

Puppy Love

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Newsletter of *Belle Amore Dachshunds*

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In the Danger Zone!

We all know a human is vulnerable to a heatstroke, but often times we do not recognize a dog is equally susceptible to this dangerous condition. Heatstroke is a fatally serious condition that can develop in as little as 20 minutes and occurs when a dog is absorbing more heat than he can release. Dogs do not sweat, they control their inner body temperature by panting. In the case of a heatstroke, panting is not enough to cool a dog's body down. If you suspect your dog is experiencing a heatstroke get to a vet ASAP! Below are quick treatments you can apply immediately and on your way to the vet.

- Move him to a shaded location if there is one immediately available.
- Pour cool water over his body. Do not use very cold or ice water as it can impede cooling.
- Apply cool cloths to his head and feet only.
- Offer your dog ice cubes to lick.



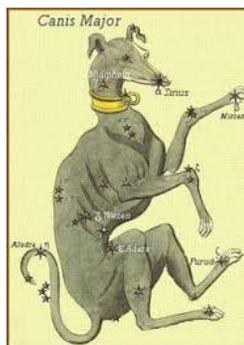
Warning Signs of a Heatstroke

- body temperature of 104-110F
- excessive panting
- dark or bright red tongue and gums
- staggering
- stupor
- seizures
- bloody diarrhea or vomiting
- coma

Even if your dog appears to have recovered he should still be evaluated by a veterinarian for internal organ damage or a complex blood disorder (DIC) that can be fatal.



Blondie is three-and-a half months old and is cherished and very loved by her family in Georgia.



The Dog Days of Summer

Many people today use the phrase, *the dog days of summer*, in reference to the lazy and hottest days of summer. But originally, the phrase actually had nothing to do with dogs, or with the hottest days of summer. The phrase actually comes from ancient Greece and refers to the star Sirius found in the constellation Canis. The star Sirius is the dog's nose in the constellation; the Greeks called it the "dog star." To the Greeks and Romans, the "dog days" occurred around the day when Sirius appeared to rise just before the sun, in late July. They referred to these days as the hottest time of the year, a period that could bring fever, or a catastrophe.

70° is too HOT to leave a dog in a car. An outside temperature of 75° reaches 118° in a car in minutes.