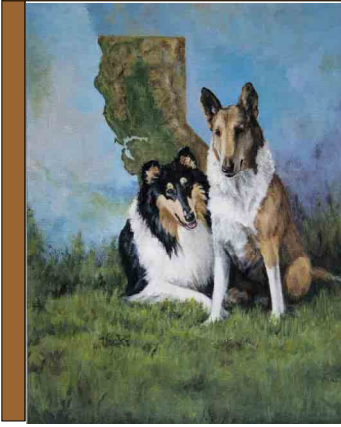


# NorCal Collie Rescue

Fall 2007 Newsletter



## President's Message

By Andrea Moss, NCR President

If there's any certainty in rescue, it's that it takes *a lot more* than just good intentions to run a successful operation. I'm not a religious person, but I did "pray" for a few kind-hearted, Collie-loving volunteers to take the next giant step of dedication and become Area Coordinators, Webmaster, and future Board Members. Somehow, my prayers were answered and manifested these wonderful people: Cristen, Billie, Sherry, and Mary. Thanks to these women (and their understanding husbands!), NCR will continue rescuing Collies in the future. None are new to rescue or even NCR, but many of you might not know these folks who work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that no Collie finds himself without a loving home. And now... introducing...



### Sherry Luttrell—Area Coordinator, Central Coast

Animals are my passion. I have always loved them, especially dogs. I've tried to help them throughout my life. I wanted my children to have the experience of growing up with dogs as I had, so I began researching breeds. My husband liked Collies that family members had, so that's what we decided on. Finding one was tough. I ended up adopting a puppy from a very caring breeder and then an older rescued puppy from another breeder. Years later after both dogs passed away, we decided to be dog-free for a while, which didn't last long. After a few months we began to miss them. I contacted Andrea Moss and she connected me with Belle who I would foster. I fostered her for about 15 minutes before adopting her! Then Sky came along since I like dogs in pairs. He was one of the original Yolo dogs who was lucky enough to be released early. That case led me to get involved with the Collie rescue and the rest is history. I love the collie temperament and beauty. I'm very grateful to be able to help these lovely creatures along with such a wonderful group of people in the NorCal Collie Rescue.



### Cristen Shinbashi—Assistant Webmaster

I got into Collie rescue quite by accident. I got my first Collie, Aki, in September 2002 and through word of mouth, met several other collie owners — one of which was involved with Collie rescue. I have helped with the web site, home checks, and fostering since then, and have enjoyed every minute of it. My husband James and I enjoy traveling and take one international trip every year. I have been to many exotic places including Kamchatka, Siberia, Libya, and Algeria.

### Billie Reiydelle—Area Coordinator, East Bay

My husband and I have shared our lives with Collies for over 23 years. I am a member of the Collie Club of America and of the American Working Collie Association. Over the years I have enjoyed competing in conformation shows, sheep herding trials and socializing litters of Collie puppies. I have worked with Collie rescue on and off for many years.



### Mary Callaham—Area Coordinator, Monterey & S.Coast



My history with Collies began when my grandfather emigrated in the late 1800's from Scotland with his love for Collies. Since then, our family has been graced continuously by Collies of all colors. His love of the breed has been passed on to my children and grandson, all of whom have current rescue Collies as family members. Our Collie family totals six with five being rescues.

I am a retired high school Art teacher now working as an artist and volunteering at the Monterey Museum of Art. My husband of 45 years is a retired Naval Officer. After 33 years of moving and living in many various locations with our dogs, we were fortunate to be able to settle in Monterey. Our love for the breed and desire to help dogs in need has led us to focus our time and energy on Collie rescue. Our foster and adopted Collies have truly enriched our lives.

On the professional side, I studied Botany and Agriculture in school and have a degree in medical anthropology with a minor in biology. I have worked in biomedical research for the United States Department of Agriculture in nutritional toxicology and also as a fashion retail buyer and coordinator of an award winning Seventeen Fashion Council. I am a professional orchid grower and greenhouse manager. In addition to Collie rescue, I have volunteered at the University of California Botanical Garden at various times over many years. My current hobbies are world music, cooking and Collies.

## In This Issue

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- E Collie Spotlight, by Karen Boselly

# Veterinary Perspectives: Facial Dermatoses in the Collie

By Patricia Gilbert DVM, Diplomate American College of Veterinary Dermatology

There are a number of skin diseases that typically affect the face of dogs. These may only affect the face or start on the face before spreading to other areas of the body. In addition, Collies have a genetic predisposition to the immune-mediated dermatoses which classically cause facial lesions. The following is a brief discussion of common parasitic, infectious and immune-mediated skin diseases that may cause hair loss or lesions on your Collie's beautiful face.

## PARASITIC

**Demodectic Mange** --- *Demodex canis* is a very common cause of facial lesions in the young dog. Typically, a small area of hair loss appears on the muzzle or around the eye. There may be some redness or scaling. Additional lesions may be found on the legs. The diagnosis is made when skin scrapes reveal the mites. Localized demodicosis is a mild disease with 6 or fewer small lesions and resolves without treatment in about 8 weeks. Generalized demodicosis occurs when large areas of the body are affected, often with secondary infection, and requires aggressive therapy for a cure. Collies whose disease generalizes should never be bred.

## INFECTIOUS

**Ringworm** --- Young dogs are susceptible to skin infections due to fungal organisms in their environment. The owner typically notices an area of hair loss, with or without redness and scaling, commonly on the muzzle. A fungal culture identifies the specific organism present and therefore the environmental source. *Microsporum canis* is often transmitted from cats. *Microsporum gypseum* is found in soil and *Trichophyton metagrophytes* is associated with exposure to rodents and their burrows. Treatment of localized lesions consists of a topical antifungal. Generalized ringworm is uncommon in dogs and requires more aggressive topical and systemic therapy.

## IMMUNE-MEDIATED

**Discoid Lupus Erythematosus (DL)** --- DL is the usual diagnosis when one refers to "Collie Nose." This is a benign form of Lupus with no systemic disease, for which Collies are genetically predisposed. The earliest sign is often a change in the surface appearance and pigmentation of the nasal planum. There is a loss of the cobblestone-like surface markings and a color change from black to slate blue or grey. Depigmentation continues followed by redness, scaling and crusting. Lesions usually spread up the bridge of the nose and may also involve the periocular areas and lips. DL is often worsened by sun exposure with the disease more severe in the summer months. Diagnosis is made by skin biopsy. Treatment options are many depending on the individual case and include: sun avoidance/sunscreen, Vitamin E, Omega-3 fatty acids, topical steroids and tacrolimus. Resistant cases may require systemic treatment with tetracycline + niacinamide, steroids or other immunomodulating drugs.

**Pemphigus**--- Two forms of this autoimmune disease are commonly seen. Collies are genetically predisposed. Pemphigus foliaceus (PF) usually begins on the face and ears. Lesions consist of pustules, erosions and thick crusts. Other areas are typically affected and include the underside and feet. With widespread disease, fever, depression and anorexia is common. Pemphigus erythematosus (PE) is a more benign form of PF with lesions confined to the face and ears. Diagnosis is made by skin biopsy. Treatment for PE is similar to DL. PF usually requires aggressive treatment with a combination of immunosuppressive drugs.

**Dermatomyositis (DM)**-- DM is a hereditary, inflammatory disease affecting the skin and muscles of Collies and Shelties. Breeding studies in Collies have shown an autosomal dominant mode of inheritance with variable expressivity. The exact cause is unknown but is strongly suspected to be immune-mediated. Current research is focused on finding a DNA marker for the disease. DM may be triggered by trauma, vaccines, drugs, or viral infection and worsened by sun exposure. Lesions typically occur in puppies often before 3 months of age, consist of hair loss, redness, scaling and mild crusting and are heavily facial. Other common sites are the ears, pressure points and the tip of the tail. Muscle disease is not always present or may be so mild it is not evident. Clinical signs of myositis include muscle atrophy, difficulty drinking, chewing and swallowing, megaesophagus and a stiff gait. Diagnosis is confirmed by skin and muscle biopsy. Treatment varies with disease severity. Mildly affected puppies often heal spontaneously with residual scarring. Conservative therapy with sunscreens, Vitamin E, and Fish Oil may be effective. Persistent skin lesions are usually treated with penicillin, tetracycline and niacinamide and steroids alone or in combination.



Pat with her Christa

*Dr. Gilbert obtained her DVM degree from UC Davis in 1984, and is Board Certified in Dermatology. She has worked as a Dermatologist in a multidoc-tor specialty clinic and in her own solo practice. Dr Gilbert has been a Collie lover since a child, having grown up watching Lassie in movies and on TV. She shares her home with her 4 yr old tri Christa, 2 housecats and 2 parakeets — but always makes room for a foster collie!*

## Monterey WAG N' WALK

Story and Photos by Mary Callahan



The Monterey Peninsula's rescue Collies made a grand showing at the SPCA's 12th annual 'Wag and Walk' this year!

The event was held May 5th, 2007 with 400 walkers and their pets and generated \$70,000 for homeless animals. Martha

Froke, husband Jeff, friend Sadie Acosta, and their rescue collies Honey and Yolo Skye, through their 'Lassie Came Home' web page, made \$385 toward that goal. My husband Tom and I joined them with Tuxedo and Brigadoon; Patty Byrne with Wyatt, who wagged not walked; and Grace Mulcay, husband Mike and rescue Collie, Kito. Grace also worked as a registrar for the day's events. Howard Rowland and rescue Bonnie were unable to attend and were very much missed.



*Above—Wyatt; Left—Brigadoon, our banner dog, and new friend*

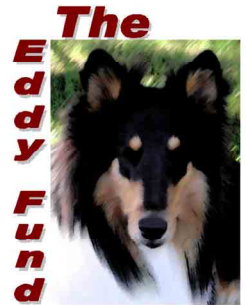
There was lots of good food and watering holes for both two legged and four legged walkers, lots of contests and games and, most of all, lots of pats and comments for our collies like "Oh, how beautiful!"

Brigadoon wore a NorCal Collie Rescue banner and stood with the rest of our group as we told stories of how our Collies came to their forever homes. It was truly a wonderful experience for everyone.



## NCR's Two Special Funds

The Angel Fund and The Eddy Fund



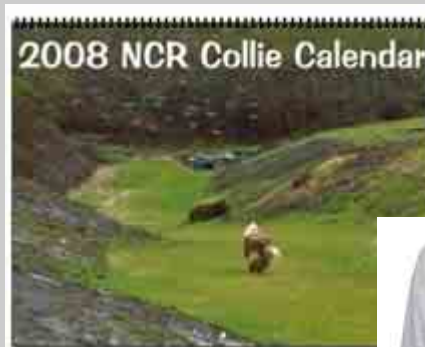
The Eddy Fund provides funds for veterinary care of young Collies born with afflictions that reduce their quality of life but that can be helped with veterinary intervention.

The Angel Fund provides funds for elderly Collies who are still enjoying life and have "time left," but also have expensive medical needs. This fund helps pay their bills while they are in foster care until a home can be found. Through *your* donations and a very generous Orthopedic Surgeon, Dr. Gary Brown, Butterscotch was able to have surgery to repair her collapsed "wrists."



BUTTERSCOTCH

**NOW AVAILABLE — 2008 RESCUE COLLIE CALENDARS!!!!**



Just go to our website and click on the Calendar or go to our Café Press Store under "How To Donate" and follow the ordering directions!



Calendars are \$29.99, with the proceeds to NCR

<http://www.cafepress.com/norcalcolliersq>

# Happy Tails Family Album

Since Spring 2007

In our last newsletter, we showed you photos of Collies we helped into loving homes. Now we're proud to present a photo album of some of the dogs we've helped since then. These dogs were all fostered by NCR volunteers before finding their forever homes.



John and QANUK



SATCHEL & Leila  
at Halloween



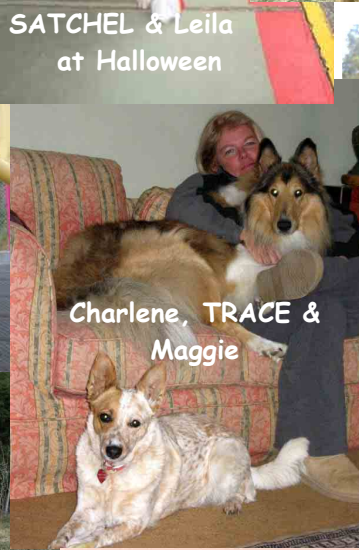
Ana, Douglas, Carly & PEPPER



Johanna, Deanna, SHANNA,  
& Chad



MACY & Zachos



Charlene, TRACE &  
Maggie



Suz and DANNY



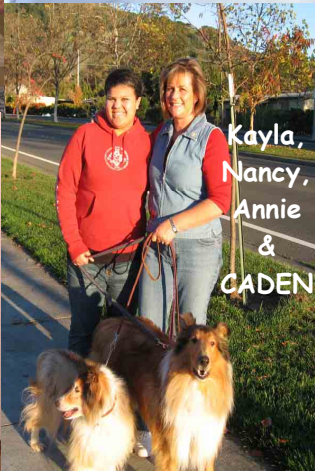
Marsha, MEADOW  
& DAKOTA



SARA, Lizzy, MAC, Ty, and  
Tessie—Billie and Daemeon's  
Collie Family



Lisa and JASPER



Kayla,  
Nancy,  
Annie  
&  
CADEN



Braggi & SUNNY



Robert,  
Andrea,  
KIPPER,  
Emily,  
Megan &  
Madeline



JOURNEY and Jeffyne



Kelly & HUGO



Simon & ANNIE



BUTTERSCOTCH,  
Chuck, & Bonnie

# Ask the Behaviorist:

## Managing a Multiple Dog Home — Part One: Dog Pack Myths

By Cathy Toft

Many of our NCR adopters already have one collie or other type of dog, and many of our rescue collies come from a background of living with other dogs. We therefore often want to place NCR rescue collies into multiple-dog homes. Bringing the new dog into an unfamiliar "pack" can have its problems, and even having a stable, multiple-dog household can involve continual ups and downs in the dogs' relationships, just as happens in human families.

Modern study of dog behavior is now dispelling the myths that surround dog-pack dynamics and managing multiple dogs in a household. Important books like Jean Donaldson's *Culture Clash*, Suzanne Clothier's *Bones Would Rain From The Sky: Deepening Our Relationship With Dogs*, and Patricia McConnell's numerous books, the most recent of which is *For the Love of a Dog: Understanding  $\square$ motion in You and Your Best Friend*, are teaching us a kinder and more understanding view of our dogs and the world that they experience.

Here are two myths and more enlightened approaches to deal with dog-dog relationships:

**The myth of "dog aggressive":** Dogs are predators; they have teeth and growl. They do not speak a sophisticated language like humans. Instead they communicate using their body language and a few simple sounds.

Many people label a dog that appears to start a "fight" with another dog as "dog aggressive." A dog is aggressive only when he or she intends to cause another dog serious bodily harm. Some behaviorists reserve "aggression" for behavior that results in another dog needing stitches. Directed aggression by one dog on another usually involves deep wounds that break completely through the skin and expose muscle, and typically such wounds are inflicted on the back of the neck or on the front legs as a dog tries to defend itself. A truly aggressive dog makes no noise and does not "inhibit" his bite. Within seconds, serious wounds on the victim dog occur, as if sliced by razor blades.

What most people call a "dog fight" is not even close to aggression. A dog "fight" is typically a loud argument. Dogs try to bluff each other with the showing of teeth and "air snapping" (clacking their teeth in the other dog's face), and they try to wrestle each other to the ground by flailing the other with their front feet to trip the other dog. They also try to intimidate each other with loud growling and barking. Usually saliva is all that is shed. Occasionally one dog will accidentally hit its head on the other dog's tooth, or one dog will accidentally have its ear in the mouth of dog that is air snapping, or one dog might bite its own tongue or lip. In those cases, some skin is nicked and some blood might be shed. But rest assured, no aggression is involved in such "social fights."

**IMPORTANT:** Do not, I repeat, do NOT, try to break up a dog fight with your body parts. Use a chair to slide between the fighting dogs, or use a noose to slip over the dog that appears to be winning or started the fight, and carefully slide them apart. Do not escalate the fight by joining in with screaming. The dogs will not hurt each other but they can easily hurt you, as human skin is thin and has no protection.

**The myth of "dominance":** Patricia McConnell first suggested that we refer to the "concept formerly known as dominance," playing on the artist Prince. So many myths surround the typical layperson's view of dog dominance that she has written books on it.

I'll highlight a few things here:

**You should be the highest status pack member. You do not bully, alpha roll, scream at or intimidate the dogs to "show who's boss," like a status-seeking dog would.**

There are really only degrees of status in dog packs and no clear linear hierarchy. Dogs have complicated personalities and differ just like people. We might best think of the dominant dog as the most confident dog, or the dog that can get all the resources he or she wants from the other dogs. Such high-status dogs rarely feel a need to fight because they are secure in their high status and respected by all the other dogs. Occasionally a new dog will challenge the higher status dog in a group, in which case that dog is obligated to fight to affirm rank.

Most dog fights are started by status-seeking dogs. These are the new dogs in the pack, such as the dog you have just adopted from NCR. This new dog may be young and insecure. Status may be gained by starting fights to see if he or she can win. Once the status-seeking dog is convinced that the resident higher status dogs are indeed in control, he or she will turn to the weaker (younger, elderly, or insecure) dogs in the pack to beat up on. These dogs are bullies, if anything—they are not "dominant."

You should be the highest status pack member. You do not bully, alpha roll, scream at or intimidate the dogs to "show who's boss," like a status-seeking dog would. Instead, you quietly control all the resources like a secure, benevolent dictator, and you alone divvy out the resources to the dogs. If the new status-seeking dog tries to get resources on his or her own, you will calmly prevent that from occurring. Your punishing any dog for "fighting" will cause more problems, not fewer. Instead, put the bullying dog in a time out in a crate or quiet room until emotions cool down.



*Next installment: The cornerstone of positive training: Controlling resources (and how to...)*

## Rainbow Bridge Collies...

In each NCR Newsletter, we pay tribute and say our "Good-byes" to those Collies who have passed on in recent months. These beloved pets had been adopted through NCR or were cherished family members of our adopters, volunteers, and donors.



CASAR, loved by Barb Kennison



POOMBA, loved by Linda and Roy Arnett



HONEY, loved by Jeff and Martha Froke



CHLOE, loved by Patrice and Fred



SIMBA, loved by Bill and Jeanie Schulz



BELLE, loved by Sherry and Rick Luttrell



ASPEN, loved by the Sirman family



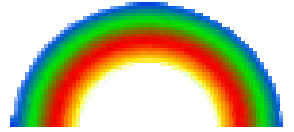
DUNCAN and NIKKI, loved by Margie and Jim Gee



ARTHUR, loved by Mary Toft

*If you have a Collie who has recently gone to Rainbow Bridge, please send us a photo, so we can all support you in your loss and pay homage to your furry family friend. If we did not know about your dog's passing in time for this newsletter, send us a photo and we'll put it in the next issue.*

*Gone from sight and missed every day...*



ARROW, loved by Karen and Kenny Boselly



CLÉO, loved by Kathleen Smith



TANA, loved by Heidi and Gary Webster



BAB, loved by Cathy Toft



SADIE, loved by the Friedman family



DUNCAN, loved by Doug Suma



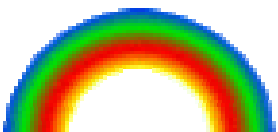
JOY, loved and cherished by Mitch & Jeffyne Telson, her sister, *Harmony* and the rest of her collie family... *Triumph, Ares, Orion, Apollo, Faith, Charity, Misjef, Starr and Journey.*



Your Collie Tribute Here



LULU, loved by the Trbovich Family



*but Forever here in our Hearts...*

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# Collie Spotlight—Kipper

By Karen Boselly



Kipper "Doodle" was picked up as an abandoned dog, and taken to an animal shelter. When I first saw him, he was a mere skeleton, very old and frail, at death's door. In his foster home he wouldn't eat and coughed and gagged almost constantly. He looked as pitiful as you can imagine and there did not appear to be much hope for him. I wondered... if he did somehow manage to survive, who would want to adopt such a pathetic-looking old Smooth Collie?

Miraculously, he finally started eating -- at first guarding his food from the other dogs like a hungry wolf guarding his prey, but in a completely relaxed manner once he realized the food was plentiful. After only a few weeks of TLC, his eyes began to sparkle.

Slowly, Kipper Doodle shed layers of neglected years and became almost like a young dog - playful, loving with my grandchildren, and wonderful with my cats. I began to imagine what kind of home he would like to have. Children, a cat.....

It took some time, but after about four months of searching, the perfect home emerged. A sweet family of five sent me an application. The Mom and Dad were both elementary school teachers, and they had three of the sweetest little girls I'd ever met. This family had a cat, but they had never had a dog of their own. Upon meeting them, it became immediately clear to me that in fact this *was the perfect home!*

It's been six months now for Kipper Doodle and his new family. The Smooth Collie that no one wanted, who was neglected and abandoned - a dog in complete despair that just wanted someone to love - suddenly has a picture perfect family who loves him dearly.

Many people ask me how I can continue to do this heartbreaking rescue work day after day, with all the sadness, and seeing the battered, beaten, sick and forgotten dogs. I think of Kipper Doodle and the others like him and picture them in their new homes with their loving families, happy and well. And then I ask, "how could I *not*?"



## NCR Newsletter

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## Rocky & Rainy Say...

We're dashing down the beach to let our Humans know about NCR's Pet Partners at Flying Panda and 1800PetMeds. They'll help you get stuff for yourself and your pets *and* help collies at the same time! Just mention NCR when you order and they'll send a percentage of the purchase to Collie Rescue. And check out the Cash for Critters program, on the NCR website as well.



<http://www.flyingpanda.com/store/>

You must use our referral code—NCR at check-out or mention it when you call on the phone.