

However, they need your help to raise money for the stab/ bulletproof vests for our K-9's, and your donation is tax deductible. Each "2 1/2-lb. pound vest" costs "\$695.00." To become a K-9 angel today and help support this cause, visit their website 3. Snakebites **Bitten! Copyright © OurDogHouse 2007** Whether you and your pet are hiking, camping, going for a walk or in your own backyard, your pet may come in contact with a snake. Pets can come in contact from time to time with reptiles. For most of us even as a human beings, this can be a terrifying life-threatening experience and even; thus, the same applies for your pup. Knowing how to respond can save your pet's life and comfort them during this time. Most snakebites in the US are from poisonous snakes. The common culprits are pit vipers such as rattlesnakes, copperheads and water moccasins. Despite the species, let's take a look first at what to watch for. Carefully check your pet for any puncture wounds, swelling, severe tenderness and even dead tissue. Some pets may exhibit shock, weakness, muscle tremors, problems breathing and lethargy. If you feel your pet has been bitten, you need to seek medical attention, first and foremost. Next, try to keep the animal as calm as possible. Limiting the amount of activity of the pet can be a lifesaver, along with getting them medical attention as soon as possible. Most bites, while life threatening, can be treated by your vet successfully with antihistamines, fluids, and antibiotics and sometimes with the use of antivenin. We hope you enjoyed visiting with us this month. We welcome you to forward this issue of our newsletter to anyone else who might also enjoy it. If you have suggestions for future stories, we'd love to hear them! Please feel free to email your comments and suggestions to OurDogHouse