



**ADVANCED
PET CARE CLINIC**

Aug/Sept2010 Newsletter

"De-Tails"

Good-bye Summer, Hello Fall! *One of the prettiest seasons is about to begin, and getting out there to enjoy it is just as important to our pets as it is to us! The cool crisp Fall days, with the rain of beautifully colored leaves coming down, is the best time to get a walk or run in with "Fido"! Why not put "Ms. Kitty" out on her leash for a nice soaking-up-the-sun nap, or an afternoon of bird watching!! We need to get those days in before we are closed up for winter, so let's all make the most of it while we can!*

This newsletter will feature our product of the month, the Wacky Walk'r as well as our "Ask Audra" Q & A. Thank you to those that have sent in questions over the past weeks! Keep them coming! We also touch on the importance of your pet's ear care, following up on fecal exams and the need for spaying or neutering. We hope these are helpful and informative to you all as pet owners. Read on!!

Stool samples!! It's a dirty job...but somebody's gotta do it!!

How important is it to follow up with those fecal exams, you ask? Well, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that almost 14% of the U.S. human population is infected with roundworms. Dog ownership was associated with the infection. So not only do they pass them among themselves, they can easily share these parasites with us.

Parasite protection is equally important for our "indoor" cats, as well. Are you aware that 15% of potting soil contains



Meet
Muffin
Tentinger!
Everybody
loves
"muffins"!

roundworms? Hmmmm...puts things into a whole new perspective when you see them digging in your plants! Fecal exams are such a simple preventative and should be done yearly, so let's make sure we follow up with them at your pet's annual visit!

**Featuring Our
Product of the Month
The Wacky Walk'r
"We won't jerk your chain."**



<http://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/video/video.php?v=1552503098449&ref=mf>

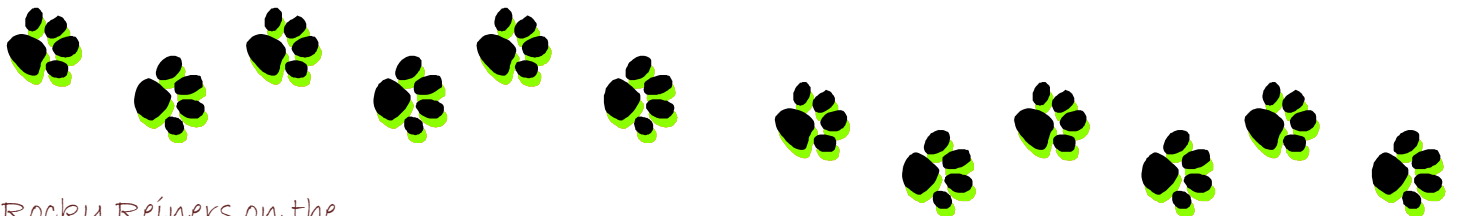
Though we still toot the horn for our **Easy Walk Harness**, there are dog owners that prefer a leash to a harness. For this reason, we would like to introduce **The Wacky Walk'r** product line! We are really excited about these leashes and how they benefit you and your dog(s)! The **Wacky Walk'r** gives a welcome relief from the "jerk" of traditional rigid leashes. It is designed to reduce the kinetic stress on you and your best friend. The result is a walk that's smoother and more enjoyable for those at both ends of the leash.

The **Wacky Walk'r** products are designed to teach your dog not to pull due to its gentle self-correcting properties. The leashes are

made of 100% natural rubber tubing (the same material used in the fitness industry). They are reinforced with safety line to help prevent tearing and breakage, as well as offering support and control during your walk.

Have two dogs? Try the amazing **Crazy Coupl'r!** You will never have to deal with tangled leashes again!!

Take a walk on the wild side! Stop in and check out the fun colors they are available in!



Rocky Reiners on the ride home! How cute is he!



Rocky Reiners after early wellness check!

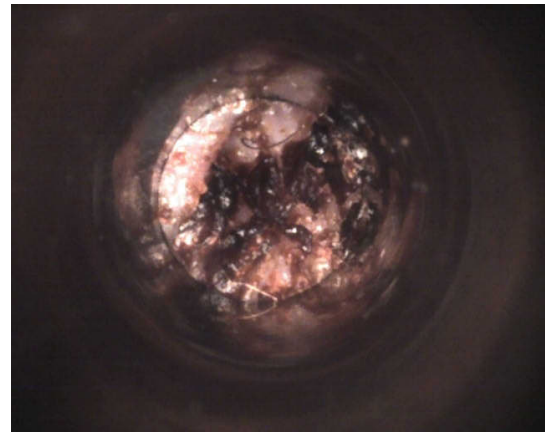


How can you say "no" to a smile like this? We don't, do we, Jersey Bumgarner?



Otodectes Cyanotis

Latin for “Picker of the Ear”



The name pretty much says it all! **Ear mites.**

They are very contagious and horribly uncomfortable for our furry friends!! Can you imagine 1,000's of tiny mites crawling around in your ear canal?! Thankfully, we humans cannot get ear mites, but imagine how it feels in our pet's ears!

Ear mites are tiny infectious organisms that resemble microscopic ticks. It is possible to see them as tiny white dots, but usually a sample of ear wax examined under a microscope is the best way to detect those little critters! The first sign you may notice is a dark brown/black wax on the inside of your pet's ears, almost a coffee ground color. And of course the scratching and head shaking can be another sign of discomfort. Ear mites readily transmit from host to host by physical contact, so when treating them, you will want to include all of your household pets.

There are a variety of treatments available over the counter for treating ear mites, but unless you know for sure that it is the correct diagnosis you could be hurting more than helping the cause. Some ear disorders have similarities to the ear mite condition and you could be treating for the wrong ailment. It is important to see Dr. Stevenson if you suspect there is a problem. Ear Mites are a very treatable condition, but if left untreated can lead to more serious bacterial or fungal infections which could lead to significant damage.

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## **Cedar Valley Pet Fest 2010**

**WHEN:** Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup>

**TIME:** 10am to 4pm

**WHERE:** Black Hawk Park in Cedar Falls

**COST:** Children under 12 and pets FREE  
Adults \$5

### **Some of the Attractions to see:**

- Jump castles
- Face painting
- Agility dog demonstrations
- Dog training demonstrations
- Q & A's with our own Dr. Stevenson
- Top Dog Model Contest – have your dogs photo taken and it may be put on the cover of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cedar Valley Dog magazine this fall
- Yummy food for dogs and humans
- Local animal rescue
- Grout Museum with Snakes Alive!

# Snip, Snip!!!?

Controlling the pet population is one of the greatest reasons for spaying and neutering our pets, the statistics out there will make you cringe...

One female cat on average has 5 kittens per litter, 3 times a year. As soon as they reach maturity they begin having their offspring and so on...In a seven year time period there is the potential to have one half million cats born!

One dog, her puppies and their offspring can produce more than 60,000 pups in a 6 year time period!

This means for each person born there are 15 dogs and 45 cats born!! Cringing yet? I did!

There are several other very important reasons to consider spaying or neutering your pet, though. Animals having these procedures done may live longer, healthier lives with fewer behavioral problems.

Neutering your male pets decreases the chances of developing prostatic disease and hernias, as well eliminates the chance of developing testicular cancer. It reduces problems with territorial sexual aggression, inappropriate urination (spraying) and other undesirable male traits. Neutered dogs tend to stay home instead of running off in search of "a little Lovin'". ;)

In females, spaying decreases the incidence of breast cancer (usually to 0% if done before the first heat cycle). It also eliminates the risk of developing a serious and potentially fatal infection of the uterus that occurs in many mature unspayed females.

If you are not considering breeding your pets, it is strongly recommended that you consider these procedures for your pet's continued good health.



***We had such a great response to our Basic Obedience Class that we are offering another one beginning Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup>.***

***Classes are open to dogs 4 months and older. Each dog Must have up-to-date vaccinations including their Bordetella shot and a negative fecal within the past year. The classes run for 6 weeks on Thursday evenings from 6:30-7:30 pm, and the cost is \$95. Call us at the clinic (319)277-7675 with questions or to get signed up!***

# “Pepe` Le Pew”

Many of you will never have the opportunity to utilize the following information...BUT if your pet does have the misfortune of coming face to face with a skunk and happens to get in the line of fire, we have a few options to pass on.

First, our groomer, Heather, does offer a Deep Deodorizing Bath that removes skunk or other strong odors. It comes as an upgrade to a bath package. Many times, this happens after hours or on the week-end when getting right in to the groomer is just not an option, so we have come up with a Recipe for any skunk related mishaps. Good luck!!

## The Skunk Remedy Recipe

In a plastic bucket, mix the following ingredients:

1 quart of 3% Hydrogen Peroxide  
1/4 cup of baking **soda**  
1 to 2 teaspoons liquid soap

For very large pets one quart of tepid tap water may be added to enable complete coverage.

Wash pet promptly and thoroughly, working the solution deep into the fur. Let your nose guide you, leaving the solution on about 5 minutes or until the odor is gone. Some heavily oiled areas may require a "rinse and repeat" washing.

Skunks usually aim for the face, but try to keep the solution out of the eyes - it stings. If you have any cuts on your hands you might want to wear latex gloves for the same reason.

After treatment, thoroughly rinse your pet with tepid tap water.



Pour the spent solution down the drain with running water.

**NEVER** store mixed solution in a closed bottle, sprayer, etc. Pressure will build up until the container bursts, possibly causing severe injury.

- Plastic mixing containers and utensils are preferred. Metals encourage auto-decomposition of the peroxide.
- Two preferred brands of Liquid soap are "Soft-soap" and "Ivory Liquid".
- Once mixed, the peroxide slowly breaks down into water and oxygen gas. Thus it gets weaker with time and so it should be used promptly.
- All brand names mentioned in this article are trademarks of their various owners.



## Ask Audra...

This month's question is...

Q. How do I know if my pet has a fever? Can I take his temperature at home and what should it be?

A. The normal body temperature in cats and dogs ranges between 100-102.5 degrees. So if your pet has a temperature of 103 it is considered a fever. Some symptoms you may see are lethargy, decreased appetite, increased heart rate and breathing rate. Feeling your pet's nose, ears, and head are not a reliable method in determining if they have a fever. We need to know their actual internal temperature by using a rectal thermometer. You can take your pet's temperature at home using a non-glass, non-mercury thermometer with some lubricant. You will need to recruit help because this is not always a comfortable procedure. Take the thermometer and insert into the rectum about one inch and hold in place. We like to use a digital rectal thermometer which beeps when done reading. Take the thermometer out and read. If your pet has a fever, call your veterinarian to schedule an appointment and before giving any meds at home.

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**Anyone up for a swim?** Then August 25<sup>th</sup> is a must for you and your dog!! Mark the date for an evening of fun at The Falls Aquatic Center in Cedar Falls. It is the annual Doggy Dip and any licensed dog and one to three owners are welcome to join in the fun from 6:00-8:00 pm. Cost is \$6.00 per dog; additional owners are \$3.00.



Check out the GORGONES eyes on this cat!!!  
His name is Puddi Langston and we think  
He's the "Cat's Meow"!

**Advanced Pet Care Clinic**  
**Hours: Mon. 7:30 am - 5:30 pm**  
**Tues. 7:30 am - 8:00 pm**  
**Wed. 7:30 am - 5:30 pm**  
**Thurs. 7:30 am - 5:30 pm**  
**Fri. 7:30 am - 5:30 pm**  
**Sat. 8:00am - 10:00 am**  
**24 hour on call emergency.**  
**(319) 277-7675**

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