

FLORIDA LUPINE NEWS

Volume 3, Issue 3

FALL 2001

*Published Quarterly
for Members. Free to
Veterinarians,
Shelters, Donors,
Sponsors, Rescues,
and Animal Welfare &
Control Agencies.*

Special Edition

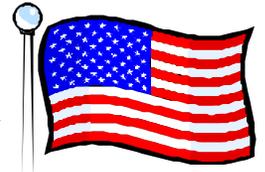
Until now, we have published only on FLA and canine-related information in our newsletter; however, this edition will see a small deviation from the norm. It will also address issues relevant to the recent terrorist attacks committed in NY and DC.

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Open Letter to Terrorists: We'll Go Forward from this Moment

By Leonard Pitts, Jr., *Miami Herald* Staff Writer on 9/13/01



MIAMI — It's my job to have something to say.

They pay me to provide words that help make sense of that which troubles the American soul. But in this moment of airless shock when hot tears sting disbelieving eyes, the only thing I can find to say, the only words that seem to fit, must be addressed to the unknown author of this suffering.

You monster. You beast. You unspeakable bastard.

What lesson did you hope to teach us by your coward's attack on our World Trade Center, our Pentagon, us? What was it you hoped we would learn? Whatever it was, please know that you failed.

Did you want us to respect your cause? You just damned your cause.

Did you want to make us fear? You just steeled our resolve.

Did you want to tear us apart? You just brought us together.

Let me tell you about my people. We are a vast and quarrelsome family, a family rent by racial, social, political and class division, but a family nonetheless. We're frivolous, yes, capable of expending tremendous emotional energy on pop cultural minutiae — a singer's revealing dress, a ball team's misfortune, a cartoon mouse. We're wealthy, too, spoiled by the ready availability of trinkets and material goods, and maybe because of that, we walk through life with a certain sense of blithe entitlement. We are fundamentally decent, though — peace-loving and compassionate. We struggle to know the right thing and to do it. And we are, the overwhelming majority of us, people of faith, believers in a just and loving God.

Some people — you, perhaps — think that any or all of this makes us weak. You're mistaken. We are not weak. Indeed, we are strong in ways that cannot be measured by arsenals.

IN PAIN

Yes, we're in pain now. We are in mourning and we are in shock. We're still grappling with the unreality of the awful thing you did, still working to make ourselves understand that this isn't a special effect from some Hollywood blockbuster, isn't the plot development from a Tom Clancy novel. Both in terms of the awful scope of their ambition and the probable final death toll, your attacks are likely to go down as the worst acts of terrorism in the history of the United States and, probably,

(Continued on page 5)





Florida Lupine Association
 A Federal Non-Profit Organization
EIN: 59-3586075
*Dedicated to Being Florida's
 Responsible Voice for Wolfdogs*

Letters, Advertisements and
 Pictures are to be sent to

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*All submissions will become property of
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Contributions, Dues, & Questions
 about FLA are to be sent to

Florida Lupine Association, Inc.
5810-400 N. Monroe Street PMB-122
Tallahassee, FL 32303
E-Mail: info@floridalupine.org

*If sending snail mail,
 please allow 2-3 weeks for a reply.*

FLA Acknowledgements

Special thanks to those who provided donations or
 contributed their services to FLA this quarter:

- * **Mike Downs** for agreeing to create a 2002 calendar for the FLA membership.
- * **Bob & Barbara Speer-Skeoch** for their donation toward the making of the calendar
- * **Cheryl Hazzard, Vicki Achin, Barbara and Bob Speer-Skeoch, Kim Miles and Jody Haynes** for their contribution of photos for the calendar.
- * **Cheryl Hazzard** for submitting her poetry for publication in the *Florida Lupine News*.

Fun Fact

*Because of the hundreds of
 thousands of hairs growing at the
 same time on a dog's body,
 the average dog produces about 60-
 70 feet of hair daily!*

All original art, photos, drawings, articles and other material
 in this Newsletter are ©Florida Lupine Association and are
 the property of FLA, Inc., except where otherwise indicated.

Letters, ads, and articles do not necessarily reflect the views of
 FLA. We welcome all comments, ads, and articles but require that
 they are signed and include a phone number and address. FLA and
 the Editor reserve the right to refuse and/or to edit any material
 submitted for publication in the *Florida Lupine News* Newsletter.

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 Mayo Wetterberg, Treasurer
 Thom Whaley, Special Projects
 Jody Haynes, Webmaster
 Kim Miles, Editor

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Pricing Information:

1/8 Page: \$5.00 1/4 Page: \$10.00
 1/2 Page: \$20.00 Full Page: \$50.00

Photos: \$5.00 Processing Fee for each photo

No Breeder Advertisements Allowed

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Deadlines for Submission:

Spring NL: March 15 Fall NL: Sept. 15
 Summer NL: June 15 Winter NL: Dec. 15

From the Desk of the Secretary

By Kim Miles (Interim Secretary)

We are printing two dozen FLA t-shirts in large and extra large sizes for around \$15 (price to be finalized soon). The shirts should be ready for sale soon, so keep an eye out on our website for final notification. If you wish to purchase one or have any questions, please contact FLA then. There is only a limited supply in this initial batch, so they should sell quickly.

In addition, I'd like to remind you that we are creating an FLA Calendar for 2002. Pictures of FLA wolfdogs will be featured, so get your pictures in. The deadline for submission is December 15, 2001. At that time, we will begin production. If you wish to submit pictures of your animals, please send them to Florida Lupine Association, 9525 Jamaica Drive, Miami, FL 33189-1709. All photos will be returned if requested. (For a quality reproduction, we will need the original photo; photos submitted via email may be of insufficient quality for a full page blow-up.) Since we will only make the number of calendars requested by our members, you need to let us know if you want one. Final pricing hasn't been determined yet, but should be \$15 or less. The more orders we get, the cheaper it will be.

FLA offers the following special info packets: (1) safe containment for wolfdogs, (2) being a responsible breeder, (3) finding an ethical breeder, (4) breed-specific legislation information, and (5) sample puppy sales contracts with spay/neuter clauses. These packets are free. Contact FLA at 305-278-7022 or at info@floridalupine.org if you know of anyone interested in an info packet.

From the 'Virtual' Desk of the Webmaster

By Jody Haynes

Well, we have not received any questions for Dr. Tom regarding wolf, wolfdog, or wolf behavior, so I have not yet launched Dr. Tom's Corner on the website. I have also not received any submittals from members to add to the website. Therefore, this quarter was also a slow one with respect to the website. I did, however, get a chance to put up some photos—of people and their dogs—from this year's Rendezvous. The page is in the process of being tweaked, so please visit periodically to see the changes.

Please visit us on the web today — at www.floridalupine.org — and encourage your friends, family, neighbors ... and anyone who will listen to do the same! And, as always, feel free to send your comments, criticisms, and suggestions involving the Florida Lupine website to me at webmaster@floridalupine.org.

Happy surfing!

From the Desk of the President

By Alan Mitchell

As we watch television, read a newspaper or meet someone on the street, the topic is how the nation and the world have changed since September 11. Reliving those awful scenes daily serve as a constant reminder that we must be vigilant in loving and in guarding our way of life. With America now on the offensive, our hearts and prayers are with not only the families of those lost on 9-11, but also with our military half a world away. Our nation's leaders have told us that this war will be like none other before it. America must not tire of the battle and become complacent as we have been in the past. America will endure.

We also need to resume our somewhat normal lives. There are dogs to be saved, shelters to be worked with, officials to be educated, potential owners to be assisted, and puppy mills to be put out of business. The business of Florida Lupine and the business of caring for our beloved furry friends continues.

While Florida Lupine, as an entity, does not do rescues, many of our individual members do. To assist in the educational and communication processes, Thom Whaley, one of our directors, serves as a point of contact for rescue questions and information. He can assist in helping people get together when needed and can help by asking many of the questions that should be answered before one initiates the rescue process.

In the last legislative session, bills were introduced in both houses regarding animal ownership and control. None were passed. One of these would have allowed Animal Control Officers to carry firearms. While the state statute continues to forbid such bearing of arms, this language has recently popped up in a local ordinance as a City Commission wanted to provide a means of self protection for their Animal Control. Florida Lupine quickly intervened and educated the City Commission and their staff that Florida Statute 828.27 forbids this, but does have a provision for use of chemical devices. Consequently, the proposed ordinance was voted down and staff was instructed to bring back a revised ordinance in accordance with State Statutes.

One of the ways that members can contribute to the Florida Lupine mission is to watch closely for any proposed legislation at the local level, or local proposals for state laws, and to advise the Board of Directors of these changes. You can fax to 941-629-0761. As a 501(c)(3) organization, we provide educational assistance to individuals, organizations, shelters and governmental officials. We have provided help and assistance to governmental officials across the state and welcome the opportunity to help where we can.

From the Desk of the Treasurer

By Mayo Wetterberg

The 2000-2001 Fiscal Year is now complete (ending June 30) and all the state renewal forms have been turned in to the Florida Commission of Agriculture and Consumer Services. We had a very good year as far as accomplishing goals, and we are looking to a new and more active year, both with our members and with other organizations.

Some of our original goals included completing all tax-exempt status requirements on both state and federal levels; registering as a state non-profit organization and as a federal 501(c)(3); and becoming a recognized voice for responsible wolfdog ownership. We have done all of that. Our IRS tax-exempt status was finalized in March, and we have also received our state tax-exempt certificate. In addition, we had our first elections and installation of directors for the upcoming term: 2001-2003.

The following is a summary of our financial report for the 2000-2001 fiscal year (July 1 - June 30):

Revenue for FY2000-2001:

Dues	\$1385.00
<u>Donations</u>	<u>\$1146.00*</u>
TOTAL:	\$2652.72

**Includes all money collected during the rendezvous, including those monies that were collected for camping and food.*

Expenses for FY2000-2001:

Office Supplies	\$115.47
Postage	\$374.29
Printing	\$539.75
Annual Meeting	\$710.69**
Fees & Miscellaneous	\$597.05***
<u>Direct Grants</u>	<u>\$100.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$2437.25

***Includes all expenses, deposits, etc., associated with the 2001 Rendezvous (i.e., the annual meeting).*

****Includes all administration costs such as tax-exempt registration, banking fees, phone expenses, mailbox fees, incorporation fees, and membership in state organizations.*

The 2000-2001 year-ending balance on June 30, 2001 was \$1250.19. Thank you to all those organizations and individuals who donated to help FLA promote responsible wolfdog ownership.

One of the 2001-2002 year's goals is to begin writing for grants from both government and commercial organizations. The funds will enable FLA to expand within the State of Florida and to reach the hundreds of wolfdog owners that as yet do not know we exist. We will be able to provide more information and assistance to more owners. We will also be able to increase our literature, mailings, and organizational contacts to continue expanding our organizational stature within the state.

**FLORIDA LUPINE ASSOCIATION, INC.
5810-400 N. Monroe Street PMB-122, Tallahassee, FL 32303**

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

New Membership _____	Renew Membership _____	Date _____
Individual* (FL Residents) _____ \$25	Individual Affiliate (out of state) _____ \$15	
Family* (FL Residents) _____ \$35	Family Affiliate (out of state) _____ \$20	
Junior Membership _____ \$10	Business Affiliate (out of state) _____ \$40	
Business Membership _____ \$50	Donation Only (no membership) \$_____	

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Office Phone: _____

*These are the only voting categories.

(“We’ll go forward” Continued from page 1)

the history of the world. You’ve bloodied us as we have never been bloodied before.

But there’s a gulf of difference between making us bloody and making us fall. This is the lesson Japan was taught to its bitter sorrow the last time anyone hit us this hard, the last time anyone brought us such abrupt and monumental pain. When roused, we are righteous in our outrage, terrible in our force. When provoked by this level of barbarism, we will

bear any suffering, pay any cost, go to any length, in the pursuit of justice.

I tell you this without fear of contradiction. I know my people, as you, I think, do not. What I know reassures me. It also causes me to tremble with dread of the future.

In the days to come, there will be recrimination and accusation, fingers pointing to determine whose failure allowed this to happen and what can be done to prevent it from happening again.



There will be heightened security, misguided talk of revoking basic freedoms. We’ll go forward from this moment sobered, chastened, sad. But determined, too. Unimaginably determined.

THE STEEL IN US

You see, the steel in us is not always readily apparent. That aspect of our character is seldom understood by people who don’t know us well. On this day, the family’s bickering is put on hold.

As Americans we will weep, as Americans we will mourn, and as Americans, we will rise in defense of all that we cherish.

So I ask again: What was it you hoped to teach us? It occurs to me that maybe you just wanted us to know the depths of your hatred. If that’s the case, consider the message received. And take this message in exchange: You don’t know my people. You don’t know what we’re capable of. You don’t know what you just started.

But you’re about to learn.

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‘Twas the Night Before Christmas...

‘Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there;
The children were nestled all snug in their beds
With no thought of the dog filling their heads.
And mamma in her ‘kerchief, and I in my cap
Knew he was cold, but didn’t care about that.
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Figuring the dog was free of his chain and into the trash.
The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow
Gave the luster of mid-day to objects below.
When what to my wondering eyes should appear
But Santa Claus ... with eyes full of tears.
He unchained the dog, once so lively and quick,
Last year’s Christmas present, now painfully thin and sick.
More rapid than eagles, he called the dog’s name
And the dog ran to him despite all his pain:
“Now DASHER! Now DANCER! Now PRANCER and VIXER!
On COMET! On CUPID! On DORRER and BLITZER!
To the top of the porch! To the top of the wall!
Let’s find this dog a home where he’ll be loved by all.”
I knew in an instant there would be no gifts this year,
For Santa Claus had made one thing startlingly clear.
The gift of a dog is not just for the season.
We had gotten the pup for all the wrong reasons.
In our haste to bring home to the kids a gift,
There was one important thing that we all had missed.
A dog should be family, and cared for the same;
You don’t give a gift, and then put it on a chain.
And I heard him exclaim to us as he rode out of sight,
“You weren’t giving a gift! You were giving a life!”

—Author Unknown

Blind man and his guide dog among those who escaped

CA native knew there was trouble when his 78th-floor office began rocking and he smelled jet fuel

By David Montero, *Scripps-McClatchy News Service* Staff Writer

SACRAMENTO — The first thing greeting Michael Hingson and his guide dog, Roselle, was the choking stench of jet fuel wafting down the north tower of the World Trade Center.

Hingson hadn't seen what happened: The 51-year-old has been blind since birth. But it wasn't hard to figure some sort of aircraft had struck the building with tremendous force at 8:45 a.m. EDT Tuesday.

Quickly, he told the few people in his office to get out and suggested they take the stairs because he believed the elevators surely wouldn't be working.

He had no idea what was happening. The Palmdale native, well-versed in earthquakes, said he only knew the rocking skyscraper was in terrible trouble, and that he was pretty much alone. On the 78th floor.

"The office was empty except for myself, (co-workers) David, Frank and Roselle," he said. "I took a moment to call my wife and tell her there was an explosion at the World Trade Center and that I'd be home as soon as I could."

With that, he hung up the phone, grabbed the harness for Roselle and began issuing the commands that told the yellow Labrador retriever it was time to go to work.

But the dog, who had only been his guide for nine months, was already raring to go. She had been, in fact, since the initial impact that jarred her from an early-morning slumber under Hingson's desk.

"She had already jumped up from there," Hingson said. "Usually she doesn't even stir when the wind shakes the tower."

While Frank described to Hingson how flaming chunks of debris tumbled past their window, Roselle led him through the disheveled office and, eventually, to the stairwell.

"The crowds weren't huge at first," Hingson said. "But as we started making our way down, they got bigger."

It was getting hot, too, with temperatures in the stairwell climbing



higher than 90 degrees. Hingson was sweating and Roselle was panting.

By the time they got to about the 50th floor, United Airlines Flight 175 had slammed into the south tower of the World Trade Center, something he wouldn't know about until later.

Instead, the smell of kerosene was getting stronger and soon he felt people bumping into him as Roselle, Frank and he continued downstairs.

The problem was, the people bumping into him were going the wrong way.

"I heard applause and was told they were firefighters," he said. "I clapped a few on the back, but I was scared for where they were going."

He should have been worried. Temperatures in the north tower were scorching the top part of the building at more than 1,000 degrees.

And that heat was working its way through the stairwell each time people opened a door in an attempt to escape.

Others were worried, too. As news spread across the country about the terrorist attack on the twin towers, Kay and Ted Stern watched the news, horrified, from their Santa Barbara home.

The Sterns knew Hingson worked in the World Trade Center and had met him in

December 1998 when they went to visit him and Roselle, the puppy they had helped train for her eventual career as a guide dog.

"We had several friends in New York, including Hingson, and we sent e-mails immediately and asked for them to respond so we would know if they were OK," Ted Stern said.

At that time, however, Hingson was not even sure he would be all right. The stairs were thick with people clambering down the stairs, not stampeding, but moving quickly. And Hingson was worried about Roselle.

The dog had begun panting heavily, her throat irritated by jet fuel fumes. No air was circulating and Hingson knew she was thirsty.

Frank stayed with both of them and they finally reached the lobby of the building.

"A lot of pipes had broken and there were puddles on the floor," he said.

"Roselle was stopping to drink some of the water, so I knew she was very thirsty."

It had taken them 50 minutes to get down the stairs and it took them another 10 minutes to actually get out of the building and onto the street.

First Case Of West Nile Virus In Dogs Found In Georgia

The International Society for Infectious Diseases & Center for Disease Control

The focus to date on West Nile Virus (WNV) has been on birds, horses and humans, but now dogs are added to the list. A local veterinarian, Dr. David Bryan of Bryan and Hight Veterinary Clinic, received results this week that a blood sample of a dog he treated earlier in the month had come back positive for the mosquito-borne West Nile Virus. The virus is spread by migrating birds, which are in turn bitten by mosquitoes, and those in turn transmit the virus to horses, humans, and [other animals such as] dogs.

Several cases of WNV in horses have been diagnosed in the North Florida/South Georgia area since the virus 'headed south' earlier this year, and a dead osprey collected in the Lake Douglas area tested positive. But this is the first case of WNV in a dog.

Dr. Bryan said he had just attended a seminar on WNV in Tifton where the Serology Department at the UGA diagnostic lab in Tifton presented a list of 8 clinical signs of WNV in horses. The dog he treated showed 6 of the 8. Dr. Bryan said the dog was an otherwise-healthy two and one-half-year-old male Labrador whose owners live just across Lake Seminole near Sneads, Fla. When he was brought in, the dog was drooling, appeared to feel bad, had facial tics in the muzzle-area muscles, and his left ear was drawn up toward the top of his head. His vision appeared to be impaired, his appetite was poor and his temperature was up. All in all, Bryan said, he showed signs of a central nervous system problem.

In-house lab work was reasonably unremarkable, so blood samples were sent to Tifton for screening, including Eastern and Western equine encephalitis and West Nile virus. The encephalitis screenings were negative, but the WNV was positive. Dr. Bryan said veterinarians had thought that dogs would not be affected by WNV.

Bryan had begun treating the dog with chloramphenicol, an old broad-spectrum antibiotic which the doctor says he has used for years. He explained that this medicine will cross the blood-

brain barrier and might have some antiviral properties as well. The human version, chloromycetin, had been off the market for some time. The great news is that the dog was well enough to go home in 3 or 4 days and reached full recovery about 5 days after that.

Dr. Bryan said while there are WNV vaccines for horses, there are none yet for dogs, and he has contacted a pharmaceutical company which produces horse vaccine to see if a dog vaccine is forthcoming.

(Pet owners should not panic. As ProMED posted in 1999: No [clinical] cases of encephalitis linked to WNV have been documented in pets in this [1999] outbreak, nor does it appear from other WNV outbreaks overseas that this will be likely. However, CDC has found three positive sera from healthy dogs in a preliminary screen of 84 dog serum samples from New York City. Pets will probably be similar to most species of mammals and birds in that they are susceptible to a transient WNV infection if bitten by an infected mosquito, but are unlikely to become clinically ill. [Ref: West Nile-like virus—USA (New York): UPDATE 19991023.1908. There were no reports of clinically WNV-positive dogs in 2000.—Mod.JW])

FROM THE CDC: The West Nile Virus & Dogs and Cats

Q. Can West Nile virus cause illness in dogs or cats?

A. There is a published report of West Nile virus isolated from a dog in southern Africa (Botswana) in 1982. West Nile virus has been isolated from several dead cats in 1999 and 2000. A serosurvey of dogs and cats in the epidemic area showed a low infection rate.

Q. Can infected dogs or cats be carriers (i.e., reservoirs) for West Nile virus and transmit the virus to humans?

A. West Nile virus is transmitted by infectious mosquitoes. There is no documented

evidence of person-to-person, animal-to-animal, or animal-to-person transmission of West Nile virus. Veterinarians should take normal infection control precautions when caring for an animal suspected to have this or any viral infection.

Q. How do dogs or cats become infected with West Nile virus?

A. The same way humans become infected—by the bite of infectious mosquitoes. The virus is located in the mosquito's salivary glands. During blood feeding, the virus is injected into the animal. The virus then multiplies and may cause illness. Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds, which may circulate the virus in their blood for a few days. It is possible that dogs and cats could become infected by eating dead infected animals such as birds, but this is unproven.

Q. Can a dog or cat infected with West Nile virus infect other dogs or cats?

A. No. There is no documented evidence that West Nile virus is transmitted from animal to animal.

Q. How long can a dog or cat be infected with West Nile virus?

A. The answer is not known at this time.

Q. Should a dog or cat infected with West Nile virus be destroyed? What is the treatment for an animal infected with West Nile virus?

A. No. There is no reason to destroy an animal just because it has been infected with West Nile virus. Full recovery from the infection is likely. Treatment would be supportive and consistent with standard veterinary practices for animals infected with a viral agent.

This information was obtained through the University of Florida's Pest Alert site at <http://extlab7.entnem.ufl.edu/pestalert/>. Initially posted to ProMED-mail at promed@promed.isid.harvard.edu on 09/30/2001. ProMED-mail (<http://www.promedmail.org>) is a program of the International Society for Infectious Diseases.

One 'Tuff' hero in Kitsap County

KING TV—Local News, Seattle, WA

POULSBO — Early Monday morning on the Hood Canal, two teenagers in a small boat made a bad decision. They decided to climb the ladder on a beacon 100 yards from shore.

"When we got off the boat, it decided it wanted to drift away," says Jacob Duncan.

Stranded, Jacob cell-phoned his parents for help.

Then he and friend Sean Harris made another bad choice – they tried to swim for shore in the frigid water.

"Just instant stun, your lungs lock up and you just can't do anything. You can't breathe, you can't move," says Harris.

By the time Jacob's parents arrived, they heard screams for help coming from the water.

"I told Jacob to call his dog because that's the only thing we could do - Mike and I

tried to swim out to them but the water was so cold it was taking our breath away.

So Jacob called Tuff and he didn't hesitate. He jumped right in," says Jacob's mother, Mary Duncan.

Tuff is the family's German Shepherd/wolf hybrid pet. Within minutes he had pulled Jacob out of the water.

Tuff went back in to find Sean, who was by then hypothermic after spending 20 minutes trying to stay afloat.

"When I felt him swim beneath me I just grabbed his torso and let him drag me to shore," says Sean.

"I think he's a hero. He saved two boys' lives ... I'm gonna start crying," says Mary.

Both boys are just fine—thanks to the assistance of their family pet, one 'Tuff' wolf hybrid hero.



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FL ALERT: MOSQUITO-BORNE VIRUS UPDATE

Medical Alert Extended To More Florida Counties —

Florida Reports Ninth Case of West Nile Virus

Florida Department of Health

TALLAHASSEE—The Florida Department of Health announced today that the ninth human encephalitis case caused by the West Nile (WN) virus has been reported in a 36-year-old female resident of Leon County. Due to previous WN activity, Leon County has been under a medical alert since July.

Health officials want all citizens living in counties under the medical alert to be on heightened awareness. With two birds testing positive for West Nile (WN) virus, state health officials are encouraging citizens to continue reporting dead birds on the internet site or to their local county health department.

A total of 49 counties are included in this alert:

Alachua	Escambia	Lafayette	Pasco
Baker	Flagler	Lake	Putnam
Bay	Franklin	Lee	Santa Rosa
Bradford	Gadsden	Leon	Seminole
Calhoun	Gilchrist	Levy	St. Johns
Citrus	Gulf	Liberty	Sumter
Clay	Hamilton	Madison	Suwannee
Collier	Hernando	Marion	Taylor
Columbia	Highlands	Martin	Union
Dade	Holmes	Monroe	Volusia
Dixie	Jackson	Nassau	Wakulla
Duval	Jefferson	Ocala	Walton
			Washington

Remember, all mosquito-borne illnesses are preventable. Even though the weather is changing, the Department of Health is still urging **all** Floridians to take the following precautions against mosquito bites:

- * Avoid outdoor activities at dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are likely to be looking for blood meals;
- * If you must be outdoors when mosquitoes are active, cover up by wearing shoes, socks, long pants and long-sleeved shirts;
- * Use mosquito repellent containing DEET according to manufacturers' directions; and
- * Eliminate stagnant water in any receptacles in which mosquitoes might breed.

For more information on mosquito-borne encephalitis, including reporting human cases and dead birds, visit the DOH Bureau of Epidemiology's Arboviral Encephalitis and West Nile Virus website at MyFlorida.com (click on Health and Human Services, then Consumers—Diseases and Conditions, then Arboviral Encephalitis or West Nile Virus) or http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease_ctrl/epi/htopics/arbo/index.htm, or call the Bureau's toll-free hotline at 1-888-880-5782 for recorded information.

CONTACTS: Frank Penela 1-850-245-4111/850-933-0375 (cell)
Carina Blackmore, DVM, PhD 1-877-631-5445 (toll-free pager)
Steven Wiersma MD, MPH 1-877-210-5031 (toll-free pager)

Dogs Toil to Edge of Collapse

Search: Veterinarians set up on-site clinic to treat K-9s for pain and exhaustion. Then it's back to work.

By Charles Ornstein, *Los Angeles Times* Staff Writer

NEW YORK — Three blocks from ground zero, exhausted rescue workers hobble into a triage center, desperately in need of fluids, medicine and a bath.

One patient is fast asleep after being given antibiotics and pain medication. He's worked

300 animals from as far away as Mississippi, Georgia and Canada.

"It's a lifesaver," said Robin Eckel, an officer with the Monmouth County Sheriff's Department in New Jersey.

Eckel's dog, Chino, lost a toenail Saturday while searching supply vehicles entering the Holland Tunnel, which leads into lower Manhattan. If Eckel had had to treat the injury himself, he would have had to drive home, an hour away.

"He's cleared to work again," Eckel said, leaving the tent hospital set up on West Street. "The vet said as long as he wants to work, let him work. It's not a serious injury."

Every hour, five or six dogs come through the triage center. Nearly all require their eyes washed out and their paws massaged, as well as a liter of intravenous fluids. Some need antibiotics. Most are bathed.

The center is equipped with a donated blood-testing laboratory that can check each dog's kidney and liver functions within minutes. Using that information, vets can determine each animal's ability to press on.

"We have enough stuff here to run a couple hospitals if we really needed to," said Dr. Jason Heller, a veterinarian with Central Veterinary Associates in Long Island. "God forbid one of these dogs can't go back in and find someone--that's why we're here."

Vets from around the country have called to offer help, said Dr. John Charos, who works with

Heller. Some offered to drive 24 hours to bring dog food and other supplies. (The vets say they now have enough.)

Pharmaceutical companies have donated medicine. A pet supply company donated a case of special booties for the animals.

K-9 handlers stop by before and after their shifts, and during breaks.

"They're more worried about the dogs than themselves," one veterinary technician said.

Joaquin Guerrero, a K-9 officer from Saginaw, Mich., brought in his dog, Rookie, to get bandaged during a break from work. Guerrero didn't want steel or debris to cut the dog's legs or paws.

"I'm going till I can't go no more, till the dog can't go no more," Guerrero said. "So far, he's running good. He's very alert."

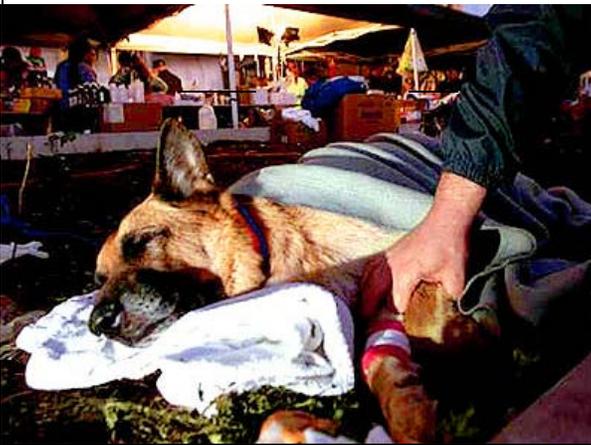
Ammo, the exhausted dog asleep on the grass under a blanket, doesn't even flinch when a photographer's flash goes off.

Ammo has traveled the world and has helped rescue 2,000 people, said Michael Norkelun of the Suffolk County SPCA.

"He's used to working," he said. "He just worked a little too hard this time."

When Ammo detects a person alive, he starts digging. When he finds the dead, he lies down.

Ammo has found no one alive in the ruins of the World Trade Center.



Exhausted from three solid days of searching, Ammo rests with SPCA detective Michael Norkelun a few hundred yards from ground zero. Photo: Robert Gauthier / *LA Times*.

several 16- and 17-hour days, and his body can't take it anymore.

The patients, in this case, are dogs, trained to sniff out signs of life and death. Just like their human handlers, these German shepherds are suffering while sifting through the rubble of the World Trade Center.

One dog fell 50 feet, another one 30 feet. Both survived, vets say. One dog had to be shot to death by its handler after being severely injured within the pile of rubble.

This makeshift center, run by the Suffolk County SPCA and staffed by local veterinarians, opened within hours of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. It has treated more than



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Attack Victims Welcomed At The Rainbow Bridge

By Alexander Theodore, Bouvier, Fourth Year Resident

On the morning of September 11, 2001, there was an unprecedented amount of activity at the Rainbow Bridge, the entrance to Heaven. Decisions had to be made. They had to be made quickly. And, they were.

An issue, not often addressed here, is the fact that many residents really have no loved one for whom to wait. Think of the pups who lived and died in hideous puppy mills. No one on Earth loved or protected them. What about the many who spent unhappy lives tied in backyards? And, the ones who were abused. Who are they to wait for?

We don't talk about that much up here. We share our loved ones as they arrive, happy to do so. But we all know there is nothing like having your very own person who thinks you are the most special pup in the Heavens.

On that ill-fated Tuesday morning a request rang out for

pups not waiting for specific persons to volunteer for special assignment.. An eager, curious crowd surged excitedly forward, each pup wondering what the assignment would be.

They were told by a solemn voice that unexpectedly, all at once, over 5,000 loving people had left Earth long before they were ready. All the pups, as all pups do, felt the humans' pain deep in their own hearts. Without hearing more, there was a clamoring among them: "May I have one to comfort?" and "I'll take two; I have a big heart!" and "I have been saving kisses forever!"

One after another they came forward, begging for assignment. One cozy-looking, fluffy pup hesitantly asked, "Are there any children coming? I would be very comforting for a child 'cause I'm soft and squishy and I always wanted to be hugged." A group of Dalmatians came forward asking to meet the

Firemen and be their friends. The larger working breeds offered to greet the Police Officers and make them feel at home. Little dogs volunteered to do what they do best, cuddle and kiss.

Dogs, who on Earth had never had a kind word or a pat on the head, stepped forward and said, "I will love any human who needs love."

Then all the dogs, wherever on Earth they originally came from, rushed to the Rainbow Bridge and stood waiting, overflowing with love to share — each tail wagging an American Flag.

*The Rainbow Bridge was founded for and by those who have lost a four-legged companion. It is a place where owners can go to grieve and to pay tribute to their beloved pets. It is located at <http://rainbowsbridge.com/>. A similar site, *Paw Prints in Heaven*, can be found at <http://www.pawprintsinheaven.com/welcome.asp>*

MORE WOLF FACTOIDS

1. Raised Leg Urination (RLU) occurs with the alphas or high ranking members of the pack—both male and female. Lower-ranked males tend to urinate like pups, with all four feet on the ground.
2. Dominance is not necessarily established by aggression, direct attack or might.
3. The "omega" wolf is the lowest in rank and usually lives on the fringes of the pack.
4. Adult male wolves average 95-105 lbs. Adult female wolves average 75-85 lbs.
5. The largest wolf on record weighed 175 lbs and was found in east central Alaska. The second largest was recorded at 172 lbs and was located in western Canada. These weights are a deviation from the norm.
6. All members of the pack take care of the young. Sometimes there is even a "nanny"—one whose specific job is to care for the young while the rest of the pack is hunting.
7. Wolves not only howl; they also bark, yip, huff, growl and whine.
8. Scientists believe that when pups lick and nip the snouts of their elders, they are seeking regurgitated food from them.
9. Packs are usually made up of less than ten animals; however, larger packs have been reported when game is plentiful. The Druid Peak Pack has over 30 members.
10. Wolves have 42 teeth—the same number of teeth as dogs.

Training your Wolfdog

By Mayo Wetterberg, FLA Director

Training Your Wolfdog

I have always believed training is an absolute must with any companion animal, including wolfdogs. I say this not as a professional dog trainer, but as an average owner who wants the most out of my relationship with my animals. This is why I decided to dig a little deeper into canine behavior and the process of animal training. From my digging for information and applying common sense training methods, I have come away with two firm beliefs: (1) a trained animal is a much happier and content animal and (2) you can successfully train any wolfdog, regardless of the wolf content.

A Commitment to Training

By having a wolfdog in our home, we are bringing a canine into a strange environment and requiring that he live by our rules. He has no basic instinct that tells him how to behave in our human world. He is not inherently familiar with all our dos and don'ts. He has no way of knowing what is wanted of him unless someone shows him in a manner that he can understand. There are rules he must learn, or face punishment for violating them. And without knowing what the rules are, he is doomed to make mistakes.

He must learn that the couch is not supposed to be shredded, that items on the countertops are not to be carried off to "examine" in detail, and that the tootsie rolls in the litter box are not for him. And worse yet, violating certain rules (like not biting people) brings very serious consequences, even death. Just for not knowing about the rule. So we must work with our wolfdog, developing a communication method by which we can teach our rules to the animal. He cannot learn these rules unless we teach him.

Many people have said that wolfdogs cannot be trained. They say wolfdogs refuse to obey, will always be wild, and the higher the wolf content, the more impossible the task. I argue

that this is not true. While the average person may not train a wolfdog to successfully compete in agility competitions, it has been done. And we can teach a wolfdog basic animal-people skills with just a basic knowledge of how a canine learns, some simple training methods, and the time and patience to apply them. It may not be as simple and quick as with some domestic dogs, but it can be done with reasonable effort, and will result in a happier relationship because of it.

Bonding and Trust

In all animals there must be a trust and a bonding on the part of the animal if he is to learn what we wish to teach. If a wolfdog does not trust us, or is fearful, he will not be a willing candidate to learn what we want to teach him. He may, in fact, learn things we do not intend to teach, and he may frustrate all our attempts to communicate with him.

A scared wolfdog, cowering in the back of an enclosure, is not a good student to teach to "sit" or to "come". If we approach directly he may bite or snap out of fear. And if we back away after a snap, the wolfdog may learn that he can make us go away through aggression—something we never intended to teach or reinforce. So the basic groundwork lies in the wolfdog trusting us. No meaningful training can be accomplished without it.

Obviously, this trust is most easily established with a puppy. The earlier, the better. Even a pup with his eyes not yet open can learn the smell of a human companion as easily as he learns his mother and littermates. With continual contact, he will learn to accept people as a part of his world in a matter of days or weeks. You will have established a bond that will amaze you with its strength and depth.

Older adult dogs may take a longer time to accept a human into their world, depending on their past experiences. If they were well socialized as a puppy, they may readily accept any human, but if they were abused or never socialized to people, they may fear and distrust you. Wolfdogs in this category can be a long-term project. It will take a lot of understanding and

careful attention to establish a bond that we can train from. But it is possible and it can be done. It may require a real in-depth understanding of canine behavior and training methods—and even help from a professional canine behavior specialist. But time and patience will eventually win him over.

Once we have the trust and bond of our wolfdog, there is still another obstacle to training. It's what is known as "what's in it for me". Wolfdog owners have this problem in heaps. Wolfdogs tend to "weigh their options" before responding to a human request.

Unlike a lot of dog breeds that have been created over the centuries to please humans and focus on their owners every action, wolfdogs have a very independent nature. Before they blindly follow a request (even when they know the command), they need to know that there is something in it for them. But that just means that slightly different training methods need to be used to train wolfdogs. Or rather, some of the poorer dog training methods need to be discarded as training methods.

A lot of books have been written on canine behavior, learning, and training. There are a lot of technical terms that describe how an animal learns and how training should be conducted. All this learning and the various training methods can be boiled down to two fairly simple categories—reward-based training and punishment training. The first includes those things that reward a dog for doing what you want him to do, and the latter includes things that punish a dog for doing things you do not want him to do. There are advocates for both methods and some instances where one may work better than the other. I am definitely in favor of the reward-based methods and will explain why.

Punishment is a bad training method

First of all, punishment, to be an effective training method, must work. Sounds simple. But if a punishment makes a wolfdog regress into fear, the

(Continued on page 13)

punishment becomes counterproductive.

From birth, a mother corrects a pup through a set of accepted actions and the pup understands them. The punishment fits the severity of the mistake. If we use punishment, we must be careful to apply it in a manner the wolfdog understands. Misapplied punishment can cause animals to become helpless and just go limp in frustration or become aggressive out of fear.

Second, punishment must be immediate, or the wolfdog may identify with the wrong event. The classic example of misuse of punishment is someone coming home and punishing a dog for peeing on the carpet in their absence. The dog cannot associate the punishment with the event that happened long ago. The dog will more likely associate his being punished with the person's coming home.

Third, punishment must be administered every time the misbehavior occurs or a wolfdog may become confused. Sometimes they get punished, sometimes they don't. How do they associate the punishment with the misbehavior? They may learn to endure the few times of punishment, or just be totally confused over why they are being punished.

Fourth, punishment must be preceded by a warning, and the animal must understand the warning. Otherwise the animal has no way of avoiding punishment for a new misbehavior.

The last criteria for punishment to work is that the wolfdog must know the correct behavior before punishment can be applied for a misbehavior. If he does not know the correct behavior, he cannot know why he is being punished for a misbehavior. So if our wolfdog must already understand the correct behavior, why not reward that correct behavior and not have to punish the misbehavior.

Reward-based Training

Using reward training methods is fairly straightforward. We are going to reward our wolfdog for doing the things we want him to do. Rewards can be food, affection, playtime, etc. All things that are fun and enjoyable to your wolfdog. The principle is that once shown what we want him to do, and given a

reward for doing it correctly, he will gladly do it when requested again.

Were it quite that simple, we would all be finished training our animals and on to something else. The reality is that sometimes there doesn't seem to be a reward big enough to elicit the desired response when the command is given. Here is where the bonding and trust become a great part of the training.

If a wolfdog is going to do anything for us, it is because he wants to. "What's in it for me?" sometimes cannot be answered by food treats. He may do it only because of our stature in his life. This is where patience and our understanding of our wolfdog will help find the answer. The intent of reward training is to establish a positive relationship and communication between us and our wolfdog.

Just as punishment training has many drawbacks, reward-based training has as many positive aspects.

First, it generally takes less time to train. It is far easier to show an animal what the desired behavior is (peeing outside), rather than repeatedly punishing the misbehavior (peeing in house) in hopes that the animal will figure out the correct behavior.

Second, the trained behavior is far more consistent with reward methods. You will initially show exactly what you are looking for as a response to a command, and then we choose to reward whenever we decide that our wolfdog's response is correct.

Third, the actual training becomes a

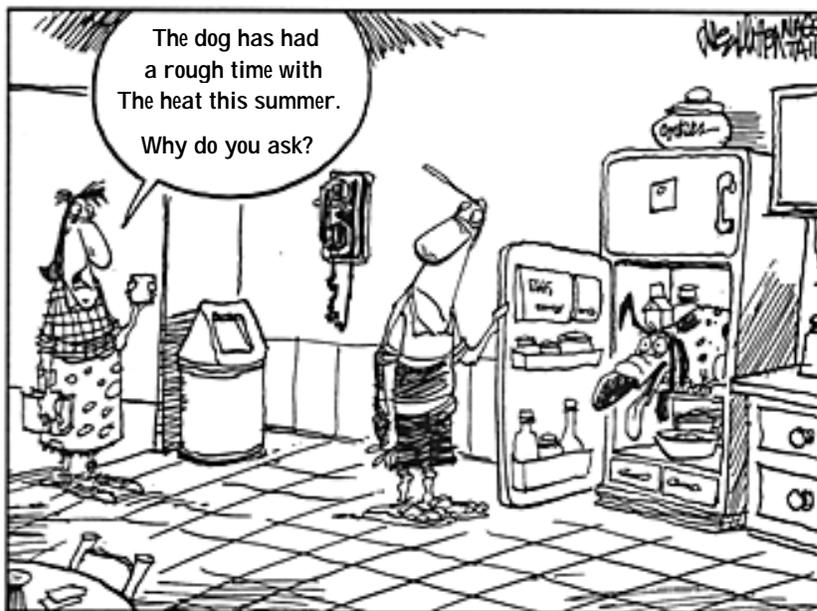
process to strengthen the bond between us and our wolfdog. The time spent can be quality time. It is time doing things together and reinforcing all the socialization and mental exercise that our wolfdog needs to complement his physical exercise.

Fourth, the whole training experience is built around happy rewarding times. Much better than training that is based on punishing bad behavior. Contrary to what someone once said, happiness is not just negative punishment.

Prove it to Yourself

All the philosophy about training your wolfdog is just that—philosophy. The proof is when you actually commit to trying to train a specific behavior and see the results. Start with something simple and set a measurable goal. When you have seen the positive results, it will give you the confidence to do more training of misbehaviors you really want to modify.

The learning that you will do in this training will help you understand your wolfdog even better, and be much more aware of what makes him tick. You will learn to focus on your wolfdog's actions, and he will learn to focus on you. You will see the things that your wolfdog understands as you do them, and the things that you do that confuse him. You will build a confidence in handling your wolfdog, and he will build a trust in you and your commands. It will not be easy, but it will be rewarding.



Veterinary Association Calms Anthrax Fears

Press Release: American Veterinary Medical Association

Schaumburg, IL —As pet owners have become aware that anthrax is primarily an animal disease, concern has emerged regarding the risk of exposure to anthrax in veterinary clinics. To allay these fears, the American Veterinary Medical Association has prepared the attached fact sheet on anthrax to provide the public with reliable information and to help calm fears that have become commonplace after recent anthrax exposures. Regularly updated information also may be accessed on the association's Web site at <http://www.avma.org>.

Although anthrax as an animal disease has a worldwide distribution, the incidence of the disease in animals is extremely low in the United States. Animal species most susceptible to the disease include cattle, sheep, and goats.

Veterinarians who practice in areas of the country where anthrax occurs naturally may occasionally treat anthrax patients, but risk of exposure to anthrax in veterinary clinics and hospitals is currently so low as to be a non-issue.

Veterinarians are, however, an important line of defense in preventing anthrax in animal populations and, as part of that effort, veterinarians do have access to animal anthrax vaccines to protect their patients.

"Veterinarians may vaccinate certain livestock to prevent anthrax but it would be in areas of the country where anthrax is endemic, such as in the Southwest and Midwest," said Lisa Conti, DVM, MPH, Florida State Public Health Veterinarian.

"Companion animal practitioners usually do not have the vaccine in their clinics because the disease is almost never seen in

their patients," explained Dr. Conti. "It is important to understand that the strain used to produce the animal anthrax vaccine is 'non-virulent.' It will not cause disease." Dr. Conti also emphasized that this vaccine is intended only for use in animals, not humans.

Anthrax organisms, used in research facilities to develop and test vaccines and other protective measures, are tightly regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture, and are stored in areas with stringent biosecurity. Because of their expertise, public health veterinarians were recently called upon to determine whether anthrax organisms responsible for the human death in southern Florida were from a strain that might occur naturally in that area.

"In bioterrorism, 'first response' teams may include veterinarians and other medical professionals in addition to more traditional 'first responders' such as local law enforcement, FBI, fire, and emergency services," said Leslie Tengelsen, PhD, DVM. Dr. Tengelsen, Idaho's deputy state epidemiologist, teaches veterinarians how to work with public health officials and how to prepare for incidents of bioterrorism.

Many potential agents of bioterrorism are zoonotic (transmissible between animals and humans). Veterinarians are trained to recognize the signs of disease caused by those agents in animals and humans. For this reason, their immediate involvement in detective efforts is critical.

"Veterinary reports become vital because rapid detection can lead to rapid resolution," Tengelsen said. "Conversely, a delay in reporting can give way to unmentionable devastation."

"Other health professionals rely on veterinary expertise in the areas of zoonotic disease, herd health management (maintaining the health of

large populations), effective medical treatment, and preventive medicine," explained Dr. Michael Auslander, DVM, MSPH, Kentucky Public Health Veterinarian.

"For example, physicians rarely see diseases such as Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. When they do, they may try to treat the infection with a variety of antibiotics before prescribing tetracycline, which is the preferred treatment," said Dr. Auslander. Dr. Auslander noted that nearly 73% of new and emerging diseases are zoonotic, whereas only 49% of other infectious diseases are zoonotic.

Veterinarians also serve as watchdogs for diseases that may be brought in from foreign countries, such as foot-and-mouth disease.

"Although foot-and-mouth disease does not directly affect humans, it does present serious risks for U.S. livestock," explained Dr. Auslander.

A sophisticated surveillance and reporting system has strengthened ties between public health and veterinary professionals and has facilitated information gathering and sharing with nontraditional sources and recipients, such as 911, Dial-a-Nurse, pharmacies, humane societies, and universities.

In addition to anthrax organisms, veterinarians can assist in tracking potential agents of bioterrorism that cause plague, tularemia, Q fever, and brucellosis.

The AVMA is a professional organization comprising more than 66,000 veterinarians dedicated to advancing the science and art of veterinary medicine, including its relationship to public health and agriculture.

For more information, visit the AVMA Website at <http://www.avma.org> or contact Sharon Curtis Granskog at 847/925-8070, ext. 275, or via E-mail: sgranskog@avma.org.

Frequently Asked Questions About Anthrax

American Veterinary Medical Association

Q: What causes anthrax?

A: Anthrax is caused by *Bacillus anthracis*, a bacterium that can form spores. Spores allow it to survive in the soil for long periods of time.

Q: What species are typically at risk for developing anthrax?

A: Anthrax is primarily an animal disease, occurring most often in hoofed animals such as cattle, sheep, goats, camels, and antelopes, which can ingest anthrax spores while grazing. Horses can also acquire anthrax by grazing, but incidence is lower. Dogs, cats, lions, and pigs can contract the disease by eating undercooked meat from infected animals. Anthrax spores have been isolated from the crops of sparrows, and birds of prey (e.g., vultures) have been implicated in the spread of anthrax spores through fecal contamination. Amphibians, reptiles, and fish are not directly susceptible

Q: How common is anthrax in the United States?

A: Incidence of anthrax in the United States is low, primarily due to effective control of the disease in animals. Areas of higher risk include Central and South America, Southern and Eastern Europe, Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and the Middle East.

Q: What are the signs of anthrax infection?

A: Anthrax infection in animals can be respiratory or intestinal. Clinical signs may include fever, respiratory difficulty, excitement followed by depression, incoordination, vomiting, diarrhea, bloody discharges, convulsions, and death.

Q: How common is anthrax infection in people?

A: Anthrax in humans is rare. Most cases develop in people whose occupations place them in close contact with livestock or the contaminated products of livestock such as wool, goatskin, and pelts. Direct human-to-human transmission of anthrax is extremely unlikely.

Q: How does anthrax infection occur in people?

A: Three types of anthrax are seen in people: cutaneous (skin), intestinal, and inhalation. The incubation period for the disease is approximately 2 to 7 days.

? In people, cutaneous anthrax accounts for about 95% of all natural infections and develops when *B. anthracis* enters the skin through existing cuts or abrasions. Without antibiotic treatment, the death rate from cutaneous anthrax is approximately 20%; if appropriately treated, death is rare.

? Intestinal anthrax results from consumption of contaminated and undercooked meat. Affected individuals may experience nausea, inappetence, vomiting, and fever, followed by abdominal pain, blood in the vomitus, and severe diarrhea. Mortality is estimated at 25 to 75%. Human intestinal anthrax has not been reported in the United States during the 20th or 21st centuries.

? Inhalational anthrax may initially present as a flu-like illness. A short period of improvement may follow, after which the patient rapidly deteriorates with high fever, respiratory distress, and shock. Fatalities approach 95% if not treated in the first 48 hours.

Q: How is anthrax diagnosed?

A: Standard bacteriologic culture of blood is the most widely available and useful diagnostic test. Biochemical and microbiologic tests can often provide a definitive diagnosis within 18 to 24 hours.

Q: What treatments are available for anthrax infection?

A: Infection can be prevented and treated with antibiotics. Because the course of the disease is rapid, prompt administration is essential. Effective antibiotics include ciprofloxacin, doxycycline, and amoxicillin.

Q: Can anthrax infection be prevented?

A: Vaccination is effective at preventing infection in animals and people. Animal vaccines have not been approved for and should not be administered to humans. A vaccine is available for humans, but population-wide vaccination in the United States has not been recommended because risk has been considered to be low.

Q: Can anthrax easily be used as a biological weapon?

A: Use of *B. anthracis* as a biological weapon generally relies on aerosolization to cause inhalational anthrax. Aerosolization of infective doses of anthrax spores is not easily accomplished.



This information has been prepared by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). Redistribution is acceptable, but the original content and format must be maintained and the source identified. The AVMA is located at <http://www.avma.org>.

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