

THE EASTERN
VETERINARY
BLOOD BANK
PRESENTS

NEWSLETTERS

A FORUM
FOR CANINE
DONORS

SUMMER
2001

Vol. 2
No. 2



Donor Profile

A "Donor Salute" goes out to Mr. Simon Hova and his dog, Cosmo. Cosmo is a four year old mixed Shepherd/Doberman. He was adopted from the North Shore Animal League when he was six weeks old. Mr. Hova, who lives in Long Island, New York, enrolled Cosmo in the EVBB volunteer program after learning of the canine blood shortage through the Internet. These native New Yorkers have made the nine hour round trip four times since November. "We make good time on the way down," says Mr. Hova. "We try to get to the EVBB as quick as we can without making pitstops." However, on the passage home, Mr. Hova only travels about a mile before he makes his first stop. Cosmo is rewarded for



"Cosmo"

performing his heroic duties with half an Applebee's cheeseburger. The other half is eaten by his owner for his heroic performance. Some of Cosmo's extra curricular activities include playing at the local school yard with 7 of his buddies, dressing up for dinner with his owner's niece, and begging for Taco Bell fare (his favorite food). Thank you Cosmo and Mr. Hova for your dedication to saving lives!

Testimonials

We are currently putting together a testimonial book to be kept in our waiting room. We would also like to take this book with us when we set up our recruiting table. Donor families interested in writing a testimonial can contact Tyla Shepeta at 410-224-3527, ext 152. You may also mail your testimonial letters (and a picture too!) to us at EVBB, 808 Bestgate Road, Suite 111, Annapolis, MD 21401 or e-mail us at eastvetbb@evbb.com.

What's Inside?

Summer Pet Care	2
Special Points of Interest	3
A Walk In The Park	3
Summertime Grooming Essentials	4
A Special Thank You	4
Blood Screening at EVBB	5
Reflections: A Book Review	5
Trivia Contest	6

Summer Pet Care

Vacation and the summer season can sometimes pose problems for pets. Help keep your summer safe and pets healthy by following these simple tips:

Heat Stress

Any pet can suffer from heat stress. Help prevent heat stress by:

- Providing plenty of clean, fresh water for your pets at all times.
- Providing adequate ventilation and air circulation when pets are kept in kennels or pens.
- Providing shade and cover when pets are outdoors.
- Avoiding excessive exercise of pets during hot weather.
- Never leaving pets in parked vehicles.

Bites and Stings

Swelling or soreness may be signs of a bite or sting. Contact your veterinarian immediately if you suspect this has occurred.

Ticks

Watch for signs of this insect especially in the spring and summer months. Some ticks can transmit diseases such as Ehrlichia and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. Any tick found on your pet should be removed promptly. Using a tissue or tweezers placed next to the skin,

gently but firmly pull the tick from your pet's skin. Ask your veterinarian (or at your next EVBB appointment) to show you the correct way to remove ticks.

Vacationing

When planning your vacation it will be necessary to decide on your pet's care and whether to leave your pet or take him/her along. Either way, here are a few general tips:

Leaving Your Pet Behind

- Hiring a pet sitter or boarding your pet are options if you decide to leave Fido behind. Ask other pet owners for recommendations on who to call.
- If boarding, visit the facility before making the reservation to meet the staff and check the safety and cleanliness of the operation. Call well in advance....summer and holidays book/fill up early.
- If hiring a pet sitter, meet the sitter in your home to see how he/she and your pet interact.
- Be sure your pet is current on required vaccinations. Many kennels require a kennel cough (Bordatella) vaccination prior to boarding.
- Leave an ample supply of any medications your pet is on

with clear and complete instructions.


- Leave explicit instructions on feeding and a supply of your pet's regular food. If leaving with a sitter, discuss your pet's exercise routine.
- Be sure your pet wears a collar with identification tags.
- Leave information on your veterinarian including office and emergency numbers.
- Be sure to leave a number where you can be reached.


Taking Your Pet Along


- Be sure to call ahead to confirm your pet will be welcome at the hotels, motels, homes or parks where you will be staying.
- Take along your pet's health record.
- Be sure your pet has an identification tag with name and telephone number. A photo of your pet would be helpful in the event he/she is lost while vacationing.
- Keep your pet on a leash or confined in a crate at all times.
- Take along your pet's regular dog food, a supply of water, any special medications, and if possible bedding and a favorite toy.
- Never let your pet ride with his/her head out the window or in the back of a truck.


Special Points of Interest


 **Bark in the Park** was held at the Downs Park in Pasadena on Saturday, May 19th. Local adoption agencies, animal rescue groups, and breed specific clubs were in attendance. Many donors stopped by to visit Theresa at the EVBB table.

 **Tenth Annual SPCA Walk for the Animals.** This popular gala was held on Sunday, May 20th at Quiet Waters Park in Annapolis. This marked the 7th year the EVBB has been a proud sponsor. Tyla and “Indy” were among the many walkers.

 Check out the **2001 Local K-9 Frisbee Tournament** being held on Saturday, June 20th at Griscom Fields (273 Hilltop Lane, Annapolis). Free. 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

 June is **National Disaster Preparedness Month for Animals.** For information on putting together a disaster preparedness kit, visit www.hsus.org

 June 22nd is **Take Your Dog to Work Day.** Corporate America will be letting the dogs in (to work that is)— thanks to Pet Sitters International’s Take Your Dog to Work Day. The goal is to highlight the benefits of having a pet and to encourage adoptions from animal shelters, humane societies, and rescue clubs.

 **National Homeless Animals Day** will be celebrated on the third Saturday in August. This is its 7th consecutive year. The EVBB has donated needed supplies to PAW’s Rescue League in recognition of this day.

A Walk in the Park

It was a beautiful Saturday afternoon, the car was loaded and we were off to the park.... myself, my spouse, our 2 year old son, Michael, and 2 excited dogs, Cricket and Clover. The van was packed with all the essentials for a fun packed picnic. We were greeted at the Quiet Waters Park gate by a friendly and helpful park ranger. She gave us a map, general information, and some tips on where to picnic. Since the dogs were anxious to exercise, we hit the walking path first. When I say hit.....I mean HIT. The dogs were ready for warp speed walking, complete with sniffing, panting, and tangled leashes. Michael only lasted about 1/8 mile before needing a time out. Michael and Dad detoured off to the playground while the dogs and I took the 6 mile challenge. The dogs did great and were well exercised by the end of our venture. I, on the other hand, suffered from twisting torso



Clover, Michael and Cricket

illness. We found a great picnic spot to eat our lunch and take a rest. The park grounds and trails appeared to be very well maintained. We especially enjoyed the scenic overlook of the South River. It was a truly enjoyable day at a truly delightful park. By the time we reached the entrance on the way out we were all thoroughly exhausted. The only person awake for the ride home was the driver. Thank goodness.

Quiet Waters Park

600 Quiet Waters Park Road
Annapolis, MD 21403
Office: 410-222-1777

Fee

- Daily Entry per vehicle \$4
- Senior passes and annual permits are also available

Hours

7 a.m. to dusk, Closed
Tuesdays

Size

- 336 acres of woodlands and open space
- 6 miles of paved trails

Summertime Grooming Essentials

By *Lindsey Moake*
Owner
Platinum Paws

Bathing

Many dog owners are concerned that if they bathe their dog too much it will dry out the skin and coat. This is only true if you bathe your dog every day. Dogs naturally have more oil glands and more hairs per follicle than people do, which allow them to get back their normal oils within 24 hours of a good bath.



By bathing your dog regularly you are allowing the largest organ of their body (their skin) to breathe. Dead skin and undercoat are loosened up to allow coats to shine. Also, for breeds with undercoats, it allows them to stay cooler in the summer.

Brushing

Brushing makes your dog look smoother and well kept. More importantly, it aides in removing undercoat and dead hair which can clog the pores of the skin, therefore, not allowing the skin to breathe properly. This can lead to common summer skin disorders such as hot spots.

Clipping

A clip is a nice alternative for owners that want a break from the "hair." This is another way to help keep your dog's skin healthy and happy. For dogs that are prone to hot spots, clipping reduces the risk for reoccurring problems. And of course, hair always grows back.



Ms. Moake has been professionally grooming for 6 years in several exclusive kennels and grooming shops from the west-coast to the east-coast. She provides in-home grooming for every breed and specialized grooming request.

If you have any questions about the grooming process, or would like to discuss your pet's needs please call her at 301-218-1802.

A Special Thank You...

Thank you to all our donors who submitted photos of their pets wearing their EVBB bandana for our collage poster. The printer made the final selections based on photo quality. Congratulations to the following donors who appear on the new poster.

Bear Carr
Josie & Shelby Evans
Buddha & Chuff Hand
Hershey & Lacey Brady
Suede Snuffer
Anta Smits
Sadie Wilbur
Gracie Lambert

Perry Winkle Rawley-Smith
Calvert Strange
Patch Adams Barrett & Morgan
(cute little girl)
Louie Hadley
Roxanne Claudrue
Gunner Meharg
Mikaela Cowell
Pickles Pugh

Sandy Simms
Jezebel Justice

If you know of a veterinarian, groomer, pet store, obedience club, or other "doggie gathering spot" that would be willing to display our poster, please contact Tyla Shepeta and we'll be happy to send one.

Blood Screening at EVBB

What tests do you perform before my dog's blood is transfused into a patient? This a question routinely asked by new donor families. The EVBB screens all donors and submits many tests. Below is a list of tests we perform and what these tests are evaluating. We screen our donors for two main reasons. First, we want our donors to be healthy and happy. Second, we need to do everything we can to ensure the recipient is receiving blood that is disease free.

Blood Type. We test for the protein DEA 1.1. If your dog is DEA 1.1 negative, he/she is a universal donor.

Complete Blood Count (CBC). Checks levels of white blood cells, red blood cells, platelets, and other cells.

Blood Chemistry Profile. Evaluates kidney and liver function, electrolytes, glucose, protein levels, and other blood constituents.

Heartworm. Dogs get heartworm disease from mosquitos. It's an infected female mosquito that bites and transmits the parasite that causes heartworm disease.

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. This disease is transmitted by the American Dog Tick. It often is manifested by neurological signs (dizziness, seizures) as well as muscle and joint pain.

Haemobartonella, Babesia, and Ehrlichia. These diseases are carried by ticks. The ticks can transmit the Haemobartonella microorganism, the Babesia parasite, or the Ehrlichia canis

parasite. Symptoms of these blood-borne diseases include anemia and weight loss.

Brucella. This is a bacterial disease. This disease is more common in breeding dogs.

Von Willebrand's. Von Willebrand's Disease (vWD) is a common inherited bleeding disorder. In vWD, the dog is missing a substance which helps the platelets form clots and stabilizes Factor VIII in the clotting process. This substance is called "von Willebrand's Factor."

Dr. Schneider or Dr. Lundquist will alert you of any abnormal test results. It's important that we have your current telephone number. At your next appointment, verify your phone number and address.

Reflections: A Book Review

The Man Who Listens to Horses: *The Story of a Real-Life Horse Whisperer* by Monty Roberts

Reviewed by Patrick Lee, Jr.

"Join Up." What does this mean to you? In the horse world it means Monty Roberts and an unconventional way of training horses. No need to "break" a horse, simply ask him to join up. In *The Man Who Listens to Horses; The Story of a Real-Life Horse Whisperer* by Monty Roberts, Monty explains how he learned the ancient equine language and how he derived his philosophy of non-violent communication. The book is a fascinating autobiography told in the fashion of a tall tale all of which is true. Monty takes you through his childhood with his abusive father, his color blindness, and his subsequent discovery that he could literally understand the visual language of horses. The

book is a very easy and interesting read, with lessons for all aspects of life with or without horses.

I recently had the opportunity to witness Mr. Roberts demonstrate his particular talent while volunteering for a good cause. My son Michael has benefitted from participating in Maryland Therapeutic Riding's program and so I decided to volunteer and help Monty's "Join Up Tour" raise funds for this unique organization. All volunteers convened at the Prince George's County Equestrian Center and prepared to see and assist in an amazing demonstration of horse whispering. I, through some bizarre serendipity, ended up working literally at Monty's right hand. The technique has virtually no whispering and is so simple that it is a wonder that more people haven't joined up. Monty

works with horses who have some behavioral issues and have never had contact with him or his methods previously. Through what is a combination of body movements and positioning and working the horse in a particular rhythm, Monty is able to "fix" a horse in about 30 minutes. He stresses that the horses aren't fixed, they have simply decided to join up with his "herd" and will need to continually be convinced to join up again and again. The process needs to be seen to be believed, but reading his book will convince you of its merits.

For more information on Monty Roberts, go to www.montyroberts.com.

For more information on Maryland Therapeutic Riding, go to www.horsethatheal.org.

Eastern Veterinary Blood Bank, Inc.

808 Bestgate Road, Suite 111
Annapolis, MD 21401

www.evbb.com

Return Service Requested



"Suede" Snuffer

Trivia Contest

Test your knowledge and see if you can answer these questions correctly. We will draw two names from the pot of correct answers. These two contestants will win an EVBB t-shirt.

- 1. What was Benji's first TV role?**
- 2. What breed of dog was President Herbert Hoover's pet "Big Ben"?**
- 3. Name 4 diseases transmitted by ticks.**
- 4. What is the ingredient in anti-freeze that is toxic to pets?**

Rules and how to play:

1. Write your answers down on a piece of paper. Don't forget to number your answers.
2. Send your answers to Eastern Veterinary Blood Bank, 808 Bestgate Road, Suite 111, Annapolis, MD 21401, Attention: Trivia Contest or e-mail to eastvetbb@evbb.com. Please include your telephone number so we may contact you if you are a winner.
3. We must receive your answers by July 15, 2001. To be entered into the drawing, the answers to all the questions must be correct. Two winners will be drawn from the pot of correct answers. We will contact you by phone if you are a winner.

Good Luck!

We will announce the winners and answers in our next issue of UNLEASHED.