

THE EASTERN  
VETERINARY  
BLOOD BANK  
PRESENTS

# MINI-ASHERS

A FORUM  
FOR CANINE  
DONORS

Fall  
2002

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## Donor Profile

By Constance F. Kim

After considering a pet for our family, we decided a dog would be best. We researched the characteristics of many breeds. I recalled as a child always wanting a Saint Bernard and a horse. My dad said a horse was definitely out of the question and unfortunately we never got a Saint Bernard either. When my three children heard these words they bubbled over with excitement at the prospects of choosing a large breed dog. It seemed as though my childhood dreams of having a Saint Bernard were about to come true. At that moment the family had reached an agreement as to the breed.

We started getting our home and yard ready for our new companion. First, fencing was installed around the backyard then a doghouse and a feeding station were constructed.

Hercules, our new Saint Bernard, arrived in July of 1999 via a "737" from a breeder in Kentucky. Needless to say it was love at first sight when the kids and I saw that fluffy ball of tan and white, weighing a whopping 17 pounds at 9 weeks old. His first vet visit was in August, where I noticed a business card for the Eastern Veterinary Blood Bank. Once home I called for details and scheduled his first appointment. Hercules was still a little young to become a donor, but plans were made for his first donation. All he had to do now was grow to 35 pounds and be at least nine months old. Since December of 1999 Hercules has been donating one pint of blood



"Hercules" Kim

every eight weeks.

His outings to the Blood Bank seem to be a pleasure for Hercules, because he loves riding in the truck and munching on cookies that are offered from the moment he walks through the door of the Blood Bank.

In late spring of each year, we have Hercules sheared for his summer comfort. In spite of this effort tragedy still struck. In the summer of 2002, when the temperature and humidity soared, Hercules suffered a heat stroke and was hospitalized for two days. While in the hospital he received plasma for a day and a half. Since he is a blood donor the hospital was able to tell his blood type by calling the Blood Bank and giving them his ID number. Fortunately Hercules may have saved his own life by becoming a blood donor. Participants of the pro-

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

(Donor Profile from page 1)

gram receive blood products at no cost when needed. An added benefit is the routine testing for heartworms and canine diseases. These tests are automatically performed for all participating blood donors. The test results may then be forwarded to your dog's regular vet.

I was notified by the hospital that because he's a blood donor member, all blood products given to Hercules during his hospital stay were received at no cost to us. It is comforting to know that your dog cannot only save their own life, but may even save someone else's beloved pet.

As a result of this heart-wrenching experience our family is so thankful to have been a part of this excellent program. We highly recommend that all dog owners consider becoming a part of the Eastern Veterinary Blood Bank donor center.

# Vision — How dogs see

1. Dogs can see in much dimmer light than humans. This is because the central portion of a dog's retina is composed primarily of rod cells that "see" in shades of gray while human central retinas have primarily cone cells that perceive color. The rods need much less light to function than cones do.

2. Dogs can detect motion better than humans can.

3. Dogs can see flickering light better than humans. The only significance to this appears to be that dogs may see television as a series of moving frames rather than as a continuous scene.

4. Dogs do not have the ability to focus as well on the shape of objects (their

visual acuity is lower). An object a human can see clearly may appear to be blurred to a dog looking at it from the same distance. A rough estimate is that dogs have 20/75 vision. This means that they can see at 20 feet what a normal human could only see clearly at 75 feet.

5. Dogs are said to have dichromatic vision — they can see only part of the range of colors in the visual spectrum of light wavelengths. Humans have trichromatic vision, meaning that they can see the whole spectrum. Dogs probably lack the ability to see the range of colors from green to red. This means that they see in shades of yellow and blue primarily, if the theory is correct. Since it is impos-

sible to ask them, it is not possible to say they see these colors in the same hues that a human would. Whether or not the ability to see some color is important to dogs or not is hard to say.

6. A dog with its eyes about 12 inches off the ground certainly see the world a different way than a human with eyes about 48 inches off the ground like many 5th graders.

7. As humans, we tend to think of dog's visual capabilities as inferior to ours. It is different but it may suit their needs better than possessing accurate color vision would.

**Source: Encyclopedia of Canine Veterinary Medical Information**

## One unit of donated blood can save up to four lives. *So where does donor blood go?*

Once we receive a unit of donated blood we make it into life saving components. We take a unit of whole blood and can transform it into any of the following blood components: (A) Packed Red Blood Cells, (B) Fresh Frozen Plasma, (C) Frozen Plasma, (D) Cryoprecipitate, (E) Platelet Rich Plasma.

To give you an idea of how far reaching your donation can be in saving lives, below is a list of some of the locations EVBB has shipped blood products to over the past nine years:

*Abaco, Bahamas*  
*Buenos Aires, Argentina*  
*Ridgefield, Connecticut*  
*Caguas, Puerto Rico*  
*Winter Park, Florida*

*Franklin, Pennsylvania*  
*Chapel Hill, North Carolina*  
*Hanson, Massachusetts*  
*Laredo, Texas*  
*Lawrenceville, Georgia*  
*Syracuse, Nevada*  
*Metairie, Louisiana*  
*Williamsburg, Virginia*  
*Prarie Village, Kansas*  
*Old Tappan, New Jersey*  
*Tacoma, Washington*  
*Union City, Tennessee*  
*Greenwood Village, Colorado*  
*Uxbridge, Maine*  
*Fargo, North Dakota*  
*Bluefield, West Virginia*  
*Ossingsing, New York*



*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**, Associate Veterinarian  
**Kellie Smith**, Director of Regulatory Compliance  
**Theresa Connelly**, Bookkeeper  
**Peggy Driver**, Administrative Assistant  
**Barb Vernon**, Donor Coordinator  
**Brandee Stout**, Blood Collection Assistant  
**Keyia Ward**, Veterinary Assistant  
**Stacey Alton**, Veterinary Technician  
**Amie Dudley**, Packaging Specialist/ Labeler

# 🐾 Happenings In and Around Town 🐾

## Anne Arundel County Fair 50th Anniversary Celebration

Wednesday - Sunday  
September 11 - 15, 2002  
Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds  
Crownsville, Maryland

Some events to look forward to include: Livestock sale, Cutest Kid Contest, Pet Parade, Cake Auction, Draft Horse pull, Queen Contest, Garden tractor pull, Hog calling, Husband calling, Pie Eating Contest, Talent Show, Turtle races, Antique tractor pull, Watermelon Eating Contest, Tug of War, Exhibits, Petting Zoo, Carnival rides, a Bluegrass Concert featuring "The Lonesome River Band" and a Country Concert featuring "Trace Adkins". Look for EVBB to be participating!

## Bow Wow Ball & Meow Mixer

Saturday, September 28, 2002  
7:00-11:00 PM  
Partnership for Animal Welfare (PAW)  
(www.paw-rescue.org)  
Tide Point in Baltimore

Tide Point is a beautifully restored facility on the harbor in Baltimore with a fabulous view of the city and is a gorgeous setting for the first Bow-Wow Ball & Meow Mixer. Enjoy a festive evening of dancing, fabulous food, silent auctions, a

character artist, raffle and door prizes, and a dog and cat sculpture contest. The Bow-Wow Ball & Meow Mixer is being sponsored by Struever Bros., Eccles & Rouse, Inc. and the event will be hosted by MIX 106.5's Maria Dennis. All profits will go toward the lifesaving mission of PAW to rescue stray, abandoned or abused animals.

## 9th Annual Walk/Dog-a-thon

Sunday, September 29, 2002  
Animal Rescue in Maryland Line  
(www.animalrescueinc.com)  
Oregon Ridge Park  
Cockeysville, Maryland

Animal Rescue is a no-kill animal shelter currently housing hundreds of homeless dogs and cats. This annual event is held to raise money for the general care of these four-legged friends.

## First Annual Rover Run and Walk

Sunday, September 29, 2002  
8:30 AM: Rain or shine  
Animal Welfare Society  
Schooley Mills Park  
Columbia, Maryland  
The race is 2 miles, one loop of the tree covered park, flat, fast, wood-chipped, 4 ft. 5 in. wide path and

easy on dog's feet. An entry fee of \$25 includes a t-shirt for the racer/walker, bandanna for dogs and post-race refreshments. Please call (410) 465- 4350 with questions. Look for EVBB to be participating!

## Howl-o-ween Barkin Bash

Saturday, October 26, 2002  
11 AM - 3 PM  
Quiet Waters Dog Park  
Annapolis, Maryland

The volunteers for the Quiet Waters Dog Park will be hosting this event. Admission is \$10 for the first dog and \$5 for each additional dog and includes a bandanna, goodie bag, and entrance in the costume contest and games. There will be prizes and raffles, and various pet groups will be represented. All money raised will go toward improvement of the dog park. Preregistration is encouraged but not required. The event will be held rain or shine. For more information or to register, please call (410) 263-8683.

**Please let EVBB know  
about upcoming events in  
the canine community at  
eastvetbb@evbb.com  
or call (410) 224-BANK.**

## 10 Tips for Detecting Cancer in Your Pet

According to the Animal Veterinary Medical Association, dogs get cancer at roughly the same rate as humans. In fact, cancer accounts for almost half of the deaths of pets over ten years of age.

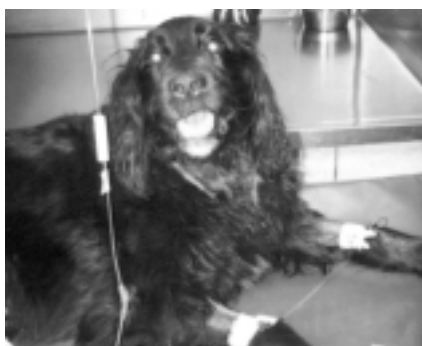
The Animal Cancer Foundation reminds that while all of these signs can be due to other factors, they should be evaluated by your veterinarian, who will have a better chance to control or cure your pet's cancer if it is detected early.

- Abnormal swellings that persist or continue to grow
- Sores that do not heal

- Loss of appetite
- Unexplained weight loss
- Bleeding or discharge from any body opening
- Offensive odor
- Difficulty eating or swallowing
- Hesitation to exercise or loss of stamina
- Persistent lameness or stiffness
- Difficulty breathing, urinating or defecating

**Source: The American Cancer Society**

## Another Life Saved!



Friendship Hospital for Animals in Washington, DC, an EVBB client, shared with us their life saving story. Friendship utilized 10 units of EVBB Fresh Frozen Plasma to save the life of "Spencer" Gilcrest in late July. Spencer was in a coma for 3 days and survived because of the administration of the plasma. Thank you for sharing the good news!

## Welcome New Donors!

"Keillor" Athans  
"Juliette" Beckham  
"Red" Brown  
"Belle" Burns  
"A-ja" Butler (Ford)  
"King" Callahan  
"Seamus" & "Mousse" Campbell  
"Storm" Flory  
"Jezzebelle" Frock  
"Sarah" Hlavin  
"Molokai" Hoker  
"Fenway" Kallay  
"Anatasia" Knickman  
"Drummer Boy" Lindloff  
"Monte" Lundberg  
"Elliott" Meeks  
"Aladar" Moss  
"Cowboy" Painter  
"Sam" Peate  
"Tyler" Poole  
"Lilly" Putnam  
"Audrey" Sacco  
"Trooper" Schneider  
"Lila" Sherman  
"Ben", "Rosco" & "Bailey" Troupe

## Announcements!

- Congratulations to Dr. Ann Schneider, DVM, and Director of EVBB. Dr. Ann is expecting a baby in December.
- Congratulations to Dr. Steve Kubelun, Associate Veterinarian at EVBB. Dr.

Steve and his wife Lori are expecting their first child in February.

- Congratulations to Dr. Christine Gernhart of Timonium Animal Hospital. Dr. Gernhart delivered a baby boy on July 30th at 7:29PM. James Richard III weighed 9 lbs. 3 oz. and was 21 inches long.
- Farewell to Laura & "Jade" Fry with the Anne Arundel Veterinary Emergency Clinic (AAVEC). They are relocating to England. We will miss them in the donor program!
- The Anne Arundel Veterinary Emergency Clinic (AAVEC) will be hosting a Blood Drive on October 1st, 8:00 AM-12:30 PM. The EVBB is located in the same Referral Center as AAVEC in Annapolis. Please call Leigh Ann Elliott at (410) 224-0331 to sign up.

## Pet Humor



### Nuances of a House Dog

- The dog is not allowed in the house.
- Okay, the dog is allowed in the house, but only in certain rooms.
- The dog is allowed in all rooms, but has to stay off the furniture.
- The dog can get on the old furniture only.
- Fine, the dog is allowed on all the furniture, but is not allowed to sleep with the humans on the bed.

- Okay, the dog is allowed on the bed, but only by invitation.
- The dog can sleep on the bed whenever he wants, but not under the covers.
- The dog can sleep under the covers by invitation only.
- The dog can sleep under the covers every night.
- Humans must ask permission to sleep under the covers with the dog. — *Author Unknown*

### You know you are a dog lover when...

- You have a kiddie wading pool in the yard, but no small children.
- You cannot see out the passenger side window because there are nose-prints all over the inside.
- Poop has become a source of conversation for you and your significant other.
- Your parents refer to your pet as their granddog, remember her birthday, and send her greeting cards and gifts.
- You keep an extra water dish in your second floor bedroom, in case your dog gets thirsty at night (after all, her other dish is way down on the first floor...)
- You make popcorn just to play catch with your dog.
- Lint wheels are on your shopping list every week.

## Visitors from Abroad



### By Theresa Connelly

In June the EVBB staff had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Neil Marshall and his wife (who also doubles as his assistant). The husband and wife team own and run the New Zealand Companion Blood Bank in New Zealand. They traveled to the United States to attend the annual ACVIM conference and to tour the EVBB facility. They were quite excited to meet with us and discuss various blood banking and transfusion medicine issues.

Companion is the only animal blood bank in New Zealand. The island nation houses one university veterinary teaching hospital, a couple of hundred veterinary hos-

pitals, and about a 1,000 veterinarians. Companion has been providing the New Zealand veterinary community with blood products for almost a year. Since the EVBB will celebrate its 10th anniversary next year, they hoped to obtain valuable tips and information we have learned over the years.

Dr. Marshall was especially impressed with the EVBB insistence on following the highest standards, the strict use of an all volunteer donor system, and the reliance on human blood banking protocols and guidelines.

We wish Dr. Marshall the best of luck on his unique New Zealand endeavor!

# Donation Day Reminders!

- 🐾 **Always mark your calendar for your next donor appointment.** The holidays are approaching and this is the time of year EVBB is most in need of blood. Please keep in mind that EVBB is responsible for keeping veterinary hospitals across the country and internationally supplied with blood products. Keeping your donor appointment and commitment to the EVBB donor program is especially critical during the holiday season.
- 🐾 **Is your donor on medication or having a medical procedure?** If so, please call us as soon as possible so we can determine whether we need to reschedule the next upcoming donor appointment.
- 🐾 **Parking in Annapolis!** Special parking spaces are made available to all donors immediately outside our entrance. Upon entering the area, please remove an orange cone from one of the designated parking spaces. Our staff will replace the orange cone so that the next donor will have the parking space made available.

## *Share the Care* **Donor Recruitment Program**

Our goal is to increase our donor base by 30% by January 2003. We have found one of our most valuable resources in increasing our donor base has been our pool of existing clients.

Please contact Barb Vernon, Donor Coordinator, at (410) 224-BANK x152 or [bvernon@evbb.com](mailto:bvernon@evbb.com) with any prospective donors or upcoming opportunities for EVBB to participate in the canine community and recruit prospective donors. Please keep in mind we plan to reward your efforts in a meaningful way! Thank you for your efforts in advance!

## OUR MISSION

The mission of the Eastern Veterinary Blood Bank is to provide a humane source of the highest quality veterinary blood products, along with the guidance and education necessary to insure our products are used to the maximum benefit of the patient. To achieve this objective, we pledge the following:

- Our donor base will be exclusively volunteer.
- All blood will be drawn by a licensed veterinarian.
- Our products will be manufactured according to the highest veterinary standards; in absence of such, they will be manufactured according to human blood banking standards.
- All requests for blood products will be triaged so that emergency needs can be met same or next day.
- We will maintain a nationwide Distribution Center network in order to provide 24 hour emergency coverage.
- EVBB will provide information, and where indicated, recommendations on the most current and effective therapies.

The goal of the Eastern Veterinary Blood Bank is to be the model for all veterinary blood banks. We will continue to pave the way for the advancement of transfusion medicine by offering a diverse line of products and the most current and reliable information.

# Recipe Corner

## **Apple Cinnamon Doggie Biscuits**

1 package apples, dried  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
1 tablespoon parsley, freeze-dried  
1 tablespoon garlic powder  
1 cup ice water  
1/2 cup corn oil  
5 cups flour  
1/2 cup powdered milk  
2 large eggs  
1 tablespoon corn oil

Put apples in a food processor so that pieces are small. Combine in a bowl all of the ingredients — can add oil or water if dough is too dry. Using a rolling pin roll out dough to about 3/16" thick (can make thinner or thicker). Cut into shapes using a cookie cutter and place on cookie sheets. Bake at 350 degrees for approximately 20-25 minutes (until golden).

## **Pumpkin Patch Dog Biscuits**

1 1/2 cups whole wheat flour  
1 tablespoon brown sugar  
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg  
4 tablespoons butter-flavored Crisco

1/2 cup pumpkin, canned  
1 whole egg  
1/2 cup buttermilk

Preheat oven to 400 degrees: combine flour, cinnamon, and nutmeg and cut in shortening. Beat egg with milk and pumpkin and combine with flour, mixing well. Stir until dough forms. Drop by tablespoons onto ungreased cookie sheet and bake for 12-15 minutes. Let cool and serve.

## Eastern Veterinary Blood Bank, Inc.

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[www.evbb.com](http://www.evbb.com)

Return Service Requested



*"Anta" Smits*

## Trivia Contest — Win an EVBB T-shirt!

### This issue's trivia questions:

1. Dog's commonly get cavities. True or False?
2. Bacterial disease that is most common among dogs that congregate at things like shows, kennels or other places frequented by large numbers of dogs at once?
3. Chocolate contains a xanthine compound called \_\_\_\_\_ that is toxic to dogs in sufficient quantities?
4. A arbovirus (short for arthropod - virus borne) that causes encephalitis (inflammation of the brain)? Arboviruses, including this one are transmitted by blood-feeding insects such as mosquitoes.
5. Depression, lethargy, pale gums or conjunctiva (sometimes jaundice or heart murmur and bruising) are common signs of what blood disorder?

Please mail or e-mail ([eastvetbb@evbb.com](mailto:eastvetbb@evbb.com)) your answers by September 30th, along with your name, telephone number, and address. A winner will be drawn from the correct entries on October 10th and will receive an EVBB embroidered T-shirt.

Answers to the Summer 2002 *Unleashed* trivia questions:

1. **Spice Girl & Miniature Poodle**
2. **Great Britain**
3. **Treeing Walker Coonhound**
4. **Lyme Disease**
5. **Little Rock, Arkansas**