



"De-Tails"

April/May 2011 Newsletter

NICK NACK PADDY WACK...

Do you give your dogs your bones?



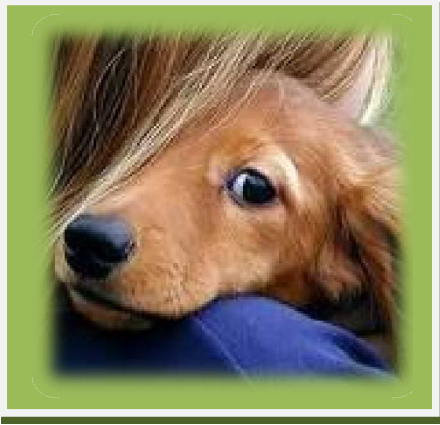
Cute nursery rhyme, but the reality is that the dangers and complications that come from giving our pets bones are not so cute. They far outweigh the pleasure your pet may get from chewing on them. Most problems cited seem to stem from feeding cooked bones left over from family meals, or dogs getting into the trash and digging them out. Cooked bones are brittle and splinter easily, especially chicken bones, rib bones and bones from roasts. The sharp splinters can injure the gums or possibly get stuck in the roof of the mouth. They may also perforate the lining of the intestines or cause intestinal irritation resulting in vomiting, diarrhea or constipation.

An intestinal obstruction may occur if your dog swallows a large fragment of bone. This can be a life threatening condition, as well as costly to have the surgery it may take to save your dog's life. It is a very common thing among veterinarians to see a dog with a ring-shaped bone stuck around his or her lower jaw. Larger bones such as the smoked leg bones sold as dog treats, are a very common cause of broken teeth. This often leads to

tooth extraction or root canals for your pet, which can also become a costly expense.

There are some who believe that feeding our animals raw bones will not cause the same problems as cooked bones because they are softer and don't splinter as much, but there are other things to consider. They can still become stuck in the roof of the mouth and injure the gums. Raw bones are contaminated with bacteria. Beef bones can be contaminated with E. coli, and your chicken or poultry bones can be contaminated with Salmonella bacteria. Not only does this present a risk of infection to an unhealthy dog, but it also can become a danger to your family having these contaminated bones lying around on the floor or furniture of your home. Bacteria can also be spread to other animals through your dogs' feces in the outdoor areas where they relieve themselves.

When there are so many alternatives to give your pet for chewing, why would you want to take the risk it poses to your pet's health?

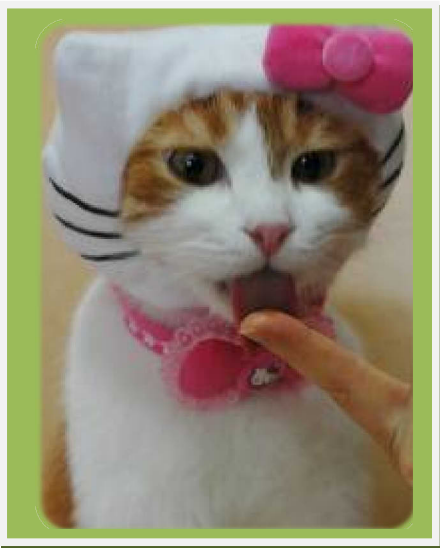


Quote: My goal in life is to be as good a person as my dog already thinks I am!



Product of the Month

A number of you have stopped in wondering if we have anything to recommend for tear stains under and around your dog's eyes. We did some research and have come up with what we feel is the most ideal for dogs prone to tear stains. Dogs with white coats and breeds like poodles, ShihTzus, Maltese, Bichons, Pekinese and Samoyeds are all examples of who can benefit from the results that **BRIGHT EYES** has to offer. You simply sprinkle the powder granules over your pet's food daily and watch for the results. **BRIGHT EYES** is a safe and effective product that contains cranberry juice powder, lactobacillus acidophilus, the "good" bacteria in yogurt, and hyaluronic acid for the support of normal eye health. There are no artificial dyes or preservatives as well as **NO** antibiotics. We hear so much about antibiotic resistance after long term use, so this is a real plus for our pets! **BRIGHT EYES** can be used for cats, too! Come in and check it out! 😊



I have been told that the training procedure with cats was difficult. It's not. Mine had me trained in 2 days.

--Bill Dana

“Facing” the Facts! (And you thought it was love!)

What’s better than being greeted by our kitty when we walk in the door? That deep, reverberating purr, the rub of her face all over yours that just can’t get close enough! For at least five minutes you are the center of her universe, if lucky, ten. She is a cat, you know! But what is the real meaning behind that face-rub anyway? (Sorry, it’s not all about the love!)

Cats have scent glands at various places on their faces and bodies. This is what helps them to communicate and interpret what is going on in their world. These glands release pheromones or chemicals that apparently have a smell to them, so basically they are rubbing their scents on us. Each cat, or for that matter, each dog and each human has their own scent. When everyone’s scents are mixed together you have a unique group scent that is unlike anyone else’s. We don’t have the “sniffer” that our cats have, to recognize this scent. But to a cat who’s a member, or leader of the group, the scent is an important way to identify her “group” or family.

When she rubs her scent on us, she’s confirming that we’re part of her “exclusive club”. It’s like an ID for her once all the scents of everyone in the household are combined. Her job is to make sure that we’re always wearing “eau de kitty and friends”. If we happen to bring home any strange scents from work, the grocery store, or heaven forbid, another animal, she takes it upon herself to cover them up by reapplying a good dose of her scent with her rubbing ways!



*Don't forget
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Facebook!*





Ask Audra...

Question: What do I do if my dog is stung by a bee?

Answer: Most dogs have only a slight reaction to bee stings. You may see minor swelling, redness and itching. Benadryl can safely be given to reduce the swelling and itching at a dose of 1 mg per pound of body weight. If you are unsure of the dosage, feel free to call our office and Dr. Stevenson can help answer any of your questions. If the stinger is visible, which usually is not the case, you can try removing it. If possible monitor your dog for several hours after the bee sting.

Very rarely, some dogs do have a severe reaction and can go into anaphylactic shock. Signs include difficulty breathing, vomiting, diarrhea and collapse. If this happens call Dr. Stevenson immediately, **THIS IS AN EMERGENCY!**

Have a question for our certified vet tech? Email us at APCC@AdvancedPetCareClinic.com and we'll get you an answer ASAP!

Advanced Pet Care Clinic

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