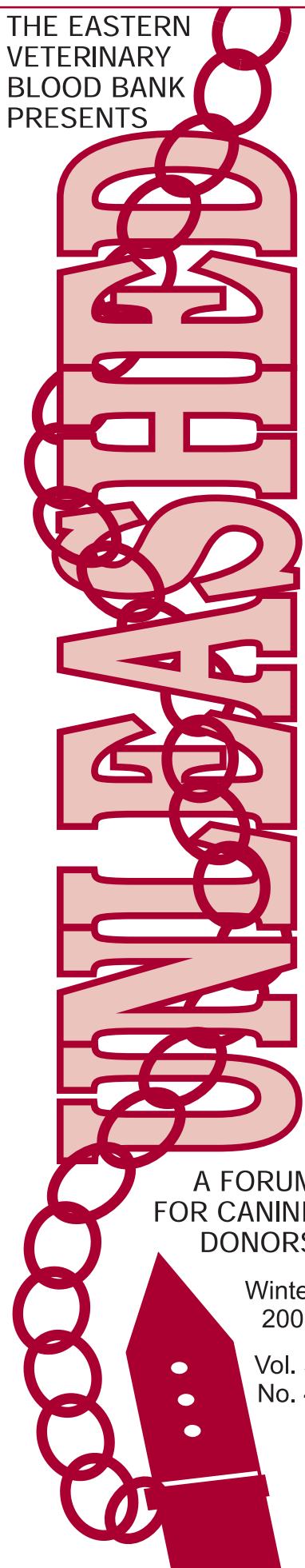


THE EASTERN
VETERINARY
BLOOD BANK
PRESENTS



A FORUM
FOR CANINE
DONORS

Winter
2003

Vol. 3
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Donor Profile

By "Anta" Smits

I am a red merle Australian Shepherd (Aussie) and my name is Anta, a Latvian women's name. My owners chose it because it is a combination of the first two letters of their names: Ann + Talivaldis. When they came to the breeders to choose a puppy that was not already chosen from my littermates, they picked me because I was the one who came to them when they said "Anta!"

In obedience training I was second highest scorer on the final exam, though the trainers had to double check to make sure there was no mistake in adding the scores, for neither my owner nor my trainers thought that I was being that obedient, compared to the other dogs in the group. But since I regularly get unsolicited compliments about being a "beautiful dog", is it always necessary for me to also listen to commands? Who wants to heel, make left and right turns, about turn, or halt and stand or sit and stay that long, anyway?

My favorite activity is going for walks with my owners. They have to be careful of what they say, even when they are not talking to me and I am in another room, because I keep my eyes and ears open. When I hear any of the key words, whether in English ("Did you want..." or "walk") or in Latvian ("Vai tu gribi..." or "pastaigaties") I don't check to see whether they are addressing me but wag my stubby tail and look pleadingly into their eyes. It almost never fails to get me my walk,



"Anta" Smits — retired donor in good standing

without me having to nudge them with my nose or prod them with my paw.

After I have had my breakfast but while my owners have their prayer before breakfast, I like to sing with them. I have a doggie mattress, covered by one of my towels with pictures of other dogs, conveniently located under the kitchen table where they eat and I get my breakfast in this bed. Ann and Talis hum the melody for hymn tunes like Amazing Grace or Silent Night for me and I harmonize along. I sing other songs too, such as the Latvian folk song about the village

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*This mailing was assembled by students in the
Supported Employment Program from Central Special School.*

(Donor Profile from page 1)

dogs barking while this guy is trying to hitch up his horse to give his bride a ride. Of course I also like the big cookie they give me after each song, and I try to tell them by bowing down and stretching that I want to sing another song.

A public service announcement over Annapolis' radio station WFSI (107.9 FM) spurred my owners to take me to EVBB, to see if I would qualify as a blood donor. For the life of their previous dog Glita, was saved because an Aussie named Elvis, belonging to her vet, Dr. Ann Piety, donated his blood. Glita had autoimmune anemia and would have died otherwise. My owners thereafter joked that Elvis lives in their dog.

From my first visit to EVBB I loved all the goodies the staff gave me. They say I really like the snausages, but I am also happy eating kibbles. I will finish my blood donor career soon, having donated 15 times in a row, because I will be 8 years old in February. However I have recruited neighbor Patty's dog, Jake, and hope there will be many other dogs (perhaps her Lucy, and who knows, even Sophie) willing to give blood to save other dogs' lives.

Benefits provided to donors in good standing

- Physical examination each time a dog donates
- Blood typing
- Blood Chemistry Profile and Complete Blood Count (CBC)
- Heartworm test
- Ehrlichia, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Hemobartonella, and Babesia testing (tick disease)
- Brucella testing (once for neutered dogs and yearly for intact dogs)
- Von Willebrands test. Von Willebrands Disease is a bleeding disorder similar to Hemophilia. Affected dogs have a low VW factor. Dogs with high VW factor are excellent donors for treating this disease.
- For each unit of blood donated, that donor will receive a unit of blood or plasma should illness or injury ever warrant its use.
- EVBB tag which identifies the dog as a blood donor, and can be traced through the EVBB if the owner cannot otherwise be located.
- EVBB bandanna identifying the donor as a "life saver"
- Various free pet health and nutritional giveaways.

Requirements for becoming an EVBB blood donor

- Healthy, between the ages of 9 months and 8 years, and over 35 pounds
- A commitment to donate for at least one year with five or six donations per year (dogs can safely donate as often as every three weeks)
- Donors must be brought to our facility for donations. If you are not in our area, please call and check with us. We may be able to direct you to a donor site in your area.
- Dogs must be maintained on heartworm prevention and be current with their regular veterinarian's preventive health and vaccination schedule. We cannot function as a hospital should the pet become ill in any way.



Unleashed is the quarterly newsletter of the Eastern Veterinary Blood Bank

Meet the Staff

- Ann Schneider, DVM**, Director
- Patrick Lee, Jr.**, Chief Operating Officer
- Steve Kubelun, DVM**, Associate Veterinarian
- Kellie Smith**, Director of Regulatory Compliance/Senior Blood Collection Assistant
- Theresa Connelly**, Bookkeeper
- Peggy Driver**, Administrative Assistant
- Barb Vernon**, Donor Coordinator
- Brandee Stout**, Blood Collection Assistant
- Amie Dudley**, Packaging Specialist/ Labeler
- Stacey Alton**, Veterinary Technician



Happenings In and Around Town



West Virginia Veterinary Medical Association - Winter Meeting

Greenbriar Resort Hotel
White Sulphur Springs, WV
Friday, January 24 - Sunday, January 26
The EVBB will be sponsoring a seminar on transfusion medicine, conducting a web lab for veterinary technicians, and exhibiting!

2nd Annual World of Pets Expo

www.worldofpets.org
Maryland State Fairgrounds
Friday, January 31, Noon - 8 PM
Saturday, February 1, 10 AM - 7 PM
Sunday, February 2, 10 AM - 5 PM
Education and entertainment will be important aspects of the expo and seminars will be presented covering many topics related to dogs, cats, reptiles, birds, ferrets, and fish.

National Volunteer Blood Donor Month

Since 1970, the President of the United States has proclaimed January as National Volunteer Blood Donor Month, highlighting the importance of giving the gift of life through the donation of blood. New years may come and go, but one thing remains the same, the need for blood. This is true in human and veterinary medicine. An estimated 8 million people donate blood in the United States each year, but many more donors are needed. The Eastern Veterinary Blood Bank (EVBB) has had over 3,000 past and present volunteer canine donors donate. Similarly, as in human medicine, many more donors are needed. The gift of life is welcome every season of the year. Just one donation can save up to three human lives and up to four canine lives. The doctors and staff of the EVBB are celebrating National Volunteer Blood Donor Month by honoring all our donor families (past and present) for their heroic acts. You are Lifesavers! Thank you!

Did you know in the human community...

- An adult of average weight has about 10 to 12 pints of blood.
- One pint of blood can be separated into several components (Red Blood Cells, Plasma, Platelets, and Cryoprecipitate).
- A heart surgery uses an average of six pints of Red Blood Cells and six pints of Platelets.
- One out of every 10 people entering the hospital needs blood.

Did you know in the veterinary community...

- One pint of blood can save up to 4 lives.
- The Eastern Veterinary Blood Bank can make several components from one pint of blood (Red Blood Cells, Plasma, Cryoprecipitate, Platelets).
- A dog that has been hit by a car and has suffered blood loss may require transfusions of Red Blood Cells.
- This past year, The Eastern Veterinary Blood Bank has shipped over 24,000 units of blood to patients in need.

Announcements!

EVBB in the Press

EVBB sponsored the WNAV (1430 AM) Eastport *Parade of Lights* on Saturday, December 14th. As a prelude to our sponsorship our Director, Dr. Ann Schneider, had a radio spot on WNAV on Friday, December 6th. A great opportunity to let the public know about EVBB!

EVBB Website News

We are attempting to build on the EVBB donor community by utilizing our website at www.evbb.com.

• **Listserver:** In an effort to enhance donor communication, EVBB has

launched an e-mail Listserver on our website. Our goal is to send out monthly e-mails to all our donors with EVBB news and information. Please visit our home page and take the time to sign up.

• **Discussion Board:** Give us your opinion! Suggestions! Stories! Feedback! by visiting our Discussion Board.

• **EVBB Shop:** Promote your commitment and the wonderful way in which your dog gives back! Please visit the EVBB Shop and take the opportunity to purchase EVBB apparel online.

• The EVBB website is getting a "facelift" in 2003. Stay tuned!

Puppy Raisers Needed

Guiding Eyes for the Blind is looking for volunteers to love, socialize and train a future guide dog in their home! To learn more, attend one of their classes held the 1st and 3rd Mondays of every month at the Free State Mall on Route 450 in Bowie at 7PM. Information: Dorothy, Area Coordinator, (301) 262-3795 or www.geb-bay.org.

AAA features extravagant lodging amenities for pets

You know that some pets frequent luxurious boarding facilities when their owners travel, but you may not know that traveling pets can enjoy equally lavish amenities. The fourth edition of *Traveling with Your Pet*, one of AAA's most popular guidebooks, features more than 10,000 properties that welcome pets. And many offer pet sitting or walking and such extras as treats, toys, a dog bed with pillows and sheets, and a pet room-service menu.

Source: *Veterinary Economics*, July 2002

You may ask... what has EVBB done for you lately?

- All blood work is thoroughly reviewed by an EVBB Licensed Veterinarian. As a result, we notify owners and in turn refer owners to their regular veterinarian when irregularities come to our attention.
- A physical examination is done at each donation appointment. As a result, we have been instrumental in detecting heart murmurs before a regular veterinarian has had the opportunity to do so.
- For each unit of blood donated, that donor will receive a unit of blood or plasma should illness or injury ever warrant its use. Recent examples include: "Hercules" Kim and "Julie" Mills.

Neatness Counts in Cold Weather

By Virginia Parker Guidry
Dog Fancy Magazine

Winter's chill still has its hold on most of the country, bringing with it special grooming concerns for dog owners. For example, should you bathe your dog when temperatures are low? How can you handle those muddy paws? Here are answers to those questions and a few more.

Is it safe to bathe my dog in winter?

Yes, it's all right to bathe your dog in the wintertime. In fact, dogs sometimes need more grooming then. Longer, fluffier coats tend to mat, and walks through mud and snow are messy. If your dog is indoors to keep warm, you may be especially eager to bathe it to keep "doggy" odor to a minimum.

The dog must be completely dry before going outside, because a wet dog is more likely to become chilled. This is especially true of small breeds or those with short hair. Prolonged exposure to cold results in a drop in body temperature, or hypothermia, and it is most likely to occur when a dog is wet.

Avoid problems by giving the bath, say, after breakfast and the morning nature break. Bathe as usual, towel dry thoroughly, and keep the dog inside until completely dry. If you normally allow your dog to air dry, consider blow drying to speed the process.

Between baths, or if bathing with water is inconvenient, try dry cleaning. Sprinkle dry shampoo, available at pet supply stores, or a little cornstarch in the dog's coat and brush it through. Be sure to brush out the excess powder.

Should I avoid trimming my dog's coat?

Some owners believe giving a dog a haircut — even breeds requiring regular trimming, such as the Poodle, West Highland White Terrier or Schnauzer — during cold weather compromises the dog because it needs its coat to keep warm. While dogs need to keep warm, it's also true most pets don't live outdoors all the time; they're usually snuggled up with an owner in a centrally heated house. House dogs don't need to rely on long fur and a thick undercoat for warmth

as wild animals or sled dogs do.

It is all right to give your dog a haircut in winter. If you're concerned about your dog's being cold on outings, consider a longer trim or a doggie sweater.

How often should I brush?

For untrimmed dogs, an extra-thick winter coat needs regular, perhaps daily brushing. Some dogs look their best in winter because the coat is so thick and luxurious, but it can mean more work for owners. Keep your dog's coat in top condition by brushing daily to remove tangles, dirt and dead hair, and to increase skin circulation and distribute oil.

A dog's winter coat can hide trouble, such as lumps, bumps or sores, which is another good reason to keep brushing regularly. As you brush, feel and look carefully for signs of illness. Call your veterinarian if you see anything suspect.

Since my dog is indoors, can I skip trimming its nails?

No. If your dog is indoors more frequently in the winter, the nails may need extra trimming because it's not outside running and romping to wear them down. Check weekly, and once

you hear that "click-click" on the bare floor, you'll know it's time to trim.

How can I protect my dog's feet?

No doubt winter weather is tough on paws. You can minimize problems - cracked pads, irritation, infections - from snow, salt, mud, rain, low temperature and gravel simply by wiping the feet dry after every outing. Keep a towel handy by the door, and make feet wiping routine.

Be especially watchful for snow or mud balls between the pads. Also, thorough wiping reduces but does not eliminate muddy paw prints in the house.

Another option is using a cloth or rubber booties. Some dogs accept these items gracefully; others try to chew them off.

What about fleas?

Most owners welcome cold weather because it signals the end of the flea season.

However, fleas can still hang on for months in a warm pet bed or doghouse. Don't let your defense down just because it's winter, especially if you live in a mild climate. Keep up your flea-control program all year.

Canine Blood Typing

Blood types are determined by different proteins on the surface of the red blood cells. Thirteen of these proteins have been identified in dogs. Transfusion reactions can occur when blood cells with a certain protein are given to a patient whose own cells do not have that protein. This stimulates an immune system reaction (similar to the body's reaction to bacteria) and the transfused cells are destroyed. The protein which can cause these reactions is 1.1, and this is the protein we test for.

If your pet's red blood cells do not have the 1.1 protein, then his/her blood type is DEA 1.1 Negative (The DEA stands for **D**og **E**rythrocyte **A**ntigen). If your pet's red blood cells do have the 1.1 protein, then his/her blood type is DEA 1.1 Positive.

While DEA 1.1 Negative is considered a "universal" blood type, 55% of dogs are DEA 1.1 Positive. In human medicine, all patients are blood typed and then transfused with type specific blood. If human doctors relied on "universal" (Type O) blood for all their patients, there would not be nearly enough blood available. The same holds true for veterinary medicine. So whether your dog is DEA 1.1 Negative or DEA 1.1 Positive, his/her blood will save a life!

When your dog makes his first donation, you will receive a card with his blood type. Keep this information in a safe place and give a copy to your pet's veterinarian. You probably know your own blood type; it's a good idea to know your pet's as well.

Happy Birthday!

January

"Sadie" Borland
 "Angus" Fetter
 "Hanna" Jordan
 "Lucy" King
 "Ladie" Knickman
 "Tobi" Leight
 "Rose" Leonard
 "Claude" Rhodes
 "Audrey" Sacco
 "Maia" Searman
 "Kira" Swisher
 "Russo" Wagner
 "Scruffy" Withers

February

"Emmet" Bengston

"Moxie" Brown
 "Bear" Carr
 "Peaches" Clark
 "Ginger" Fouse
 "Louie" Gernhart
 "Maggie" King
 "Fly" Link
 "Picaboo" Rice
 "Anta" Smits
 "Jerico" Thompson
 "B.J." Worley

March

"Kishote" Banning
 "Buffy" Bighouse
 "Lady" Bighouse
 "Carmen" Cargo

"Beauregard" Caswell
 "Buck" Caswell
 "Raven" Celeste
 "Fenris" Chow
 "Maggi" Dalik
 "Annibelle" Gernhart
 "Tucker" Heavener
 "Monte" Lundberg
 "Oakley" Mayhew
 "Piccadilly" Mayhew
 "Justice" McMillan
 "Jughead" Naimark-Stinson
 "Cara" Peterson
 "Chloe" Schneiders
 "Booda" Stout
 "Raven" Valkos
 "Memory" Withers

Attention All EVBB Donor Owners!

Happy Birthday is a new section to our quarterly newsletter. We gathered this data from the Donor Information Sheet originally completed when your dog became a donor. In some cases this information was omitted or unknown. If you have updated information, please contact Barb Vernon at (410) 224-2265 or bvernon@evbb.com.

EVBB Office Staff



Front row (left to right): Stacey Alton, Peggy Driver. Center: Patrick Lee.
 Back row (left to right): Theresa Connelly, Amie Dudley, Barb Vernon.

Welcome New Donors!

Briggs Animal Adoption Center Charles Town, WV

"Bardo" & "Petey" Kushner

EVBB Annapolis, MD

"Zoe" Benish
 "Abner" Bohn
 "Ruby Lyn" Hankinson
 "Katy" Kerrigan
 "Lucy" King
 "Harley" & "Maggie" King
 "Aiko" Krebs
 "Doze" Melton
 "Tuxedo" Mucci
 "Tazzie" Ports
 "Booda" Stout
 "Maggie" Smolinski
 "Cheyenne" Way
 "Phoenix" Zengel

Highway Veterinary Hospital Bowie, MD

"Reily" Deily
 "Kala" Eden
 "Blaze" Holmes
 "Durham" & "Mooka" Orr
 "Cubby" Painter (Greffen)
 "Cara" Peterson
 "Abby" Shaefer

Kingsbrook Animal Hospital Frederick, MD

"Cheyenne" Pittman
 "Russo," "Baggy," "Seton"
 & "Ruthie" Wagner

Pender Veterinary Clinic Fairfax, VA

"Justice" McMillan

PetSmart Bel Air, MD

"Comet" & "Magnum" Bleinberger
 "Jinx" Krejci

Timonium Animal Hospital Timonium, MD

"Dreamie" Rosso
 "Grant" Reinhardt

Webers Pet Supermarket Fairfax, VA

"Bert" Brown

Eastern Veterinary Blood Bank, Inc.

808 Bestgate Road, Suite 111
Annapolis, MD 21401

www.evbb.com

Return Service Requested



I Saved A Life!



"Polo" Whitbeck



"Aladar" Moss

Recipe Corner

Bacon Biscuits

Dog Biscuits-Bacon Flavored

Yields: 40 Servings

5 cup whole wheat flour
1 cup milk
2 eggs
10 tbsp. vegetable oil or bacon fat
1 pinch onion or garlic powder
1 tsp. salt
½ cup cold water
1 tbsp. vegetable oil or bacon fat
(Original recipe didn't say why this was listed, but I suspect this last tbsp. is to grease cookie sheet with.)

Mix all ingredients well. Pinch off pieces of the dough and roll them into two inch balls. Put them on a greased cookie sheet and bake them at 350 degrees for 35 to 40 minutes. Let them cool, then store in an airtight container.

Breath Biscuits

2 cups brown rice flour
1 tbsp. charcoal
1 Large egg slightly beaten
3 tbsp. vegetable oil
1/2 cup chopped parsley
1/3 cup chopped fresh mint
2/3 cup milk

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Combine flour, salt and charcoal. In a medium bowl, combine egg, oil, parsley and mint; mix well. Slowly stir in flour mixture, then add enough milk to make a dough the consistency of drop biscuits. Drop heaping tablespoons of dough about 1 inch apart onto greased cookie sheets. Bake for 15 minutes or until firm. Store cooled biscuits in a covered container in refrigerator.