



Rolling out the Welcome Mat

Edinburgh Pet Health Center is privileged to host a wide variety of visitors to our practice. Students from veterinary technician programs and the University of Minnesota veterinary college are welcome to conduct their “in-clinic” training under the careful supervision of our certified veterinary technicians and doctors. We appreciate the patience of our clients as we train the future members of our profession.

We recently hosted Jenny Cho-MacSwain, a fourth year veterinary student for two weeks in September. She really enjoyed



her time at our clinic and learned many valuable practice tips while here as well as gained valuable hands-on experience examining our patients and helping to diagnose and treat a wide variety of problems.

Currently, we are hosting our previous veterinary assistant, Lynsy Jameson, on her 12-week veterinary technician internship following her completion of her technical training at Argosy University in Eagan. She has been with our practice for six years and will be transitioning to a



certified veterinary technician position after her internship. She is applying what she’s learned in college to real-life situations. She is developing her practical skills, learning to use equipment and how to effectively communicate with our clients. Once she finishes her internship, she will graduate and take state and national certification tests.

In addition to our teaching/training role, we are fortunate to have several specialists available to help care for the patients at our practice, saving owners the challenge of utilizing a referral center for advanced diagnostic testing and surgeries.

We have an ultrasound specialist, Dr. Gretchen Rowe, a member of the International Veterinary Ultrasound Society, who regularly comes in for our internal medicine cases. Dr. Rowe graduated from the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine in 1991 and worked in private practice for many



years before transitioning to her new business, Animal Diagnostic Imaging, LLC. She feels ultrasonography is a great, non-invasive diagnostic tool.

For the last 17 years, we have worked with Dr. Stephen Levine, a board certified orthopedic surgeon, Diplomate in American College of Veterinary Surgeons and his traveling group of three board certified surgeons. Dr. Levine graduated from the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine in 1979, and completed his surgical residency in 1983. This group of surgeons are available for surgical consultations as well as a wide variety of surgical procedures done here at EPHC.



Pet Toys-The Best of the Best

This holiday season consider some of these proven favorites for your special furry friend!

Kong Toy

Kongs are widely used for therapy and prevention of boredom, separation anxiety and other behavioral issues. Regular use of Kongs can also improve oral health. Their unpredictable bounce lures most dogs into a game of chase, catch and chew. The hollow center can be filled with food and treats. A dab of peanut butter spread around the inside is very effective. Providing food and/or treat stuffed Kongs for your dogs can keep them contentedly busy (working) and out of trouble for long periods of time.



Everlasting Treat Ball

Provide hours of chewing fun for your dog with the Everlasting Treat Ball. It's great for preventing destructive boredom behaviors or for keeping your dog happily occupied. The ball is made of a soft, yet durable tear-resistant material and the unique design allows it to wobble and roll around on its own. Fill the ball with treats or kibble and then increase the challenge to your dog by inserting an Everlasting Treat in one end or both ends—your dog will have to chew through the edible "caps" before he gets to the goodies on the inside. Everlasting Treats are made from specially formulated ingredients that are completely edible and digestible. This is a very good toy for strong chewers.



Egg Babies / Hide a Squirrel

Egg Babies are plush toys with three squeaker eggs inside. There is an opening on the bottom of the toy so your dog can get at the hidden treasure inside.



This is a toy that challenges and develops your dog's intelligence and puzzle solving skills. It also allows them to rip the insides out without that meaning the end of the toy. We think this toy should only be used when you are there to watch and help. A frustrated dog might chew on the toy and ruin it. This toy is about 4" tall, 9" wide and 11" long. Each "egg" is a little bit bigger than a tennis ball.

Jolly Pet Teaser Balls

It's a ball within a ball that rolls and wobbles erratically as your pet lunges, chases, and chomps. The large plastic ball with cut-outs contains a smaller ball that gives it a life of its own. This durable toy stands up to the roughest-toughest pooch.



Kong wubba

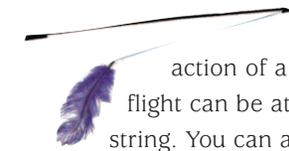
Playing a game of give and take with your dog can be tremendously captivating and loads of fun with a Kong Wubba. A bouncy rubber tennis ball and a squeaker ball are covered in nylon reinforced fabric. The long, flowing tails make the toy easy to grab and throw. Dogs love to shake the floppy tails and squeak the wubbas.



Cat Fishing Pole Toys

This toy consists of a lightweight rod, braided nylon string and toys that attach

to the string. Feather cat toys really get cats going! Aerodynamically configured feathers that mimic the action of a real bird in flight can be attached to the string. You can also attach fleece streamers or catnip toys. These are excellent interactive exercise toys for cats.



Cat dancer

In 1983 Cat Dancer was the first nationally marketed interactive cat toy (toys designed to be used by a cat and their owner simultaneously). It can provide indoor cats with healthy play and exercise and is singled out by veterinarians for its safe design. Spring steel wire and rolled cardboard create an irresistible lure for cats and great fun for cat lovers.



Refillable Plush Cat Toys

These small plush toys are just the right size for your cat. They feature a Velcro opening so that you can remove the catnip pouch and refresh the toy over and over again and keep the fun going.



Kitten Mitten Cat Toy

This fun-to-play-with toy is meant for you and your cat to enjoy! Just slip on the mitten and wiggle all 4 pompoms for your kitty. Kitten Mitten is made of cotton canvas with unique combinations of pompoms, catnip and jingle bells.



Top Ten Tips for Pet “Parents”

1. Schedule your pet for a physical exam every year. Time flies quickly for our furry friends and many problems go undetected by owners until a serious crisis erupts. We can help keep your pet healthier with regularly scheduled exams.



During the appointment, we will inform you of any preventative care your pet needs and address any medical conditions that are present.

2. Give your furry “kid” some individual attention every day. They are our companions and thrive when we spend time with them. Consider mini-“training” sessions and teach them tricks, or work on basic obedience commands to give them some direction. Yes, even cats can learn tricks! Ask us about clicker training and the use of positive reinforcement for cats and dogs.

3. Provide your companion pet with appropriate toys. Many of the toys available are mentally stimulating and can help prevent boredom and destructive behavior in your pet. See the accompanying article on our list of “Best Toys”.

4. Treat their pain!! Many pets are in pain from arthritis, dental disease or other medical conditions. Not all pets will

vocalize or show obvious symptoms, so be aware that decreased activity, intermittent lameness and changes in appetite can signal serious problems that need attention.



5. Provide opportunities for exercise and environmental stimulation. Obesity predisposes your pet to health problems. Cats can play with interactive toys, like fishing pole toys. Dogs can enjoy walks, the dog park and dog sports. Exercise can help prevent many behavior problems. Dogs need a social life and usually respond well to outings and car rides to dog friendly places.



6. Solve behavior problems before you reach your limit. Just like small children need understanding, patient parents and need to learn boundaries and rules, so do pets. If your pet is inappropriately urinating in the house, or chewing your belongings, don’t wait to get help. Consider a behavior consultation, read some good training books and make sure a medical problem is not the problem.

Our library contains many good training books you can check out.

7. Feed your pet a good quality diet. Limit treats to small rewards for good behavior and training and avoid feeding table foods that could cause weight gain and an upset stomach. Check for the AAFCO seal of approval on your pet’s

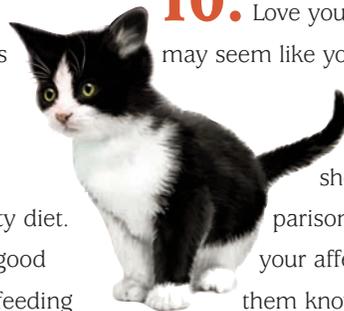
food, and be sure it states it is a complete and balanced diet and that it was certified with feeding trials. There are many good foods on the market and no food is right for all pets. We can help you select an appropriate diet for your pet’s age, weight, and health condition.

8. If your pet’s daily habits change, if symptoms of problems develop or if you notice your pet is slowing down, don’t “wait and see” if they get better on their own. Call for an exam so that problems can be addressed early in the course of illness.



9. Provide a safe living environment for your pet. Just like we “childproof” a home, so too, we need to pet-proof a home. Keeping your pet confined away from household hazards is best. A roomy crate or “dog room” will prevent avoidable accidents in the house. Keep medications out of reach, and don’t give your pet human medications without consulting a veterinarian.

10. Love your companion pet. It may seem like your furry friend will be with you forever, but they have a very short life span in comparison to our own. Show your affection often and let them know they are special. Because they are!!



In June, **Dr. Lisa Carpenter** attended the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) conference in San Antonio, Texas. She attended seminars on topics including oncology, hereditary diseases, current vaccine issues, oral disease, pharmacology and others.

Dr. Jennifer Hale attended the Wild West Veterinary Conference in Reno, Nevada, in October-attending seminars on ophthalmology, lameness, and practice management. Both doctors attend many hours of continuing education to keep abreast of the many medical advances that are made every year.



Dr. Lisa's Phalene, Abby, is raising a happy, healthy male Phalene puppy. Dr. Lisa is looking forward to socializing the puppy until his new owner will be taking him home at about three months of age. Abby will then go back to training and trialing in agility until she is a mom again, hopefully next year.



Rhonda Noetzelman, CVT has added to her furry family. She welcomed a female black smoke kitten named Calypso into her home. She is getting along well with Rhonda's other cat, Halo, and her two Pekingese, Sparrow and Marco.



"Must Read" Books-now available in our lending library

"Barking-The Sound of a Language" by Turid Rugaas

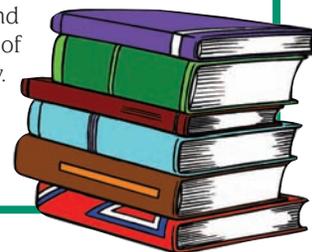
This book does a good job of explaining why dogs bark and how to deal with barking depending on the cause. Most barking can be humanely dealt with by understanding the behavior and tailoring the treatment to the cause.

when dogs are having behavior issues. Her unique ability to allow the reader to see how dogs will react to any given situation is very entertaining as well as educational.

"Oh Behave!-Dogs from Pavlov to Premack to Pinker" by Jean Donaldson

This is another great book by Jean Donaldson (author of The Culture Clash). She does a great job of explaining dog behavior in common scenarios that owners may face

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