully hosted FIVE regional specialties, with four more in the works (September 2003 and April 2004)! Because we host regional specialties, the CSPCA gets just a bit more of our money...over the past two years we've turned over \$425.00 in fees & proceeds to the CSPCA—with more to come!

You've all enjoyed our Harmony Notes Newsletter—and some of you have donated a little extra to the cause, to ensure a quality newsletter. All in all, we've spent over \$500.00 producing this valuable club asset—and there are great things in store for the future!

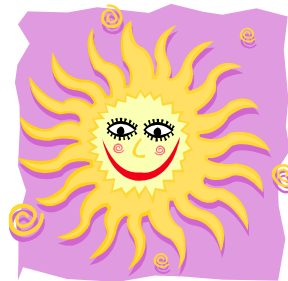
I'd like to thank our outgoing Board Members: Deb Lewy, Steve Best, Donna Michaelson and Kim Howick. We couldn't have done it without you! Thanks for everything!

Your new newsletter editors are Savanna Skinner and Gina Michaelson. Savanna will provide the expanded quarterly editions. Gina and Savanna will collaborate on the monthly editions. It's great to see our youngest members dig in and get INVOLVED!

And, looking forward to our next biennium is our newest slate of Harmony Bay Officers and Board Members:

Cyndi Skinner, President
DeeDee Wells, Vice-President
Gina Michaelson, Secretary
Linda Graling, Treasurer
Todd Skinner, Board Member
Don Graling, Board Member
Vicky Teshera, Board Member

Cyndi =-)



Health Points to Ponder

Demystifying Myths About Protein

Despite scientific advances that have increased the nutritional knowledge about the importance of protein in a dog's diet, there still are myths that feeding too much protein or the wrong kind of protein can be harmful.

Among breeders' key concerns about protein are: Does too much protein cause kidney failure in older dogs? Is it true that feeding large-breed puppies too much protein causes developmental bone problems? Can soy protein cause bloat, a potentially fatal illness, when fed to dogs?

The answers to these questions are no. In fact, research shows there is more reason to be concerned about feeding healthy dogs an inadequate amount of dietary protein.

Here, we present facts about protein to help you determine the best amount to include in your dog's diet for a healthy and long life.

The Geriatric Dog

Nutritional research has shown that healthy older dogs need more protein than young adult dogs—as much as 50% more. The additional protein is required to maintain a geriatric dog's protein reserves and support protein turnover, which are important in helping the dog's immune system function at its full capacity. Dogs that

do not receive adequate protein are more susceptible to stress, such as injury or infection.

Dottie Laflamme, DVM, PhD, a Ralston Research Fellow, says, "It is important to provide older dogs with enough protein to help them fight the stress of aging, including injury and infection. Dogs fed inadequate amounts of protein may appear healthy, but may be less able to resist infection or fight off other diseases."

Despite this research, there has been a longstanding concern that excessive protein in diets for older dogs may cause kidney damage. The link is traced to clinical signs in dogs with kidney failure that relate to a buildup of byproducts from protein metabolism. However, research conducted during the past decade has shown that protein does not harm the kidneys.

Research first supporting the link between excessive protein and kidney disease was conducted in the 1920s, showing that male rodents exhibited progressive renal disease when fed a high-protein diet. Another study on rodents, conducted in 1982 by BM Brenner, also showed that excess dietary protein caused kidney damage. Though these studies were correct in rats, the results

unfortunately were extrapolated to other species.

In contrast, research over the past 10 years or so has shown that protein does not harm the kidney of dogs. In studies conducted at the University of Georgia in the early 1990s, both in dogs with chronic kidney failure and in older dogs with only one kidney, protein levels as high as 34% caused no ill effects.

Delmar R. Finco, DVM, PhD, professor of veterinary medicine at the University of Georgia, says, "Our work was directed at learning whether a high-protein diet damages the kidney. After four years' studying geriatric dogs and two years' studying dogs with chronic renal failure, we found no indication that a high-protein diet was injurious to the kidney. However, the data did raise the question whether low-protein diets in geriatric dogs could be considered injurious."

In other studies, David S. Kronfeld, PhD, indicated that compared with high- or low-protein diets, moderate-protein diets, those with up to 34% protein, had no ill effects in dogs with chronic renal failure and were associated with general improvement. The report confirmed that unless a dog has clinical evidence of kidney

Protein As Body Fuel

Protein As Body Fuel

To understand the importance of protein as a nutrient in a dog's diet involves take a journey into the science of cellular biology.

Protein is essential for the function and viability of cells. It provides biological catalysts necessary for the vital chemical reactions in the cell as well as provides critical components for cellular structure. A dog's body runs on cellular machinery that works together according to blueprints of DNA, or deoxyribonucleic acid.

In the cell nucleus, DNA is transcribed into RNA or ribonucleic acid. This RNA carries the DNA's genetic message outside the nucleus of the cell when the machinery exists to translate this message and produce specific proteins. The functional proteins that are made within the cells are responsible for building, shaping and refining everything from toenails to chemical messengers in the brain.

The cell's ability to produce functional proteins based on the genetic message from DNA requires a readily available supply of amino acids, the building blocks of protein.

Protein Turnover

The body's own proteins provide the source of amino acids, and dietary proteins replenish the supply. Body protein is constantly being broken down and new protein produced in a process known as protein turnover.

Protein turnover is the synthesis (building) and catabolism (breakdown) of protein, which takes place almost continuously. Turnover provides the mechanism for the ongoing redistribution of amino acids to support immediate synthesis of proteins essential for life.

The rate of protein turnover is reduced when protein intake is deficient and is maximized with optimal protein intake. With optimal protein intake, the cellular machinery functions at full capacity and rapidly makes needed proteins.

If dietary protein is restricted, the body compensates for its reduced replenishment by slowing down protein turnover. This reduced the productivity of the body's factory and reduces the body's ability to respond quickly to bacterial or viral infection, injury or trauma.

Protein and amino acid metabolism in both muscle and the liver is profoundly affected by restricted dietary protein. Reduced rates of muscle protein synthesis and of liver protein synthesis occur quickly under a restricted protein diet. Changes are seen in body protein distribution, with skeletal muscle being most affected.

Immune System

Immune System

A restricted protein diet also affects the functioning of a dog's immune system. To effectively protect and defend the body, the immune system must respond rapidly to disease. Amino acids from protein turnover are critical in producing the cells and components of the immune system, such as immunoglobulins and T-cells.

When protein turnover is reduced in dogs due to low protein intake, they are more sensitive to infections and other environmental stress. To maximize health and assure that a dog can develop to its potential, optimum protein intake is critical.

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Below you'll find a simple guide to your new Officers and Board Members. Please feel free to contact any and all of your Board Members with questions, suggestions—or even complaints!

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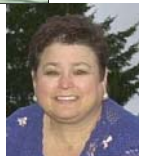
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Board Member, Vicky Teshera
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Important Information from the CSPCA!

DNA Bank

The CSPCA has approved a new committee, consisting of Jerry Doka, Grace Fritz, Susan Lauer & Kim Albrecht.

Moving ahead with plans to start collecting blood, Grace Fritz is arranging to have a blood draw at Gap Nationals.

There will be an article on the concept in the September/October Barker and the health survey, protocols and information will be put up on the CSPCA website.

Once the Barker article is completed, a shorter, edited version along with all the relevant forms will be available for publications in local clubs' newsletters.

A proposal for funding has been drafted and is being sent

to the Charitable Trust (we have requested that the Trust fund the \$10 per sample cost that University of Missouri charges). Conversations with Lee Arnold shows he is very enthusiastic about the project and the DNA Committee fully expects the Trust to agree to the proposal.

All of you are encouraged to support this venture for the future of the breed.

While there is no current research on amyloidosis, nor does there appear to be any research pending at this moment, if we have the DNA available it will be a lot more attractive to interested researchers.

As an added bonus the University of Missouri is cur-

rently researching both epilepsy and glaucoma.

These are two problems that are becoming more prevalent in our breed. Any Chinese Shar-Pei that has either of these problems will have a small portion of their DNA sample brought into which research project is relevant.

While DNA is being collected for amyloidosis research, hopefully there will also be some kind of payoff in other areas.

If you have questions on this new Committee or its purposes, please contact any of the Committee members—they will gladly answers your questions and welcome your support!

CSPCA Calendar Voting

The pictures are up—and the competition is ON! On the CSPCA website, that is (www.cspca.com). This year's competition consists of 115 hopefuls, but there will only be 13 lucky winners. Everyone is encouraged to vote for their favorites, but you only get to vote for FIVE. We even have Harmony Bay Club members that have submitted pictures for the contest...can you guess which pictures are "Harmony Bay" dogs?



Veteran's Corner



CH Emerald's Made In The Shade
Born February 14, 1995

"Shade" is loved and owned by Terri Jones from Monroe. Shade is still going strong at 8 years old—and he's got quite a track record behind him! As a young puppy, Shade won Best Puppy at the CSPCA National Specialty in 1995. To follow up that big win, he took Best of Breed at the CSPCA National Specialty in 1996.

In 2002, Terri decided to take Shade to the National Specialty in Minnesota...and Shade completed his "Triple Crown" by taking Best Veteran!

A beautiful example of horsecoat breed type, Shade just keeps turning heads! Congrats Terri & Shade!

"Kitten's" sire is CH Prunehill's Cat In The Hat (Felix), so she comes by her feline-themed name very honestly. At 8 years old, Kitten shows NO sign of slowing down, keeping her young owner, Gina Michaelson, on her toes.

One of Kitten's favorite past times is hunting...and bringing her catch proudly to her owner's doorstep. There is no rodent safe around the Michaelson property!

Even though she sports 13 reserves to her credit, Kitten's greatest contribution to the breed has been from the whelping box. She produces soundness and movement in all of her puppies—and hunting abilities, too!

Kitten recently took Best Veteran at the Centralia Regional Specialty, making Gina very proud! Congrats!

Prunehill's Cat 'n Caboodle
Born December 3, 1995

