

President's Pyrspective

May/June

Hi, All—

Some of the NorthStar members went to the GPCA national meeting in Topeka, KS at the end of April. I attended the affiliated clubs meeting. Discussion centered on how to get members more involved with club events. I also attended the rescue meeting. We discussed revising the annual report I file yearly with GPCA. Our Board member, Wendy Olson, showed her Pyrs Halsey (GCH Euzkalzale's Legacy of Hope, RN), in Best of Breed, and Hope (GCH Euzkalzale Apache's Future Hope), in the Veteran Class and Best of Breed. Halsey was chosen as Select Dog, a big honor for Wendy and Halsey. You may have met Halsey and Hope at Herberger's or a Pet Expo helping to raise funds for NorthStar and educating the public about the breed. Hope and Halsey are both therapy dogs working with children with learning disabilities. Photos of Hope and Halsey at the Specialty are included.

A reminder, if you are interested in remaining a member of NorthStar, please pay your dues by July 1. Recent adopters and current fosters do not have to pay dues. Dues are \$20 for single membership and \$25 for families. If you have questions about the dues, please contact Diana at northstargreatpyr1@yahoo.com Thanks so much for your support.

Also, a reminder, if your contact information changes, please let me know so I can keep our member list current.

Hope to see you at our annual picnic June 28 at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park.
Marnie

Wendy Olson also learned of the passing of Elaine Colberg recently:
In Memoriam:

Elaine Colberg, one of our club's founding members, passed away at the age of 82 in April---the celebration of her life was April 15th. Elaine worked as a court reporter for 50 years which also allowed the dog clubs she was affiliated with to benefit from those skills. Elaine was a breeder of Great Pyrenees for many years and was active in the dog show world. Even after Elaine was unable to keep and care for our large furry friendsthey were never far from her heart. It was wonderful to walk through her house and view the many Pyr mementos accumulated over the many years of breeding and showing her dogs. I personally will miss her knowledge of our breed and its history. I loved when she regaled me with the many stories of her own Pyrs. Our Pyrs and the purebred world has lost an advocate---but those special white dogs waiting at the bridge have finally been reunited with their special friend Elaine. Fare thee well sweet lady.....

Wendy Olson



Minnesota NorthStar
Great Pyrenees
Rescue



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Canine Tick-Borne Disease.....02/27/2012

Thousands of dogs are infected annually with dangerous tick-transmitted diseases - with the risk rising: Between 2006 and 2010, Veterinary Week reported a 30 percent increase in the rate of dogs exposed to tick-transmitted diseases.

Ticks are parasites that attach themselves to dogs, feed on blood and transmit diseases directly into the dog's system. Major tick-borne diseases transmitted to dogs in the United States include:

- Lyme disease, which comes from the deer tick, can cause stiffness, lameness, swollen joints, loss of appetite, fever and fatigue. Your dog may not show signs of the disease until several months after infected.
- Canine Ehrlichiosis, found worldwide, is the most common and one of the most dangerous tick-borne disease organisms known to infect dogs. Caused by the brown dog tick, symptoms may not surface for months after transmission, and can include fever, loss of appetite, depression, weight loss, runny eyes and nose, nose bleeds and swollen limbs.
- Canine Anaplasmosis, also called dog fever or dog tick fever, is transmitted from the deer tick. Symptoms are similar to other tick diseases including fever, loss of appetite, stiff joints and lethargy, but also can include vomiting, diarrhea. In extreme cases, dogs may suffer seizures.
- Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever comes from the American dog tick, the wood tick and the lone star tick. Symptoms include fever, stiffness, neurological problems and skin lesions. Typically the illness lasts about two weeks, but serious cases could result in death.
- Canine Babesiosis is typically transmitted by the American dog tick and the brown dog tick. Causing anemia, symptoms may also include pale gums, weakness and vomiting.
- Canine Bartonellosis comes from the brown dog tick. Symptoms are intermittent lameness and fever. Left untreated, this disease can result in heart or liver disease.
- Canine Hepatozoonosis is thought to be transmitted by the brown dog tick and Gulf Coast ticks. Your dog can be infected if he eats one of these disease-carrying ticks. Symptoms are fever, runny eyes and nose, muscle pain and diarrhea with the presence of blood.

Treatment

The key to curing tick-borne disease is early diagnosis and treatment. Several broad-spectrum antibiotics to treat tick-borne disease are generally effective, especially in the early stages of the disease. Since antibiotics don't differentiate "good" from "bad" bacteria, antibiotic treatment destroys beneficial bacteria, along with disease-causing organisms. You may therefore want to give your dog probiotics to avoid the development of gastrointestinal problems. Be sure to follow the treatment plan recommended by your veterinarian.

Prevention

- The broad spectrum of possible symptoms associated with tick-borne diseases in dogs (including no symptoms) makes annual screening for tick disease a vital component of your pet's annual veterinary exam. Tests are fast, with results while you wait.
- Numerous products and medications to prevent ticks on your dog are available both over the counter and from your veterinarian. Some veterinarians suggest a tick collar and and/or a preventative vaccination. No method offers 100 percent protection.
- Field dogs are especially vulnerable to tick-borne diseases because of time spent in tick-infested environments. Owners should therefore be diligent about applying topical or systemic tick-control treatments before outings.
- If the worst happens and you see scores of ticks crawling the walls inside your house, call a professional exterminator and move out for a while to let them work and allow the chemicals time to dissipate before you move back in.
- If you live in an environment with a high tick population, success has been reported with dry ice tick traps. Inexpensive and easy to construct, you need a Styrofoam-covered ice bucket or small cooler, a tool to punch holes in the Styrofoam, up to two pounds of dry ice, a piece of ply board or heavy cardboard, and masking tape. Begin by punching four tiny holes in the Styrofoam container to allow the carbon dioxide vapors from the dry ice to draw ticks. Place the container on the ply board or heavy cardboard. Place strips of masking tape to cover the board with the sticky side of the tape facing up. Add dry ice to the container, cover, and place the trap in a tick prone area. Ticks will begin moving toward the carbon dioxide emitting dry ice and become trapped on the masking tape.
 - Check your dog for ticks daily during tick season: spring, summer and fall, or year-round in warmer climates. Brush your fingers through his fur, applying enough pressure to feel any small bumps. If you feel a bump, pull the fur apart to identify it. An embedded tick will vary in size, from a pinhead to a grape. Ticks are usually black or dark brown. Depending on the size and location of the tick, its legs may also be visible. Ticks need to be embedded for 24 to 48 hours to spread infections.
- If you find a tick, consider bringing your dog to a veterinary clinic where a veterinarian or technician can remove the tick safely and show you how it's done. Removing embedded ticks is a delicate operation, because a piece might break off and remain in your dog's skin if removal is done improperly. Ticks should be removed promptly to avoid infection.

Upcoming EVENTS: Upcoming EVENTS: Upcoming EVENTS:**GermanFest**

**June 20, 2015
Noon-5PM**

**Old Schmidt
Brewery**

**882 7th St W
Saint Paul, MN 55102**

**Picnic & Annual
Member Meeting**
(New location)

June 28, 2015

Noon-3PM

Lake Minnewashta Regional Park

6900 Hazeltine Blvd

Chanhassen, MN 55331

*Canine Tick-Borne Disease continued from page 2***Prognosis**

Tick-borne disease can rebound rapidly if your dog's treatment only succeeded in suppressing, rather than killing ticks. Since recurring tick diseases are harder to control or eradicate, don't relax too soon if your dog recovers. A dog in recovery may appear to be doing well and eager to get back to everything you once did together, but that doesn't mean that his body is ready for it yet. When your dog has been sick, he needs time to recover and rebuild strength. To further protect your dog, remain vigilant with regular blood work to detect recurrences.

Finally, to make an informed decision about protecting your dog from tick-borne disease, talk to your veterinarian about the best tick-control approach for your dog.

Reprinted from Canine Health Foundation/AKC February, 2012

Further info: <http://www.fda.gov/forconsumers/consumerupdates/ucm049298.htm> <http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm358486.htm>

Hope--showing
at GPCA
National
Specialty

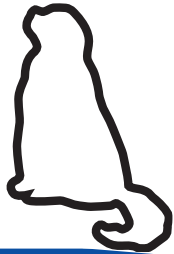


Dogs must be leashed in the pavilion. Burgers, hot dogs, buns, & condiments furnished by NorthStar. Please bring your own beverage and a dish to share. We are working on the agenda for the member meeting.

http://www.co.carver.mn.us/departments/PW/parks/docs/Minnewashta_Brochure.pdf



Halsey as Select Dog



NSGPRC Website,
visit our NEW
website at
northstargreatpyrs.com

Most photos taken by
Debra Fisher-Goldstein



Dutchess, who needed 2 knee
surgeries



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