



# Bulldog Club of Greater San Diego

BCGSD is a 501c3 Non-Profit Corporation

Member BCA Division III

www.sdbulldogs.org

June 2007

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## President's Message

Dear Fellow Bulldoggers and Friends,

On May 11, 2007, the Club held its annual Bulldog Specialty Show the BCGSD "Bully Ball". A number of club members exhibited their dogs – Andre Barlow, Jamie Kimball, Thomas White and Diana Zarate. Diane Zarate and "Geremia's Jade Princess" earned a 4<sup>th</sup> place finish in the puppy 6 to 9 month class; Tom White and "DK's Miss CE CE Rider" earned a 3<sup>rd</sup> place ribbon in Bulldog Open Bitches, and Jamie Kimball and "Kimbulls Cool Dude Recommissioned" took a 1<sup>st</sup> place finish in the Bulldogs 12 and under 18 months category. The Best of Breed was won by CH Newcomb's Coastbull Atlas owned by Brenda & Link Newcomb and Micah Leslie. A special thanks to Geri Dimeglio for serving as the Ring Steward, Janice Hochstetler at the hospitality table, Kasey Kimball for the goodie bags, and Thomas and Elsa White for the beautiful trophies.



## Kimbull's Brindle Bitches

Our next club event will be the Del Mar Fair on June 9th, where we will have a booth to show off our bullies and provide information on the breed. I want to personally thank all of you that have signed up with Sarah Grant to participate in this public outreach and educational event. This activity provides us with a wonderful opportunity to educate the public about the special needs of our lovable Sourmugs.

After the Fair, our next club activity will be the August picnic.. If there are any of you that would be interested in working on this event please contact Geri Dimeglio, who is in charge of the activity. I look forward to see-

## Upcoming Events

June 9th San Diego County Fair

July 7th & 8th Wags for Wishes, wonderful dog extravaganza to benefit the Make A Wish Foundation at the SD Equestrian Park

August 5, 2007 Annual BCGSD Summer Picnic

October 27, 2007 October Halloween Party

December 28, 2007 December Holiday Party

## New Members

“A great big bullie hug to our new members”

Marc & Cyndee McGowan and Buster of Santee

Lisa Romen and Otis of San Diego

The next  
BCGSD Board Meeting  
will be a  
POT LUCK DINNER  
held at 6pm on Saturday  
July 14th at  
Naomi's house in Santee.  
Anyon interested in at-  
tending, please do. RSVP  
to  
[naomibell@hotmail.com](mailto:naomibell@hotmail.com)



Tank and Spike want you to know about the new arrial baby Jaxyn Briel. She is doing well along with proud parents Corina and Ryan



ing many of you at the Fair or at our August picnic. On behalf of the officers and Board, I thank you all for your support and encourage you to get involved in club activities. There is a lot more we could do with more involvement. We appreciate your input and encourage your questions and suggestions for club improvement.

Derek Rasmussen

## TIDBITS from the editer

Heat stroke is an excessive rise of body temperature such that there is direct thermal injury to body tissues.

Factors that increase your Bulldog's risk of developing heat stroke include:

- water deprivation
- excessive heat/humidity
- obesity
- exercise
- cardiovascular disease
- lack of acclimatization

The elevated body temperatures affect multiple organs. Heat stroked dogs often present with temperatures >106 F, have extreme panting and hyper-salivation, and the mucous membranes are often dark. The animal is generally in shock, may have diarrhea and/or vomiting, and is often unresponsive or comatose.

The longer the temperature is elevated the worse the damage. Once you've determined your Bulldog has heat stroke, spray or immerse it in cold water, and get veterinary help. Keep the windows down in the car on the way to the veterinary clinic. Putting ice on the animal is not recommended as this constricts the blood vessels, which impedes the heat loss. Massaging the animal is thought to improve blood flow and thus help cooling. It is not recommended that you cool the animal below 103 F as further passive cooling will occur and animals often become hypothermic.

## May Minutes

Meeting held May 19, 2007  
Jimmy's Restaurant in Santee

**Board Members Present:** Derek Rasmussen, Sarah Grant, Naomi Bell, Kasey Kimball, Elaine Feinstein, Tom & Elsa White.  
Non-Board Members: Deb Shoemaker and new member Cyndee McGowan

**Board Members Absent:** Geri Dimeglio, Corina Cauldren and Janice Hochstedler

### **Board Member Reports:**

**Derek** - We have two new members, Cindy McGowan & Max her bully, and Lisa Romero & Otis her bully. We have \$2,500.00 - \$3,000.00 in the treasury. Our Specialty Show held on May 11, 2007 at IPayOne Center came in on the black. Next year's Specialty Show will be held at the Del Mar Fairgrounds, same date as this year.

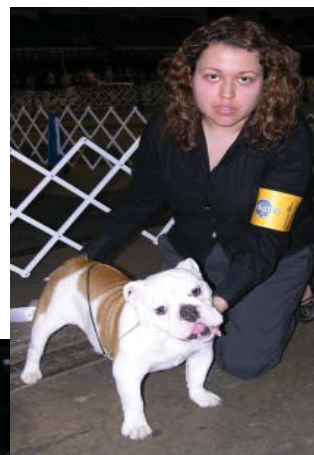
**Elaine** - issues regarding rescue: the design of the website is almost done, it is estimated to be done by the end of summer. With summer around the corner rescue gets busy with people needing help with their bully's skin problems - need volunteers for the summer to help with caring of these bullies. For adoption of a rescue bully the National Adoption Application is acceptable. We would like to invite the bulldog rescue families to our August picnic. Also, for the picnic we would like to have a bake sale for the proceeds to go to rescue and a motion was passed for 10% of profits to go to BCGSD.

**Kasey** - regarding next year's Specialty Show we would like to have a Junior Handler's Judge, maybe consider getting a Judge to critique the show dogs after the show, time to look for next year's Judge is now. Also, Naomi volunteered to head our Specialty Show! We would like to consider having a two-day show for next year and having one of the days be an evening show. Our next local show is June 17, 2007 at Southwestern College in Chula Vista.

**Sarah** - We have a booth at the San Diego Fair held at the Del Mar Fairgrounds on June 9, 2007. Working on setting up a website (members board) on Yahoo Group for our Bulldog Club, I have a template of a letter regarding the spay and neuter bill AB 1634 you can use to send to our Assembly and Congress.

**Other Discussion Items:** Inquiries received from potential new members are sent to our club secretary Elsa White at [tom-myhihtide@msn.com](mailto:tom-myhihtide@msn.com) will have our newsletter attached to their response.

**Future Board Meetings** – All members are welcome to the board meetings. The next meeting, a Pot Luck dinner, has been set for July 14, 2007 at 6:00pm at Naomi Bell's house. R.S.V.P. required.



**Specialty  
Show  
May 11,  
2007**



# Taking Your Bulldog Out In Public

First, and foremost, make sure your dog has all his necessary shots before taking him out in public.

## Puppy Vaccination Schedule

### 6 - 8 Weeks

Comprehensive Exam  
DHLP-Parvo-Corona - "The Puppy Shot"  
Fecal Exam  
Heartworm Preventative  
Deworming

### 10 - 12 Weeks

Physical Exam  
DHLP-Parvo-Corona - "The Puppy Shot"  
Heartworm Preventative  
Bordetella  
Deworming

### 15 -16 Weeks

Physical Exam  
DHLP-Parvo-Corona - "The Puppy Shot"  
Heartworm Preventative  
Rabies  
Fecal Exam  
Deworming

### 20 Weeks

Physical Exam  
DHLP-Parvo-Corona - "The Puppy Shot"  
Fecal Exam  
Heartworm Preventative

**Therefore, it is a club policy not to allow puppies less than 4 months old to club functions.**

**Keep a sick dog at home.** Don't you prefer to be in the comfort of your own home, relaxing in your favorite chair when you're under the weather? Well, your dog does too.

Always bring plenty of water for yourself and your dog.

- Make sure your pooch is well fed before heading out. Grabbing some grub for



the dog before leaving the house gives the dog no reason to beg for food from you and especially from others.



Let it all hang out, but don't forget to tuck it back in.

- Make sure to have clean up bags with you at all times.

- Dogs should head out in the morning or late afternoon hours when the heat and humidity are low.

- Try to set up shop in the shade to minimize sun exposure, since dogs sunburn just like we do. Only apply sunscreen that is designed especially for dogs.

- Make sure ID tags and contact info is secured onto collars.

- The summertime is when lawns and fair grounds get a makeover with fertilizer, insecticides and planting flora - all of which can be toxic to dogs when ingested. Check with the coordinators of the open air events you are arranging to attend, and investigate if the grass is chemically treated.

- If you see Pooch getting pooped stop and take a rest in shade and give him some water, or take him back home. Never ever leave a dog in a parked car; the temperature in a parked car can reach 120 degrees in a matter of minutes.

- Be considerate of your dog's paws. Hot cement and blacktop can cause serious burns. Consider going after the sun goes down when the concrete cools.

**Dear Zelda,**

July 4th is quickly approaching. Although I am a mature and intelligent seven-year-old Bulldog, it shames me to admit I am terribly afraid of loud noises created by FIREWORKS. I feel the same way about THUNDERSTORMS. Furthermore, I am totally petrified of LIGHTNING. I cannot recall an incident from my early puppy hood that would have instilled such a fear in me. I shake and shiver, and my prominent brown eyes feel as if they are going to pop right out of my head from fear. I refuse to go out for a walk, or eat food until the noise has abated. Meanwhile, I pace and pant, and lose lots of my fur.



This behavior has my human very upset, and she tries to soothe me and talk to me rationally, but logic goes out the window when it comes to fireworks, lightning and thunder. Can you advise my human and myself how best to cope with this situation?

### **'Fraid of Fireworks**

**Dear 'Fraid of Fireworks,**

Hot dogs and fireworks make a great combination on the Fourth of July, but that doesn't mean that real dogs and fireworks were ever meant to mix. You, my friend, are not alone. Every year many dogs (and cats, and birds, and any other animals with any sense about them) experience fear and confusion on this holiday. Seriously, who wants to be surprised by bright lights and loud explosions when no one even bothered to tell us what was going on in the first place? Well it may be a little late this year, but your owner can still try to prepare you for the fireworks on the Fourth, as well as help you manage your phobia problems with thunderstorms and lightning.

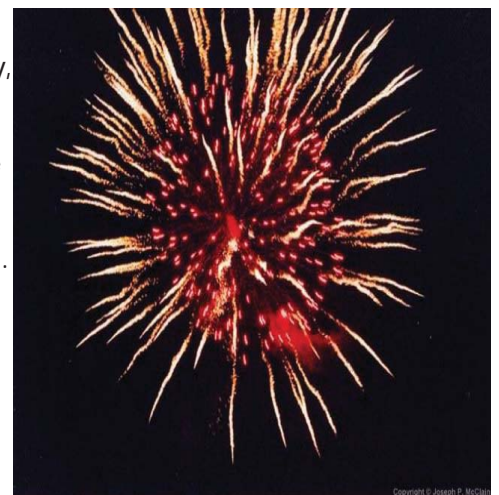
For one, there are specially made recordings of fireworks and thunder that can be used to train you not to react to the noises. A CD with instructions can be obtained from [www.SoundsScary.com](http://www.SoundsScary.com). You need to start the CD quietly, and gradually increase the volume over the course of a few months. It may take from three to six months to complete this kind of training, and you may need to continue the desensitization indefinitely. However, this kind of treatment can be very successful when used over time.

But the Fourth of July is just around the corner, so here are some other short-term tips to help ensure that you get through this year's fireworks without too much hair loss. First, stay indoors during the fireworks. We dogs have such acute hearing that fireworks sound like volcanoes exploding to us. Second, get your owner or someone in the family to stay with you during the fireworks. It's best if she remains cheerful and in control. Tell her that soothing and comforting you will only increase the problem. It will either make you feel like she's scared too, or you might interpret her soothing as a reward for your behavior. Third, stay in a room where you feel safe. A crate is a good place because it feels like a den. If you have your favorite toys and a Kong filled with something yummy, all the better. It's always best to have the windows and curtains closed as well. Fourth, I always like the TV tuned to the Discovery Channel or Animal Planet, which distracts me from the loud noises outside. If Bach suits you better, go for it. Finally, be sure that you are wearing identification. Many pets have run away from home and become lost during firework displays. Not that you'd do this, you picture of calm and composure, but it's a good idea to be prepared in case the spirit moves you.

So my friend, get out there and celebrate the 4th of July, canine style. Picnics at the park, long before dark, are a lark with a bark! Did I really just say that?

**Zelda**

Reprinted from [www.zeldawisdom.com](http://www.zeldawisdom.com)



# Rescue Report

**Otis**, a 3 year old male surrender has been placed into his forever home. 1 year old surrender female **Tricksy** is being fostered and due to go on Home Trial soon. We expect another female surrender to come into the program by the end of May. At our Quarterly Meeting in April, the main discussion was the creation of SDBR's website. Thanks to Caroline Knox Serrano for all her continued hard work on this!

## Spring Show Results

### JUNIOR HANDLERS:

Dhani Wilson-  
PCBC Specialty  
4/21 1st Novice Junior  
4/22 1st Novice Junior/ Junior  
Handler

Haley Wilson-  
PCBC Specialty  
4/21 1st Open Junior/ Junior  
Handler  
4/22 1st Open Junior

Cabrillo Kennel Club  
5/12 1st Open Junior

### CONFORMATION:

Dann Wilson-  
Kimbull's Ripley's Believeit-  
bull  
PCBC Specialty  
4/21 1st 12-18mo.

Cabrillo Kennel Club  
5/12 1st. 12-18mo.  
5/13 1st 12-18mo. (handler-  
Haley)

Kimbull's Unbelievabull Ra-  
punzel  
PCBC Specialty  
4/21 2nd Sweeps/ 2nd 6-9mo.



Cabrillo Kennel Club  
5/13 1st 6-9mo. (handler:  
Haley)

Tom & Elsa White-  
DK's Miss CeCe Rider  
Kern County Kennel Club  
3/31 1st Open  
4/1 1st Open



Rio Hondo Kennel Club  
5/5 4th Open

Sir Homerun Charlie  
Kern County Kennel Club  
3/31 4th Open  
4/1 2nd Open- RWD

Rio Hondo Kennel Club  
5/5 2nd Open  
5/6 3rd Open

Jamie & Kasey Kimball-  
Kimbull's Cool Dude Recom-  
mended  
BCGSD Specialty  
1st 12-18mo.

Cabrillo Kennel Club  
5/12 3rd 12-18 mo.  
5/13 4th 12-18 mo.

Kimbull's Brindle Britches  
BCGSD Specialty  
5/11 1st 12-18mo.

Cabrillo Kennel Club  
5/12 3rd 12-18mo.  
5/13 3rd 12-18mo.

**A column to address common training problems for pet owners.  
 You are welcome to send in your questions or problems to  
 Betty Fisher by phone (559-689-3551, [bfisher@sti.net](mailto:bfisher@sti.net) or  
 P.O. Box 93, Raymond, CA 93653**



Fang would like to hear from you about problems you may be having with your Bulldog. You can reach him at the above addresses.

Dear Fang,  
 My Bulldog hates to have his toenails clipped and now they are so long he looks like he is walking on his heels. What can I do? How often do they need to be cut? If I take him to the groomer he gets so excited that it worries me to death. What can I do?

Worried  
 Dear Worried,

Toenails do have to be clipped regularly, how often depends on how hard your dog's nails are and what kind of surface he walks on. One of my great grandchildren even used to bite his nails so they seldom had to be clipped.

Using treats is a good way to teach your boy to allow you to cut his nails. Show the dog the clippers and give him a small, delicious treat and praise him. Do this 4-5 times and put the clippers away. Do this twice a day if you can for about three days. On the fourth day reward him 2-3 times then gently pick up one foot and rub the foot with the clippers, praising and rewarding. You might get to clip one toenail, maybe not. The key here is to gradually work up to clipping the nails. It isn't necessary to cut them all in one session just do one foot or even one or two nails. No matter how hard it is always praise your dog as if he had done the greatest job in the world. It will take time but you can teach him to get his nails clipped regularly. Don't forget the dew claws on the inside of the front legs.

Fang

*Betty Fisher*

*Betty Fisher has owned and trained Bulldogs to more than twenty obedience, carting and agility titles. She is the author of "So Your Dog's Not Lassie" an award winning book on training independent dogs and "Caninestein", both recommended by the Bulldog Club of America. Betty writes a regular performance column for the Bulldogger, magazine of the Bulldog Club of America.*



## "A Tribute to Otis"

Born 5/16/03 Died 4/10/07

You passed over to the Rainbow Bridge much too soon... but a lifetime would not have been enough with you, my sweet angel on this earth. You gave me unconditional love for which I will be eternally grateful. My last words to you were "I will see you again". May you be well and happy until that day comes. I love you Otis, forever. Mom

Tracey Leveque



# Meet The Members

Gerri Dimeglio

I live in El Cajon with my husband Rob and my precious fur babies Kennedy (bulldog) and Kirby (golden retriever). Kennedy is my first bulldog and she has been such a delight. I brought her home on St. Patrick's Day 2003 and it has been a challenge to keep her busy ever since! She has finally decided to join Kirby and I in competition obedience and rally so wish us lots of luck. We are learning agility as well. This is my first year on the board and I am enjoying it very much. I look forward to helping out at activities and meeting everyone!



## A Letter To The Editor:

You will never believe what happened. I am going to be able to keep Otis. I thought that I would have to give him up because I could not control him. Yesterday I took Otis to a man named Thomas White. Thomas knows Betty Fisher and says that Betty mentored him. He took one look at Otis and said that we can train Otis. He put a lead on Otis and walked him around the yard and taught me how to walk him with his lead. Otis was a different dog. Before he would refuse to walk on his leash. Not to mention that I was using a harness. (All the wrong things) Otis and I are going to attend Thomas' training classes every Saturday.

I love my dog and want him to have the best life ever. I just need training along with Otis. We are going to try this. Thomas is a miracle worker. Otis and I have been on 4 to 5 walks since seeing Thomas and we have done great!!!

Also, part of the problem is that we have 3 bullies, one of which is another male. Otis will now be separated from Louie. I did not know that having two males together was not a good idea. I know now. I can't even begin to tell you how heart broken I was thinking I was going to have to give Otis up. I have high hopes. I want to extend multiple thanks to all who have replied to my e-mails and phone calls. I knew that I was contacting the right people who could help me.

Lisa Romero

## Rally Obedience

Rally obedience, or “Rally-O” as it has been termed by enthusiasts, is the latest American Kennel Club event to hit the show circuit. Rally-O combines characteristics of sports car racing, dog agility, and traditional obedience into a new fun sport.

Rally is timed, includes 12-20 performance stations depending on the level of participation, and is scored by a judge who watches for a smooth performance as well as skill in following the directions at each station.

As it does with obedience and agility, AKC offers Rally titles at three levels:

- Novice, with on-leash exercises that demonstrate the dog's understanding of basic commands such as sit, stay, down, and come and heel position;
- Advanced, a set of exercises performed off-leash that includes at least one jump; and
- Excellent, a more difficult off-leash course that includes at least one jump and demonstrates more precise skill and coordination between the dog and handler.

As in agility, courses are designed by the judge and are different in every trial. Exhibitors receive a course map from the judge and can walk the course without their dogs prior to the start of the class. Judges design their courses by choosing from more than four-dozen stations that direct handlers and dogs to perform specific exercises.

A sign at each station gives instructions to the dog-handler team, and each team must execute the station's particular task within two-to-four feet of the sign. Once the judge gives the command “forward,” the dog and handler complete the course on their own without further commands from the judge. Handlers may not use treats or toys in the ring, but may do anything else to encourage their dogs at the novice and advanced levels except physically touch them or make corrections with the leash. Encouragement is allowed at the excellent level but handlers cannot pat their legs or clap their hands as they can in novice and advanced classes.

Signs instruct teams to go fast or slow, to halt (dog must sit at heel), to make turns and circles, to reverse direction, to do a sit-stay-recall, or to follow other basic obedience exercises.

Each team has a starting score of 100 points from  
Bulldog Club of Greater San Diego

which points are deducted for such faults as missed or incompletely performed stations, touching the dog, leash corrections, etc. The team with the highest score (i.e., fewest number of faults) wins first place, followed by the next highest score for second place, and so forth.

If two teams achieve the same score, the judge determines the placements according to the time recorded for each team's course completion.

Rally-O is a wonderful introduction to the sport of obedience for dogs and owners, an end in itself, an opportunity for veteran dogs to remain active, and a chance for shy or anti-social dogs to get ring experience without worrying about being examined by a judge.

Many dogs enjoy this change from the usual silent heeling of traditional obedience as their handlers can clap hands, talk, whistle (even sing!) to them throughout the entire course without penalty. Those who participate in agility trials will recognize the pre-class “walk-through” and the challenge of working with their dog partners in an almost dance-like flow from one station to another. A complete description of Rally Obedience is on the AKC website at <http://www.akc.org/pdfs/rulebooks/RO2999.pdf>.



**The Bulldog Club of America Division III Specialty Show at the Ventura cluster on July 5th (Thursday) will include Rally for the first time as well as the usual Obedience Trial. The judge is Bill Iwamoto, and he enjoys Bulldog antics.**

The Division considered canceling obedience due to the lack of entries in 2006 but decided to give it one more chance and added Rally as well.

The show is held at the Ventura Fairgrounds right on the beach. The weather has always been Bulldog friendly. Betty Fisher will be showing on Thursday and looks forward to seeing you and having a really fun day.

Please consider supporting the obedience and/or rally entry this year and make it a really good trial. It could be practice for the National in WA this year where Rally will be included, also for the first time.

# Dental Care

Owners that practice good dental care with their dog will reap many benefits in the long run. The most common cause of bad breath is excessive calculus and plaque deposits on the teeth. Bacteria live and feed in the plaque and produce gum and bone infection, pain, and bad breath.

Calculus is a crusty collection of food particles, minerals, and bacteria that forms at the teeth-gum borders.

Plaque formation eventually leads to gum disease, mouth odors, receding gums and bone destruction and infection. The rate at which plaque forms in your dog's mouth is mainly due to genetic predisposition, but can be slowed by daily oral hygiene using an antiplaque liquid or gel and/or pastes and regular professional cleaning and polishing.

Pyorrhea (inflamed and infected gums) of the teeth is often the cause of kidney infections and endocarditis in older dogs. The pressure on the gums and infection of the teeth is quite painful to your dog.

## Preventive steps

An antiplaque liquid or gel (Chlorhexidine) can be applied to the gum tissue with a cotton ball or swab. As an alternative, a soft bristle toothbrush or finger brush can be used with a non-foaming enzymatic toothpaste manufactured for dogs. Treatments should be done daily or at least every other day, depending on the current problems. Only a few areas are particularly susceptible to plaque and calculus formation. The areas of greatest concern are the canines and upper back molars (side facing cheeks).

Chlorhexidine penetrates gum tissue and prevents bacterial growth, plaque build-up, gingivitis, and bad breath. In addition to the canines and molars, look at the front incisor teeth and brush away any accumulation of hair and food at the gum line if present.

To remove existing calculus deposits, your dog will require short general anesthesia and your dog's teeth will be cleaned with dental instruments along with an ultra-sonic machine that vibrates the calculus off the surface of the teeth. Calculus from under the gum tissue is carefully removed using a hand scaler. Finally, the teeth are polished to reduce purchase for new deposits. This can often be done when the dog is under anesthetic for other reasons, such as neutering.

## Cavities, etc

Dogs do not commonly get cavities. When they do occur, it is more often at the root of the tooth rather than at the crown. Cavities can lead to root abscesses. Abscessed roots often cause a swelling just below the animal's eye. Generally, tooth extractions are needed at this point.



[C.E.T. 0.12% Chlorhexidine available at Amazon.com and other pet store outlets](#)

## The Bad Foods For Dogs List

### **Alcohol**

Do not give your dog sips of any alcoholic beverage. Ingestion can lead to injury, disorientation, sickness, urination problems or even coma or death from alcohol poisoning. Some dogs may be attracted to alcoholic drinks so don't leave one setting where a dog can reach it.

### **Apple**

The seeds contain cyanogenic glycosides which can result in cyanide poisoning.

### **Apricot**

The seed pit contains cyanogenic glycosides which can cause cyanide poisoning.

### **Avocado**

Avocado contains a toxic element called persin which can damage heart, lung and other tissue in many animals. Avocados are high in fat content and can trigger an upset stomach, vomiting or even pancreatitis. The seed pit is also toxic and if swallowed can become lodged in the intestinal tract where it may cause a severe blockage which will have to be removed surgically. Since avocado is the main ingredient in guacamole be sure and keep your dog out of the dip.

### **Baby Food**

Before feeding any baby food to your dog check the ingredients to see if it contains onion powder, which can be toxic to dogs. Feeding baby food in large amounts may result in nutritional deficiencies.

### **Bones**

Cooked bones can be very hazardous for your dog. Bones become brittle when cooked which causes them to splinter when broken. The splinters have sharp edges that have been known to become stuck in the teeth, caused choking when caught in the throat or caused a rupture or puncture of the stomach lining or intestinal tract. Especially bad bones are turkey and chicken legs, ham, pork chop and veal. Raw bones (uncooked in any way) like chicken necks or beef knuckle bones are generally considered safe and help keep your dog's teeth healthy by removing plaque. A caution - bones have a high calcium content and too many can cause severe constipation.

### **Bread Dough**

When bread dough is ingested your dog's body heat causes the dough to rise in the stomach. During the rising process alcohol is produced as the dough expands. Pets who have eaten bread dough may experience abdominal pain, bloat, vomiting, disorientation and depression. A pet needs to eat only a small amount

to cause a problem, because bread dough can rise to many times its size.

### **Broccoli**

The toxic ingredient in broccoli is isothiocyanate. While it may cause stomach upset it probably won't be very harmful unless the amount fed exceeds 10% of the dogs total daily diet.

### **Caffeine**

Beverages with caffeine (like soda, tea, coffee) acts as a stimulant and can accelerate your pet's heartbeat to a dangerous level. Pets ingesting caffeine have been known to have seizures, some fatal.

### **Candy**

Sugarless candy containing xylitol has been recognized by the National Animal Poison Control Center (NAPCC) to be a risk to pets (first published July 2004). This compound can cause liver damage and death in some dogs. This information is recent and some vets may not be familiar with xylitol poisoning.

### **Cat Food**

Cat food is not formulated for canine consumption. It is generally too high in protein and fats and is not a balanced diet for a dog.

### **Cherries**

The seed pit contains cyanogenic glycosides, which can cause cyanide poisoning.

### **Chocolate**

Chocolate contains theobromine, a compound that is a cardiac stimulant and a diuretic. When affected by an overdose of chocolate, a dog can become excited and hyperactive. Due to the diuretic effect, it may pass large volumes of urine and it will be unusually thirsty. Vomiting and diarrhea are also common. The effect of theobromine on the heart is the most dangerous effect. Theobromine will either increase the dog's heart rate or may cause the heart to beat irregularly. Death is quite possible, especially with exercise. Symptoms of chocolate poisoning include: vomiting, diarrhea, tremors, hyperactivity, irregular heartbeat and seizures.

Cocoa powder and cooking chocolate are the most toxic forms. These forms of chocolate contain ten times more theobromine than milk chocolate. Even licking a substantial part of the chocolate icing from a cake can make a dog sick. The next most dangerous forms are semi-sweet chocolate and dark chocolate, with milk chocolate being the least dangerous. A dog needs to eat more than a 250gm block of milk chocolate, however the high amount of fat found in milk chocolate can lead to an attack of pancreatitis.

## **Citrus Oil Extracts**

Citrus oil extracts have been known to cause vomiting.

## **Corn Cobs**

Many dogs have suffered and, in some cases, died after eating corn-on-the-cob, because the corn cob caused a partial or complete intestinal obstruction. Never allow your dog access to corn cobs.

## **Dairy Products**

Most dairy products are digested poorly by dogs who have little or none of the enzyme required to digest the lactose in milk. Just like lactose-intolerant people, lactose-intolerant dogs can develop excessive intestinal gas (flatulence) and may have foul-smelling diarrhea. It is best to avoid most dairy products altogether, although small amounts of cheese or plain yogurt are tolerated by most dogs, since these products have less lactose than most.

## **Eggs (Raw)**

Raw egg whites contain a protein called avidin, which can deplete your dog of biotin, one of the B vitamins. Biotin is essential to your dog's growth and coat health. Additionally, raw eggs are often contaminated with bacteria, such as salmonella, and you could end up giving your dog food poisoning in addition to biotin deficiency.

## **Grapes or Raisins**

Although the minimum lethal dosage is not known, grapes and raisins can be toxic to dogs when ingested in large quantities. The symptoms are gastrointestinal signs including vomiting and diarrhea, and then signs of kidney failure with an onset of severe kidney signs starting about 24 hours after ingestion. The amount of grapes eaten varied between 9 oz. and 2 lbs., which worked out to be between 0.41 and 1.1 oz/kg of body weight. It has been reported that two dogs died directly from the toxicity, three were euthanized due to poor response to treatment and five dogs lived.

## **Liver**

Many dog treats and prepared foods contain liver so it may surprise you to find liver on the bad foods list. In small amounts liver is good for your dog, but if the liver intake is too high it can cause nutritional problems because liver has a high content of vitamin A. Consumption of this vitamin in large amounts can lead to vitamin A toxicity, or hypervitaminosis A. If your dog eats raw liver or consumes three servings of cooked liver a week it could lead to bone problems. Feeding liver to a dog taking Vitamin A supplements can lead to an overdose of Vitamin A.

## **Macadamia Nuts**

The toxic compound is unknown but eating as few as six nuts without the shell has been known to cause elevated body temperature, accelerated heartbeat, tremors in the skeletal muscles, and weakness or paralysis of the distressed and usually panting. Some affected dogs have had swollen limbs and showed pain when the limb was manipulated. Dogs did recover from the muscle weakness and pain and it is not known if there have been any fatal cases.

Macadamia butter is included in this warning.

## **Moldy or Spoiled Foods**

The common mold found growing on many foods contain toxins such as Penicillium mold toxins or [tremorgenic mycotoxins](#). Symptoms of poisoning include severe tremors and seizures that can last for hours or even days. This is considered an emergency and medical treatment is needed to control the seizures and detoxify the dog.

Spoiled foods can cause food poisoning. Symptoms of food poisoning are severe vomiting, diarrhea and shock.

## **Mushrooms**

Mushroom poisoning can be fatal if certain species of mushrooms are eaten. The most commonly reported severely toxic species of mushroom in the US is Amanita phalloides, but other Amanita species are also toxic. They can cause severe liver disease and neurologic disorders. The recommendation is to [induce vomiting](#) when these mushrooms are ingested and to give activated charcoal, as well. Supportive treatment for liver disease may also be necessary.

## **Nutmeg**

Nutmeg is reported to be a hallucinogenic when ingested in large doses. Nutmeg has been known to cause tremors, seizures and in some cases, death.

## **Nuts**

Nuts in general are not good for dogs as their high phosphorus content may lead to bladder stones.

## **Onions**

Onions cause hemolytic anemia, which means that the red blood cells break down leaving the dog short of oxygen. Onion poisoning can occur with a single ingestion of large quantities or with repeated meals containing small amounts of onion. The condition generally improves once the dog is prevented from eating any further onion. The poisoning may occur a few days after the dog has eaten the onion. At first dogs affected by onion poisoning show gastroenteritis with vomiting and diarrhea, weakness and show little or no interest in food. The red pigment from the burst blood cells appears in an affected dog's urine making it dark colored. The dog will experience shortness of breath because the red blood cells that carry oxygen through

the body are reduced in number. Other symptoms are elevated body temperature, confusion, and increased heart rate.

### **Peaches, Pears & Plums**

The seed pit contains cyanogenic glycosides which can cause cyanide poisoning.

### **Play Dough**

Home made play dough contains high levels of salt. When ingested this can cause salt poisoning which can be fatal.

### **Potatoes**

Solanum alkaloids can be found in green sprouts and green potato skins, which occurs when the tubers are exposed to sunlight during growth or after harvest. The relatively rare occurrence of actual poisoning is due to several factors: solanine is poorly absorbed; it is mostly hydrolyzed into less toxic solanidin; and the metabolites are quickly eliminated. Cooked, mashed potatoes are fine for dogs, actually quite nutritious and digestible.

### **Rich Fatty Foods (turkey skin bacon, sausages, hot dogs deep-fried anything)**

Rich, fatty foods can be very dangerous to dogs susceptible to attacks of pancreatitis. Often you may not know that your dog is susceptible until he is very sick with his first attack. It is often the smaller, more energetic breeds like miniature or toy poodles, cocker spaniels, miniature schauzers, and other small terrier-type dogs who seem particularly prone. However, any dog may have a problem. It is best to avoid these foods altogether.

### **Salmon (Raw)**

Commonly called "Salmon Poisoning Disease" (or SPD), this can be a problem for anyone who feeds their dog a raw meat diet that includes raw salmon, but it is mostly seen in the Pacific Northwest and California. The cause is infection by a rickettsial organism called *Neorickettsia helminthoeca*. The rickettsial organism does not directly infect the dog but is carried instead by a parasite (a flatworm or fluke) called *Nanophyteus salmincola* through two intermediate hosts - freshwater snails and salmon.

Prevention is simple, cook all fish before feeding any to your dog. If you are outdoors hiking or camping or live near streams and rivers were salmon spawn, keep a close eye on your dog on don't let your pet run free to insure that no fish carcasses are ingested. Please see your vet immediately if you suspect your dog has ingested raw salmon.

### **Salt**

Iodized salt and salty foods can cause stomach ailments

and pancreatitis. Some dogs, especially large breeds, have been known to gulp too much water after eating salty foods and developed a life threatening condition called bloat during which the stomach fills with gas and twists, leading to a painful death unless emergency treatment is received immediately.

### **Table Scraps**

Table scraps are not a nutritionally balanced diet for a dog. If fed at all scraps should never be more than 10% of the diet. Fat should be trimmed from meat and all cooked bones discarded. Also see "Rich, Fatty Foods" above.

### **Tobacco Products**

Cigarettes and cigarette butts, cigars, pipe tobacco, nicotine patches, nicotine gum and chewing tobacco can be fatal to dogs if ingested. Signs of nicotine poisoning can appear within an hour and include hyperactivity, salivation, panting, vomiting and diarrhea. Advanced signs include muscle weakness, twitching, collapse, coma, increased heart rate and cardiac arrest. If anyone who lives in or visits your home smokes, tell them to keep tobacco products out of reach of pets and to dispose of butts immediately. If you suspect your dog has ingested any of these seek veterinary treatment immediately.

### **Tomatoes and Tomato Plants**

These contain atropine which can cause dilated pupils, tremors and irregular heartbeat. The highest concentration of atropine is found in the leaves and stems of tomato plants, next is the unripe (green) tomatoes and then the ripe tomato.

### **Water**

Yet another surprise to find on the Bad Foods List is water, but there are dangers lurking in water that you need to be aware of.

Stagnant water in ponds, bogs, small lakes, canals, seasonal creeks and other places where water sets still may contain harmful bacteria ([Leptospira interrogans](#)) and parasites such as [giardia](#).

Toilet water with freshner or cleaners in the tank or bowl contain toxic chemicals.

An excellent resource for emergency poison consultation (in addition to your veterinarian) is your local Poison Control, and the

#### **[National Animal Poison Control Center](http://www.napcc.aspc.org)**

<http://www.napcc.aspc.org>

For a more complete list and lists of symptoms, go to <http://moorehaven.com/pets/dogs/safety/badfoodslist.html>

Source: Moore's Haven



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## Play time



Lily Hochstetler getting in shape



CJ



Melissa & Tom



Cindy & Otis