

# Derm Digest

Indianapolis IN • Louisville KY • Marietta GA • Pasadena CA  
Marina del Rey CA • San Diego CA • Tustin CA



Animal Dermatology Clinic

Advancing the Art of Veterinary Dermatology

August 2013

## Carolina Dog: American Dingo?



A pair of Carolina dogs. Characteristic features include a fishhook tail, large upright ears and using the snout to dig holes.

Image: [wikicommons/Flaxseedoil/Riverside Rescue](#)

Jack Hitt of the New York Times recently wrote about what is considered 'A Truly American Dog'. In South Carolina, Don Anderson owns seven of what may be dogs that preceded the arrival of Christopher Columbus.

These are Carolina dogs and to the casual observer, they certainly look like dogs but careful observation highlights the uniqueness of this animal. They have jackal-like ears fully erect and fishhook tails that twitch eager in anticipation. Walking in their habitat is a challenge in agility because of the Carolina dogs' defining habit of digging pits or gallon-sized holes in the ground. Dogs digging holes is nothing new, but the Carolina dog attains this feat with his snout; perhaps it was to find roots or nutrients in the ground. Additionally, he covers his droppings using his snout, not his hindquarters as do other dogs.

Most Carolina dogs are ginger-colored, but they can be black and piebald and usually short-haired.

But where did they come from if they were possibly present to witness the landing of Europeans on American shores? (*cont. page 2*)

## Four Residents Join Animal Dermatology Clinic in July



*Dr. Catherine Milley examines a patient at her new location in Louisville, KY as she embarks on her Dermatology Residency.*

Animal Dermatology Clinic is pleased to announce the arrival of four new residents that have accepted an invitation to join our group.

The Veterinary Dermatology Resident undergoes a rigorous 3-year program in preparation to take board examinations to become a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Dermatology. All residents who are selected for the program are licensed veterinarians who have proven skill and knowledge along with a keen interest in the specialized field of dermatology.

This month introduces Dr. Catherine Milley. Dr. Milley grew up in western Canada where she earned a Bachelor's degree at the University of Calgary and went on to graduate from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in 2006. Upon graduation Dr. Milley worked for one year at a mixed large and small animal practice in a small town in Alberta seeing her patients in-clinic and on-farm. Her next six years were spent practicing small animal medicine and surgery at a busy hospital in St. Albert, Alberta. It was here that Dr. Milley discovered her passion for dermatology and decided to pursue a specialty career in the field. Dr. Milley accepted a (*continued, page 2*)

## Carolina Dog, continued

There is much discussion of the origins of the domesticated dog. Some say the Middle East while others have identified an area south of the Yangtze River in China. During the Ice Age, the land bridge connected North America to Asia and migration of people and pets may their way across some 12,000 years ago. As the migration headed south through North America, Carolina dogs, then, could have followed their masters and wandered off to take up residence in swampy areas to seek shelter from predators. Canine DNA study validates that the Carolina dog is absent of genetic markers indicative of European origin, suggesting they arrived in an earlier migration from Asia.

Efforts were rewarded to get the Carolina dog recognized by the United Kennel Club when its unique and rare traits were identified. Besides their fishhook tail, pointed face and habit of digging with their snouts, it is the cooperation of the pack when hunting that further defines them. When hunting, it is said that they use their white hindquarters as signals. Their fishhook tail can be raised in the air and switched back and forth and rest of the pack will honor the signal. Carolina dogs typically go into heat once a year, like wolves. Domesticated dogs usually go into heat twice.

The Carolina dog is part of a unique club of canines with a dingo-like appearance and withstanding difficult living conditions: the Canaan dog of Israel, the Santal hound of India, the Jindo of Korea, the African basenji and more. Images of these dogs are oddly similar to the Carolina dog.

What further underscores their similarity is that these primitive dogs started living near human encampments and steadfastly remained along with probably the first origins of “Mom, look what I found, can we keep him?”

Source: *New York Times*, July 16, 2013

“The old saw about old dogs and new tricks only applies to certain People.”

~Daniel Pinkwater

## New Residents at ADC, continued

residency position with Animal Dermatology Clinic - Louisville and is excited to be living and working in such a beautiful part of the country.

Away from work Dr. Milley enjoys spending time with her husband and two dogs. She loves to travel, bake and spend time outdoors.

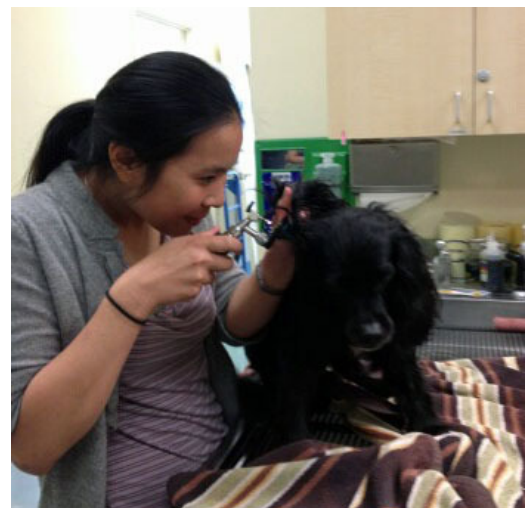
Dr. Kimberly Lo (pictured below) completed her bachelor's degree at UC San Diego and in 2012, graduated from the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine.

Prior to accepting a Residency position at Animal Dermatology Clinic in 2013, she completed a one year rotating internship at VCA San Francisco Veterinary Specialists.

Dr. Lo has a strong interest in both allergies and autoimmune skin diseases. She is excited to start seeing cases in our Tustin and San Diego, CA offices.

In her free time, she enjoys dancing, traveling, and spending time with her friends, husband, and dog, Trudy.

*Next month's issue of Derm Digest will introduce two more new Residents.*



## Ask the Dermatologist: Ear Infections and Swimming?



Image: © Nevit Dilmen

Summer is here and our leisure activities often include our dogs' participation. Most, if not all dogs, enjoy a dip every now and then to cool off.

As our first question for our new column, Ask the Dermatologist, Connor P. of Yorba Linda, CA asks:

***Is it true that ear infections can be caused by swimming in the pool or ocean?***

That is an excellent question! There are numerous factors that lead to a dog developing an ear infection. First, there is the primary cause or underlying condition. This is most often allergy related, but there are other conditions such as parasites, anatomic abnormalities, genetic skin abnormalities, hypothyroidism or metabolic disorders and even cancers that can affect the ears. Then there are what is called perpetuating and predisposing factors such as excessive cleaning, the use of inappropriate cleaning products, chronic changes to the ears because of past infections and even swimming that contribute to development of infection or worsening of an already present problem.

Generally, canine ear disease is a prevalent and persistent problem and accounts for up to 15% of all canine veterinary case presentations! The large variety and quantity of products sold to treat and prevent ear infections (both over the counter and prescription medications) demonstrates the demand for a wide range of therapeutics for this condition. If your dog has a primary condition that could lead to ear infections, such as allergies, addressing that condition is the most important factor in controlling ear infections. When allergic dogs (or dogs with other primary conditions) go swimming there are products that can be applied after the swim to prevent the development of ear infections. The product chosen is individually chosen based on your pet's condition and your veterinary dermatologist can help you with that. It is also important that dogs with such conditions swim in clean water as environmental organisms can cause severe problems in already damaged ears. Dogs that do not have allergies or other underlying conditions should not generally develop ear infections from swimming or normal ear cleaning.

*Response provided by Dr. Collen Mendelsohn, Diplomate ACVD. She sees cases in Tustin and Ontario, CA*

*Have a question for our doctors? Please send your question via the Contact Page on our website. Sorry, we cannot provide an answer to a specific ailment which requires a physical examination of your pet.*

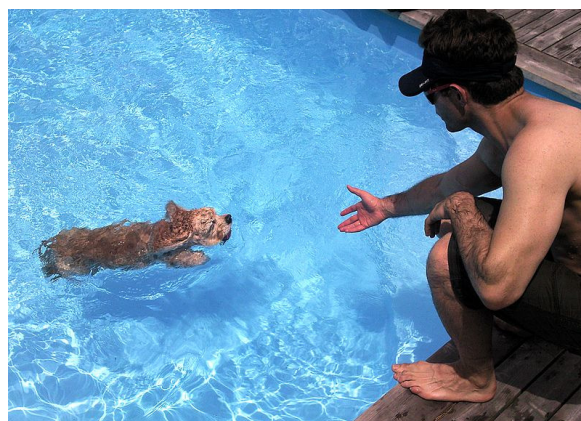


Image: wikicommons/David Shankbone



## Pet Events in Your Area

The following events are listed for informational purposes only. Please contact the organization prior to attending as schedules may change without notice. Animal Dermatology Clinic has no affiliation with these events.

**Louisville, KY**  
**Saturday, August 10, 6PM – 10PM**  
**Greyhound Pets of America**  
**Race to a Forever Home**  
**Charity Dinner and Auction**  
**Louisville's Ramada Inn Plaza**  
**Conference Center**  
**9700 Bluegrass Parkway**  
**(Hurstbourne and I-64)**

Tickets are \$30 per person  
 Available from any GPA/Louisville member,  
 at one of our Meet & Greets or  
 may be purchased on-line from GPA via PayPal.

*Due to popular demand, a limited number of tickets are still available! Drop us a line at [GPA@GPALouisville.org](mailto:GPA@GPALouisville.org) if you are interested.*

*No dinner tickets will be sold at the door.*

**Atlanta, GA**  
**August 24, 2013 7:30 AM to 12:00 PM**  
**Lenox Park in Buckhead**  
**Pace Your Pet at the Ahimsa House Annual 5K Run and 1 Mile Fun Run!**

We encourage everyone to bring their dogs for these runs to benefit the animal and human victims of domestic violence. Of course, walkers/runners without canine accompaniment are welcome too! AWARDS FOR 5K RUN: Prizes will be awarded to overalls, masters, and to the top female and male finishers in nine age groups. Awards will be given to the Top 3 Dogs crossing the finish line. START TIMES: 5K Run starts at 7:30 am. 1 Mile Fun Run starts at 8:45 am. LOCATION: Lenox Park in Buckhead (Free parking adjacent to the park at 2180 Lake Blvd NE, Atlanta, GA 30319) ENTRY FEES: 5K: Fee includes Tech T-shirt (for early bird registrants) and a goodie bag \$25 Early Bird through August 17 \$30 between August 18 and 23 \$35 day of event 1-Mile Fun Run: Fee includes Regular T-shirt (guaranteed only if registered by August 17) and a goodie bag \$15 anytime

**Indianapolis, IN**  
**September 3, 2013 5PM to 7:PM**  
**Pooches in the Pook**  
**Jordan YMCA**  
**8400 Westfield Blvd**  
**317-253-3206**

Admission: \$5 per dog; humans free  
 Benefiting: Y for All programs  
 Bring your dog and enjoy a swim in the Jordan YMCA's beautiful new 50-meter outdoor pool, which was completely rebuilt for 2013. Includes easy in-out access for dogs. Pool area also contains a fenced splash pad area. \$5 per dog; human companions are free. Proceeds benefit the Y for All annual giving campaign. For more information, please call 317-253-3206 or email [ratina@indyymca.org](mailto:ratina@indyymca.org).

**Fullerton's Dog Days of Summer**  
**Thursday, August 8th**

Dogs of all shapes, sizes and talents are being sought for the museum's annual "Dog Days of Summer" talent show and competition set for Thursday, Aug. 8th. Doggie competitions and entertainment will be held from 5-8 p.m.; the market runs from 4-8:30 p.m.

Prizes will go to the dog who:

- is the best kisser;
- has the loudest bark;
- is the fastest eater;
- does the best pet trick;
- and most resembles its owner.

Owners may sign their dogs up for the competitions the day of the event. The competitions are limited to 10 dogs per event.

In addition to the competitions, a variety of dog- and pet-related vendors will be selling dog treats, apparel, toys and supplies. Other vendors will be offering dog-sitting services, pet adoption, and animal shelter information.

For information call (714) 738-6545 or visit [www.ci.fullerton.ca.us](http://www.ci.fullerton.ca.us)

**San Diego, CA**  
**Point Loma**  
**August 10, 2013 10:00 am to 1:00 pm**  
**Admission: FREE**  
**Benefiting: Labrador Harbor**

Come join our 3rd annual charity walk to support canine good health and a wonderful cause. This family-friendly event features a mile-long walk along the beautiful San Diego Bay, ending in a festival with local vendors offering new and innovative pet products and adoptable dogs from local rescues at Liberty Station in Point Loma. Well-behaved dogs are welcome to come join the fun doggie games in the Howlin' Hounds FurZone. Fabulous raffle prizes will be given out as well. Pre-register now to reserve your FREE t-shirt and stuffed full goodie bag with five raffle tickets and more (while supplies last).

For more information, please call 619-892-0049 or email [info@labradorharbor.org](mailto:info@labradorharbor.org).

**Beverly Hills**  
**Wednesday, September 25 6:30-9:30PM**  
**9882 S Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills, CA 90212**  
**(760) 901-4300**  
**Cost: \$85-\$135**

Canine Companions for Independence and Disney VolunTEARS are proud to present the second annual HAUTE DOG | LA, a doggie runway fashion show that will feature dozens of dogs - drawn from the ranks of the AKC and animal shelters - modeling outfits from the elegant to the outrageous. Enjoy a cocktail hour, hors d'oeuvres and silent and live auctions. Then, sit back and watch couture canines give new meaning to the catwalk! Prizes will be rewarded for Most Creative, Cutest and Silliest Canine Fashions, judged by a panel of VIPs and celebrities. All proceeds will benefit Canine Companions, a nonprofit organization that provides assistance dogs completely free of charge to people with disabilities.