

Puppy Love

March 2021

Newsletter of Belle Amore Dachshunds

Volume 10, No.3



LOVE Can Do Amazing Things

Cassandra, a veterinarian technician, adopted her puppy when he was six weeks old and by the time he turned four months old she was certain he had allergies. Clayton was constantly scratching and chewing his skin, the hair on his ears fell out and the skin under his arms would bleed. Being in the medical field she was able to put her expertise to work. Initially, she put Clayton on antihistamines which provided no relief, followed by steroids, but this drug did not relieve his discomfort either. Next step she tried a food elimination program. This process revealed Clayton was allergic to chicken, turkey, duck, beef, rabbit and fish. Eventually she found the right food ~ Nutro's Venison and Brown Rice worked. He stopped scratching his ears and chewing his tail. She discovered that a lot of foods and medications contain gelatin, which is made from cow parts. She became very diligent in checking ingredients of anything that went in his mouth. When Clayton was seven months old he had a skin test that revealed he was allergic to 70 of the 75 allergens tested. The top three were human dander, wool, and cat dander. He now takes weekly allergy shots. Cassandra regularly shaves and baths her cats. She vacuums every day. Clayton sleeps with Cassandra every night so she washes her bedding with an anti-allergen detergent. Clayton routinely receives weekly baths in Chlorhexidine shampoo. He takes Zyrtec and Alaway eye drops daily. He is also the proud owner of a Lycra body suit that reduces skin irritation. Cassandra's love for Clayton helped her perfect THE "Clayton regiment" enabling him to have the quality of life that he shares with his mom!

STOP ALLERGIES!

Allergies in dogs are an overreaction of their immune system to the environment, internal and external. This reaction can lead to eye and ear problems, bacterial infections, and upper respiratory discomfort. Typically, allergies cause inflammation in the skin, ears and nasal region. Allergies are the primary cause of ear problems in dogs, leading to multiple trips to the vet.



Valley, who is now, Cooper-Riley, is enjoying a very spoiled life with his new family in South Carolina.



Now, That Is Amazing!

Amazing studies show pets really do seem to prevent human development of allergies later in life. Children still developing their immune system benefit the most. Babies living with two or more dogs or cats are 77% less likely to develop allergies in the future. Dr. Dennis-Mills, an allergist at the Medical College of Georgia, validates the data regarding pet allergy exposure. "There are now probably a half-dozen prospective studies that are fairly consistent in finding that early pet exposure reduces allergy risk."



Benadryl is a relatively safe and effective medication for dogs when used according to the instruction of a veterinarian. But be aware there are some precautions that come with administering Benadryl. Avoid Benadryl that contains sodium or alcohol and never give a dog time-released-capsules. To avoid overdose complications, be aware that puppies need a different dosage compared to adult dogs. As with any new medication, always observe your dog closely after administration to make sure there aren't any adverse reactions.