

# Phoenix Bulldog Club News for Summer, 2013

With these excessive summer temperatures it is extremely important to take special care of Bulldogs. The safest place for Bullies during the summer is in an air-conditioned house with plenty of fresh cool water. Be alert to your dogs sneaking out the dog door to sunbathe. They don't always have the sense to come back in right away. Never leave your dog in a parked vehicle.

## Heat Stroke

Dogs and cats can't perspire and can only dispel heat by panting and through the pads of their feet. If you suspect heat stroke in your pet, seek veterinary attention immediately.

**Signs of heat stroke include** (but are not limited to):

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- Body temperatures of 104-110F degrees
  - Excessive panting
  - Dark or bright red tongue and gums
  - Sticky or dry tongue and gums
  - Staggering
  - Stupor
  - Seizures
  - Bloody diarrhea or vomiting
  - Rapid heartbeat

**Note:** Short-nosed breeds such as Bulldogs, Pugs, etc., large heavy-coated breeds, and dogs with heart or respiratory problems are more at risk for heat stroke.

## Cooling Your Pet

- Find some shade. Get your pet out of the heat.
- Use cool water, not ice water, to cool your pet (very cold water will constrict the blood vessels and impede cooling).
- Place cool wet cloths on feet and around head.
- Offer ice cubes for the animal to lick.
- Contact your your veterinarian.

For more information on heat-related dangers go to:

<http://www.akcchf.org/canine-health/your-dogs-health/caring-for-your-dog/summer-dangers-for-dogs.html>

What if you have lost power to your home, or the air conditioning has gone out on a hot day?

Simply follow the cooling procedures above to keep your dog cool. Plenty of fresh water will help. Also you may want to fill a tub 1/3 the way full and allow your dog to rest in it. A cool tile floor will help the dog and you can even spread a bag of ice on the tile floor so they can arrange and adjust to their desire to keep them cool. You may also get a few buckets of ice and a fan, aim the fan down on the buckets of ice and that will cool the temperature down a great deal in the home. Close all windows, bring the shades down over any window in your bathroom to keep the sun out and make it dim in the room, turn fans on, allow the water in the tub to be there and the ice buckets. This will keep things much cooler.

from :

<http://www.bulldogsworld.com/health-and-medical/heat-strokeexhaustion-bulldogs-and-sudden-loss-air-conditioning-information>

The next meeting of the Phoenix Bulldog Club will be the third week in September at Bass Pro Shop. At the May meeting Kathy Rea was elected to be the new Vice-President. Connie Booker was elected to the Board. Our President, Candy Trafton, has decided the job market looks better for her in Florida so she will be leaving the Valley of the Sun in July. We wish her all the best in Florida! Candy plans to be gone by July 15<sup>th</sup> and Kathy Rea will take over as President at that time.

Even though the club meetings are on summer hiatus, the show committee is finalizing plans for the PBC speciality shows in 2014. Two judges from England have accepted invitations to judge. The shows will be held at the Windemere Hotel in east Mesa on Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup>.

Last October my 10 year old bulldog Molly was diagnosed with Addison's Disease. Her initial symptom was sudden weight lose and by the time we balanced her electrolytes she had lost 30% of her weight. Kim Zavesky helped me out with a recipe for "Fat Balls" that stabilized Molly's weight and even helped her put on a few pounds. Whether it's a health problem or an underweight dog or even a finicky eater, Fat Balls can help add pounds. Here is a website from Kathy Rea for variations on the Fat Ball recipe:

<http://www.dogforum.net/dog-frequently-asked-questions/5191-how-make-satin-balls-fat-balls.html>

Good luck to everyone showing at the Ventura dog show this weekend. Enjoy those cool sea breezes! The Flagstaff dog show, hosted by Flagstaff Kennel Club, was the weekend of June 8 and 9. Club members Candy Trafton, Kim Nunez, and Stacy Gurrieri made the trip to pine country. On Saturday

Stacy's BLOOMIN BELLA LUNA took 1/W/OS in Bred-By Bitches and 2/R on Sunday. Kim's MUGWASH PANDA placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the same category both days. On Sunday, Candy's Dallas – CANDYLANDS E.CLIVE PEPPERMINT KISS – took First and Reserve in Puppy Dogs 9 to 12 months. Debbi Golding from Las Vegas finished NOTE A BULL'S TO BE OR NOT TO BOP in Bred-By Bitches with 1/W/BW/OS/BBY. If you would like to share your show results with the club, please send them to [dlockett@earthlink.net](mailto:dlockett@earthlink.net) for the next newsletter.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the club wants to write a memorial in honor of founding member Marlene Mishler. If you knew Marlene please consider writing a few memories or stories for our memorial. You can send them to me at [dlockett@earthlink.net](mailto:dlockett@earthlink.net) Thanks so much!

Dog training help is just a phone call away with a new American Kennel Club service – the AKC Good Dog! Helpline. Dog trainers staff the hotline and answer owners' questions about common behavior problems. The trainers only use positive reinforcement methods. Dog owners can subscribe to the service for a one-time fee of \$79.99, which is good for the life of the dog. The service is open 12 hours a day Monday through Friday and six hours on Saturdays. There are no limits to the number of calls or questions. For more information go to [akegooddogquestions@akc.org](mailto:akegooddogquestions@akc.org)

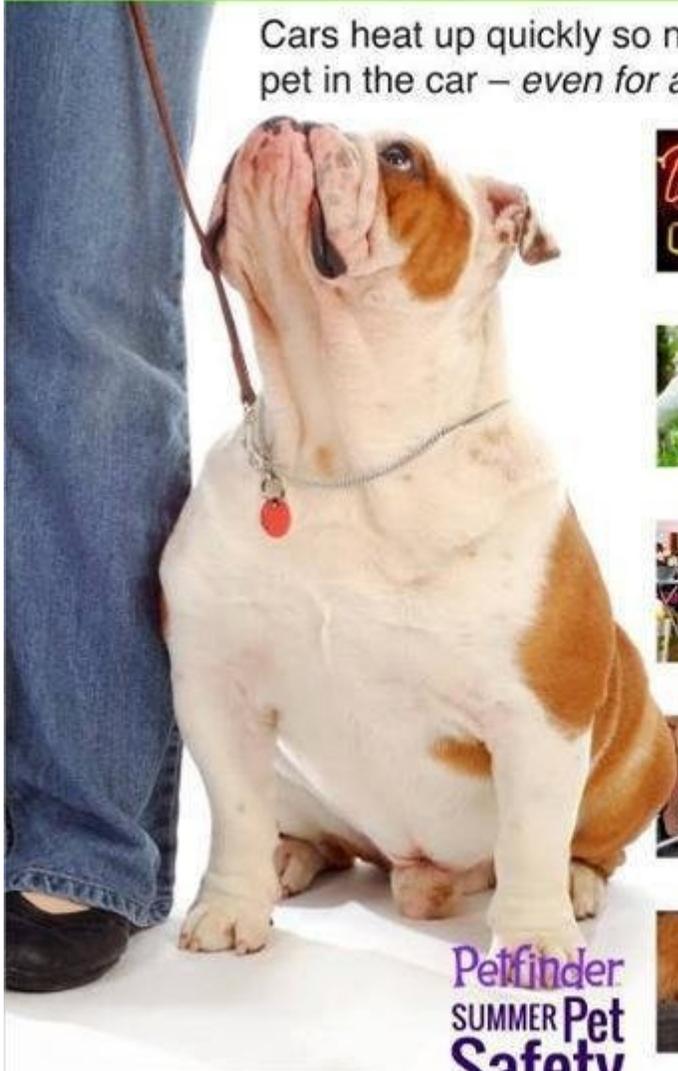
As the summer drags on always remember that the heat is your dog's enemy. If you walk your dogs do it in the coolest hours of the day which is pre-dawn. Phoenix pavement gets very hot. Even the short walk from your car into your vet's office can be very painful for your dog's feet and they could end up with blisters. If it is too hot for you to stand barefoot on cement or pavement, it's too hot for your dog as well.

Safe summer travels to everyone! See you at our next meeting in September.

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# 5 ALTERNATIVES to Leaving Your Dog in the Car

Cars heat up quickly so never leave your pet in the car – *even for a quick errand.*



**1** Use the drive-through for errands when available



**2** Bring a friend who can play with your dog outside while you run your errand



**3** Shop at pet-friendly stores where you dog is welcome to browse with you



**4** Eat at an outdoor café where your dog can sit with you



**5** Leave your dog at home where it's cool and safe

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To learn more, visit [www.petfinder.com/SummerPetSafety](http://www.petfinder.com/SummerPetSafety)