



# Dog Sense

Job 12: 7&10 "But ask the animals, and they will teach you, ...In His hand is the life of every creatures."

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## Canine Seizure Assist Society of North Carolina News

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### From The Executive Director

The year 2004 proved to be very successful for CSAS. Seven dogs were certified during last year. Each of the dog's human has reported that their service dog alerts before the onset of a seizure. The amount of time that the dogs alert before a seizure varies from 30 minutes to 2 hours. As of this writing, we have five dogs in training and two that we are ready to start training. Of the five dogs in training, it has been reported that four are regularly alerting before the onset of a seizure.

CSAS now has two trainers and two people who are very close to being ready to train seizure assist dogs. I have been working with a lady in Austin, TX for approximately six months, via the internet and telephone, to train a dog for her son. This wonderful woman has decided that she would like CSAS to open a branch in Texas. She has taken classes to learn to train dogs and has found two other individuals interested in helping us begin a program in Texas.

Two, very successful, Dog Fun Days were held during 2004. Dog Fun Days have proven to be a wonderful way to educate the general public on the use of service dogs in particularly, seizure assist dogs. A manual to

train seizure assist dogs is nearing completion. We have received a grant from Novartis Pharmaceuticals to cover the pre-publishing costs of a book that is being written to be sold to the general public. This book will cover everything about seizure assist dogs from deciding whether a service dog is an appropriate choice for the individual through everything including training until the dog retires from service. The plans are for this book to be completed by the fall of 2005.

I would like to express my appreciation to each person and organization that helped CSAS during 2004. The total number of volunteers who worked with us last year is 74. These 74 wonderful people provided 2,592 hours of volunteer work. The hours are broken down as follows:

Fundraising - 464 hrs  
Administration and Education - 427 hrs  
Training - 1,701 hrs

Each of you is a very special to us and everyone at CSAS appreciates all you do. We hope you will consider volunteering for us again in 2005.

Sharon Hermansen



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Wishing you laughter, joy, and all the good things in life...  
**Happy Easter from CSAS!**

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## 2004 Giving

### GIANT

**Mr. and Mrs. Ken Milnes**  
**Mr. Steven Lieber**  
**Novartis Pharmaceuticals**

### LARGE

**Mary C. Collins**  
**Dr. and Mrs. Randall Williams**

### MEDIUM

**Fuji Network** (Japanese Filming Co.)  
**Eastfield Christian Church**  
**Mr. and Mrs. James Yeaman**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Don Hermansen**

### SMALL

**Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bunting**  
**Christine McTaggart**  
**Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Ferguson**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Robert Neumann**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Barry Isaacs**

### MINIATURE

**Beverly Moss**  
**Dr. and Mrs. Jerry Pruitt**  
**Mr. and Mrs. David Kingsbery**  
**Ruth Mathis**  
**Donna McCarthy**

### TOY

**Mr. and Mrs. Eric Vohwinkel**  
**Mr. and Mrs. N. Menudier**  
**D. L. Gammon**  
**Nettie Hermansen**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Humble**  
**Rita O'Brien**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Len Tucker**  
**Lois Sutton**  
**Cami Hepler**

*Thank you for your generous  
and continued support!*

## CSAS Dog Fun Days 2004



CSAS held Dog Fun Day in two locations last year. We were in Huntersville, NC at Eastfield Christian Church on Saturday, November 6 and at Corinth Reformed Church of Christ in Hickory on Sunday, November 14. I hope that all of the participants and their dogs had as much fun as we had. I want to thank both of the churches mentioned for allowing us to hold these events. In addition, I want to thank the Women's Ministry of Eastfield Christian Church for cooking and selling the hot dog lunches. You ladies are wonderful.

The contests at these events included Any Breed Dog Show, Best Dog Trick, Dog/Owner Look Alike (one we all want to win), Best Tail Wagger, and Best of Show. In addition, this year we added games to be played by the dogs and their humans. The dogs played dunking for hot dogs and both dogs and humans ran a race and played musical chairs. All seemed to have a great deal of fun. It was requested by one lady that we take Dog Fun Day on the road. I can't see that being done in the real near future.

We want to thank the following businesses for sponsoring CSAS Dog Fun Days:

**Canine Castle**  
**Lake Norman Animal Hospital**  
**Lowe's Food**  
**Party Land**  
**Scooperman**  
**Summit Pet Supply**  
**Target**  
**Sweet Boutique**  
**Total Bond Veterinarian**

Watch for the fall newsletter for information on Dog Fun Days 2005!



**Esteemed Judges**



**Dog's and their humans  
playing musical chairs.**



**Hickory K-9 Unit**

## The Mooresville Spring Festival is Blooming in May



Come see us on Main Street in Mooresville on Saturday, May 24, 2005. We have a booth at the Mooresville Spring Festival where raffle tickets will be sold and the winning ticket drawn at the CSAS Live & Silent Auction in June.

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## Coming in June! CSAS Live & Silent Auction

This FREE, open to the public auction will be held Friday, June 24 from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. at the Charles Mack Citizen Center on Main Street in Mooresville. Auction items include racing and football memorabilia, but you'll have to attend the CSAS Auction to see what exciting things will be auctioned off!

## Dr. David Says . . . . Managing Canine Ear Disease

Chronic ear disease in the dog represents a common challenge for the practicing veterinarian. The anatomy of the ear canal creates an environment that favors microorganism growth, specifically, *Malassezia* yeast and gram-negative bacteria. The ear is comprised of modified sweat (apocrine) and sebaceous (ceruminous) glands. The cerumen produced by these glands is chemically composed of lipids, high molecular weight proteins, amino acids, and minerals. Dirt and dust particles are attracted to this waxy and lipid material. Foreign matter easily adheres to the ceruminous coating of the ear canal. The ceruminous glands vary greatly between breeds, and the quantity of cerumen secreted can be altered by various disease conditions.



Epithelial migration is a process of moving cerumen and associated, adhered foreign material away from the middle and inner ear canal. This migration action is minimized or negated when ear disease has damaged the eardrum of ceruminous glands due to recurrent irritation. This leads to a hyperplastic (enlarged and changed tissue) ear canal. Next, a significant increase in the production of cerumen occurs. These effects result in narrowing or stenosis of the ear canal. Dogs with long, pendulous ears exhibit higher levels of moisture in the ear canal. Excess hair growth in some breeds prevents drying and results in increased ear moisture. Increased wetness is a significant factor in *Malassezia* overgrowth in the ear canal which produces a viscous dark, odorous secretion. Chronic infection leads to an increase in lipid cerumen production which functions as a rich growth media for *Malassezia*. Bacteria in the ear canal cause irritation by means of hydrolyzing ear canal secretions.

Ear mites are further causative agents of otitis external as they feed on the ear canal epithelial lining and produce irritation to the ceruminous glands which leads to hypersensitive inflammatory reactions. Allergic diseases such as food hypersensitivity and atopy (inhalant allergy) can lead to acute otitis external. Inflammation results in excessive sebaceous and ceruminous gland secretion, and hyperkeratosis ensues which leads to stenosis of the ear canal. Air flow is reduced and ear moisture levels increase. These progressive changes can be minimized with effective treatment such as glucocorticoids to lessen pruritis and inflammation thereby decreasing ear canal secretions.

In summary, the delicate micro-environment of the ear canal is frequently altered to allow the normal population of microorganisms to colonize and cause ear disease. The goal of long term management of dogs with chronic, recurring otitis is to develop a plan to reduce the rate of chronic changes occurring in the ear canal via regular cleaning and flushing. In animals with recurring cerumen buildup in an ear, cleansing and a drying lotion are effective in keeping the ear canal clean and dry. Modern ear cleansers are gentle enough to prevent irritation of the delicate lining of the ear canal. A thin lipid emollient coating (humectant) is included to replace the protective coating of the ear canal which may be lost during cleaning. A gentle antiseptic ear cleanser or foaming agent with special surfactants will soften and remove excess cerumen secretions without irritation. Hydrocortisone, antibiotics, and drying agents may be combined in solution to treat chronic ear disease only after cleaning and flushing the ear canal. In addition, antibiotics, antifungals, antiparasitics, and hypoallergenic diets are commonly used as indicated to treat various ear conditions.

## CSAS Board of Directors

**Barbara Williams**

*Chairperson*

**Stephen Ferguson, M.D.**

*Vice Chairperson*

**Lynn Baker**

*Treasurer*

**William L. Bell, M.D.**

**David DeQuick, DVM**

**M. Gregory Whitfield**

**Sharon Hermansen**

*Founder / Executive Director*

If you or someone you know could benefit from the help of a seizure assist dog and you are interested in obtaining an application or more information, please contact us at:

**Canine Seizure Assist Society of North Carolina, Inc.**

**369 Cedar Street**

**Mooresville, NC 28115**

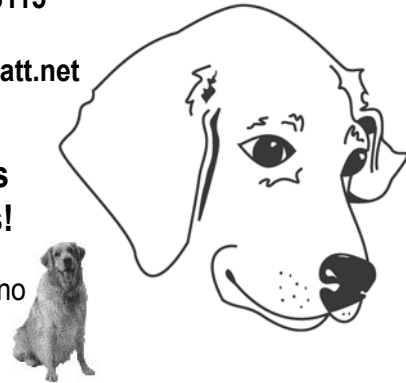
**(704) 663-1427**

**csasnc@worldnet.att.net**

**Congratulations**

**2004 Graduates!**

Betsy, Levi, Grizzly,  
Star, Jasmine, Cyrano  
and Shelby



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**CSAS**

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