



# Mile High Great Pyrenees Club Newsletter

## “AS IT A’ PYRS”

Volume 1, Issue 1

March 2011

### Rocky Mountain Cluster Shows \* February 2011

Abby Chrysler won “Best Junior Handler” on Sunday at the Colorado Kennel Club Show. She was showing



Starmount’s Mountain Echo. We all know how difficult Pyr’s can be to show but Abby showed her growing expertise in her handling skills with this win over much older competition. We are all so proud of her!

**The Rocky Mountain Cluster shows** are held in February each year. The Peak to Peak Working Dog Association joined Plum Creek and Colorado Kennel Club’s two years ago making it a five day event. It is held at the National Western Complex in Denver. It is a great chance to showcase your favorite show dog!

Member’s wins at the shows:

Mitcheal Butler with Starmount’s Annie Oakley winning Best in Sweepstakes!

Sue Cole with Suepyr’s Duke of Earl won BOSS & BOW, his first 4 point major at 10 months!

Sandy McCrady/Mary Francis Schrub with Aquilon’s Maximillian finishing his championship & getting his first SEL award!

Butch & Norina Shields with Geyser Creek’s Chief Washakie winning a 3 pt major at the Plum Creek Show on Friday.

Congrat’s to all!



DOG TIRED!

#### Special points of interest:

- GPCA Health Reports
- Show results for Club members
- News in Dog Health
- Training for your dog
- MHGPC History

### What’s next in showing

#### 2011 Show schedule

Scottsbluff KC April 1,2,3  
 Terry-all KC April 9 & 10  
 InterMtn KC May 5 & 6  
 Utah Valley KC May 7 & 8  
 Mt Ogden KC May 21 & 22  
 Durango KC May 20,21,22  
 Central Wy KC May 27 & 28  
 Laramie KC May 29 % 30

Flatirons KC June 4 & 5  
 Colo Springs KC June 11 & 12  
 Buckhorn KC July 2 & 3  
 Roaring Fork KC July 16 & 17  
 Greeley KC August 20 & 21  
 Cheyenne KC Sept 3 & 4  
 \*MHGPC Specialty Sept 9th\*  
 Evergreen KC Sept 10 & 11  
 Arapahoe KC Sept 24 & 25  
 So Colorado KC Nov 12 & 13

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## “Dedicated to Breed Excellence”

### Dangers of Xylitol:

Prevent another Tragedy  
(AKC Gazette May 2010)

Beetle Kelly, 10 months old, was according to his owner, Elizabeth “the most magical puppy imaginable.” And now he is only a memory, an aching sad place in his family heart.

It all happened in a moment. “We’d been out walking and had just returned, when I turned around and saw him with a pack of gum. I took a half-piece out of his mouth but didn’t know how much he’d actually swallowed. Beetle look guilty, and something rang in my brain that what he’d eaten, sugarless gum, was toxic.”

Elizabeth immediately called the vet, packed up her 4 year old son, and arrived at the clinic within 25 minutes. But somehow it took another whole hour for the emetic to work. That time-lapse proved to be the final coda in the young Norwich’s life. A few hours later, Beetle succumbed to Xylitol poisoning.

Xylitol is a common sugar substitute (also known as sugar alcohol) used in a wide variety of items these days.

It seems to be everywhere: in sugarless gum, toothpaste, pharmaceuticals, vitamins, candy, baked goods, mints, and even puddings. While harmless to humans, it can be lethal to dogs. Once ingested there is a window of just 15-30 minutes before it reaches the bloodstream. As little as 1 1/2 sticks of a sugarless gum can be fatal to a small dog like a Norwich Terrier.

According to Eric K. Dunayer, VMD, senior toxicologist at the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center, the toxin causes a rapid release of insulin, which in turn causes a dangerous drop in blood sugar. The resulting hypoglycemia causes weakness, lethargy, loss of coordination, collapse and seizures. There is a strong link with Xylitol and liver failure as well.

“Cases are going up each year,” says Dunayer. “In 2002, the Poison Control Center received two calls; in 2009, there were 2600 calls. And this no doubt represents a fraction of the incidents. If you strongly suspect or know your dog has ingested Xylitol, time is of the essence. Immediately call your vet, or call the APSCA Poison Control Center (888-426-4435) . They may advise you to induce vomiting in the dog. Regardless, the dog’s blood glu-

cose levels must be monitored and stabilized. Dunayer add, “Most who die were not treated right away.”

What can you do to prevent this? Read labels. Keep Xylitol out of reach; better yet, keep it out of your house, purse, car and so on. Many Vets are not aware of the burgeoning threat. Spread the word.

Thanks to Elizabeth Kelly for her kind permission to relate this story and to use Beetle’s photo. If little Beetle’s death can be used to prevent another such terrible loss, he will not have died in vain.—  
Leandra Little.

Editor’s note— It would take a pack or two to produce the same result in an adult Pyr, but as we all know, our dogs are curious guys and might counter surf themselves into sickness. Puppies the same size as a Norwich would be in grave danger. It is a threat to all dogs.  
S. Cole

**When you feel dog tired at night, it may be because you’ve growled all day long**

**Unknown**



**Whoever said you can’t buy happiness forgot about puppies -  
Gene Hill**

## Potty Training Your Puppy - Eric Letendre

Woke up to about five inches of snow and my dogs are loving it.

Anyway, I tell new puppy owners that they can housetrain their puppies in as little as 10 days.

Recently, an owner of a 10 week old St. Bernard puppy did it in just seven days!

Don't believe that you can housetrain a puppy in 7 days? Here is a video proving that it can be done.

- \* Watch as this puppy rings a bell to be let out
- \* Sits on command before being let outside
- \* Hears the command "Go potty" and starts peeing

Check it out:

<http://bit.ly/5vv4kk>

Best,

Eric

Eric Letendre  
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Feeding Hills, MA 01030



## GPCA Health Survey

The Great Pyrenees Club of America has revised a confidential health survey for GPCA Breeders and Great Pyrenees for the purpose of identifying diseases and health conditions (both genetic and otherwise) that affect the breed.

The survey will assist the GPCA Health Committee in determining the best use of GPCA donated Health fund for health research. In addition, it will serve as a tool to determine CHIC participation requirements. The 2009 Revised Survey still consists of only two pages—page one will remain with an independent tabulator for record keeping purpose and Page Two will go to the GPCA Health Database Manager—Catherine de la Cruz. The revised survey has been changed to offer information to the Health Committee as to which outreach efforts are resulting in responses and discourage any ancillary information that could compromise confidentiality.

Please download and print a copy for each dog you own and become a part of the solution to make our breed healthier. The Health Survey can be downloaded from our website.

[www.milehighgreatpyrenees.com](http://www.milehighgreatpyrenees.com)

## Going Green

In an effort to go GREEN the Mile High Great Pyrenees Club has decided to give you the news "that 's fit to print" in a digital form. We hope you enjoy the new format and the news within. Please contribute to your newsletter! Send the editor stories, pictures, and forms to Sue Cole at the email:

[sue3cole@gmail.com](mailto:sue3cole@gmail.com).



WHAT COUNTS  
IS NOT  
NECESSARILY THE  
SIZE OF THE DOG  
IN THE FIGHT; IT'S  
THE SIZE OF THE  
FIGHT IN THE  
DOG—DWIGHT  
D. EISENHOWER





## HISTORY OF THE MHGPC

Sue Cole, Editor

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In the spring of 1973, at the Colorado Kennel Club, a questionnaire was circulated ringside to determine interest in an area Great Pyrenees Club; the response was enthusiastic. Twenty nine fanciers met for the first time in Colorado Springs on June 1, 1973.

The club held a tattoo clinic along with a fun match in September of 1973. A foundation was established under the auspices of the parent club, the Great Pyrenees Club of America, during the next six months. The constitution, by-laws and code of ethics approved at that time have served the club during subsequent meetings. American Kennel Club approved the club's proposed name at the April 1974 club meeting. Members of the Mile High Great Pyrenees Club announced a second fun match in the first issue of "As it A' Pyrs, the club newsletter. AKC club of record status as a sanctioned club was applied for in September 1974.

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The club supported an entry judged by the breed's first lady, Mary Crane. After becoming an AKC accredited club, five AKC sanctioned B-OB matches were held between September 1976 and October 1979, with an average entry of 15 Pyrs. The club's exhibitors pledged time for regional specialties. The club, mostly in conjunction with an all breed show, hosted 18 supported entries or specialties. All but three were licensed through the parent club in conjunction with an all breed show. All but three were licensed through the parent club as Great Pyrenees Club of America, Rocky Mountain Regional Specialties-the majority in late March in Greeley.

## We're on the web!

[www.milehighgreatpyrenees.com](http://www.milehighgreatpyrenees.com)

## History continued....

The success of the annual regional specialty show did, however, substantiate support for the area show. The club again hosted fun matches towards the goal of earning re-accreditation and sanction with the America Kennel Club.

Re-accreditation as a club of record with AKC was applied for in March of 1985 and history was repeated. There were frequent activities and great regional specialties. A second Great Pyrenees Club of America national specialty was hosted in 1986 and again in 2002. Use of the parent club's licensed status for area specialty shows gratified the club for seventeen years.

Early in 1990 the Board of Directors recommended hosting another national specialty in favor of seeking licensed status for the club. The two required qualifying AKC sanctioned A-OA matches were held in October of 1990 and in May of 1991 with an average entry of 23 Pyrs. In June of

1991 the AKC informed the club that records reflected the club's qualification to submit a presentation requesting licensed status. The club was approved to hold licensed championship point shows on November 14, 1991 and the club's first licensed show was February 19, 1993 with 36 Pyrs entered-a total of 53 entries. Since then MHGPC specialty shows are held annually.

In 2011 activities will include the regional specialty, rescue and placement of Pyrs in need: "Dedicated to Breed Excellence". Join the fun! Education is the goal of this small but enthusiastic club.

Meetings are held the fourth Saturday of every other month and all dedicated fanciers are welcome.

BRAGS N CRIES \* 1/16/11

- Pat Stevenson had a litter of 10 with "Jack & Cupcake"
- Jean Pero is off on a cruise after the Peak to Peak Show
- Marlo's dog is cute!
- Judi's puppy "April" won a grp 2 at her first Puppy Match (bred by Sue Cole).

