

# ~ Hartwood Animal Hospital Quarterly Newsletter ~

## We want to introduce our newest team members to HAH.

**Dr. Shirley** is a Veterinarian who works for Alexandria Veterinary Emergency Service. She has been working here at HAH as a Part Time Associate, and what a relief she has been to everyone, especially Dr. Jewett.

**Heather Bowman** is a Licensed Veterinary Technician who has been in the Veterinary field for 11 years and has spent several years working for a neurologist. Her knowledge and experience is much appreciated.

**Amy Macomber** is a Kennel Assistant. This is her first job, and what a good job she is doing for only being 15.



## **Senior & Geriatric Exams**

**\*\* Your pet might be considered a senior or geriatric. \*\***

**\*\* Did you know that larger dogs age quicker? \*\***

**\*\* In human years, 1 year = 5-8 years in an animal years. \*\***

Having Senior or Geriatric wellness are very important for your pets' health. There could be underlying issues, or concerns that could be treated before they get out of hand. Just like you, we want all of our furry children here at HAH to be as healthy and comfortable as they can be. We all want them around for as long as we can. By doing a few diagnostic work ups we can get that picture window inside your pet and really see what is going on with them as they age. All of these tests & work ups are not invasive and do not cause pain or discomfort to your loved ones.

**What types of diagnostic work is done to evaluate my pet's health???**

**Full Medical Examination**

**Urinalysis ~ Blood Work (Liver, Kidney, Sugars, Thyroid)**

**Chest X-rays ~ Abdominal X-rays ~ Hip and Knee X-rays**

**Heart Rate (EKG) ~ Blood Pressure**

**All of this can be done in 1 day!**

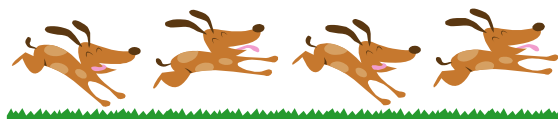
**Drop off in the morning and pick up that afternoon with a discharge appointment to review the results 😊**

## **Reminder \* Boarding \* Reminder \* Boarding**

If you are going out of town for the Spring Holiday and need to board your pet, please contact us soon as you have your dates. Our boarding facility books up quickly!

Also, as a reminder..... We have the ability to board all kinds of pets including dogs, cats, birds, reptiles, and pocket pets. All pets boarding at HAH must be current on their vaccines for their protection and others.

Please contact us if your pet needs a wellness or vaccines.



## **Canine Behavioral Classes**

Basic Manners	March 8 <sup>th</sup>	1:30pm	6 weeks
Distractions	March 8 <sup>th</sup>	3:30pm	6 weeks
Super Puppy	March 20 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm	8 weeks



## What is Radio Surgery?

I know .... Dr. Jewett likes to listen to the radio while doing surgeries?  
Hmm ... Oh they play the radio for the pets while waking up from surgery.

Yes, Dr Jewett likes to listen to the radio while doing surgeries, and yes we do have the radio on all day for the animals to listen to. But that is not what Radio Surgery is.

RadioSurgery is a newer way of making an incision through tissue, blood vessels, and nerves with high frequency radio waves; the more traditional way was to use a scalpel blade. When using the radio surgery, the blood vessels are cauterized and the nerve endings are “burned” therefore there are no open nerve endings.

Radio Surgery is used on all surgeries here at HAH.

**Benefits for using radio surgery vs. the traditional scalpel blade**  
~ Less Bleeding ~ Less Swelling ~ Less Pain ~ Quicker Recovery ~

## Pain ~ Swelling ~ Lethargic

### Painful getting up and down?

Yes, animals can have the same aches and pains that we have as they age.

We also seem to forget that younger animals can have inflammation and pain in their joints too.  
Any working dog or young dog with a history of bone trauma is a high risk candidate for arthritis, and can exhibit pain and discomfort at a younger age.

**Synovi G3** is a joint health supplement that addresses multiple components of joint degeneration.

#### Synovi contains:

Creatine Monohydrate  
Glucosamine HCL  
Vitamin C  
Zinc Sulfate  
Omega 3 Fatty Acids

Improves muscle strength & energy  
Help replenish & maintain healthy cartilage  
Wound healing & bone regeneration  
Maintain a healthy immune system & wound healing  
Anti-inflammatory properties

## Smelly Skin or Itchy Skin ???

This could be due to Allergies

The most common signs of an allergic pet include:

Smelly Skin - Itchy feet - Shaking head (ears) - Rubbing Face - Hair Loss

All of these signs result in a very uncomfortable pet, and can lead to a secondary infection.

#### What a dog or cat could be allergic to include:

Outside Inhalants (grasses, weed, trees)  
Proteins (Chicken, Beef, Pork, Fish)  
Wheat, Corn, Dairy  
Other Pet's (Cat Dander) Yes believe it or not !

Depending on your pet's examination and history, a blood test can be performed to determine what he / she is allergic to. Once the results are in, a treatment plan for your pet can be devised with either allergy shots, diet change, or both.



## Yuk ~ Ooooo ~ Gross

These are things that you would hear when someone sees a Flea or Tick Yes they are Yucky and Gross, but more importantly, they can be dangerous for your pet's health. A flea has to live on blood in order to survive. Therefore they will bite your pet in order to receive their blood meal. A very infested pet or small pet with fleas can cause the dog to become weak and anemic. The younger, older, and smaller pets are more at risk of becoming sick from a flea infestation.



Ticks are also one of those things that we all say "Oooo and Gross"

Ticks also live off of blood, a tick will find a comfy place on your pet, move in, and feast off of your pet's blood. Ticks carry several kinds of diseases that are very ailing to the animal. Long term they cause joint deterioration and, therefore pain to the animals joints (shoulders, hips, knees)

There are a few things that can be applied to both dogs & cats to prevent these nasty critters from making a home on your pet.

**Promeris** Adult Fleas ~ Flea Eggs ~ Ticks ~ Mange

**Frontline Plus** Adult Fleas ~ Flea Eggs ~ Ticks

**Advantage** Adult Fleas ~ Flea Eggs

**Advantix (K9 only)** Adult Fleas ~ Flea Eggs ~ Ticks ~ Mosquitoes

(Does not cover all types of ticks ~ not safe around cats)

Due to the coverage, efficacy, and safety of the products, we recommend either Promeris or Frontline Plus. We Do Not recommend any over the counter products or flea collars, they do not work well !!

### Try to take our "Flea & Tick" test...

1 female flea can produce \_\_\_\_\_ offspring in her 9 month adult life span.

Fleas can jump up to \_\_\_\_\_ feet.

The larval stage of a flea & several stages of the tick can live more than \_\_\_\_\_ without feeding.

Ticks can transmit diseases like \_\_\_\_\_ to your pet.

Fleas \_\_\_\_\_ unlike ticks that \_\_\_\_\_.

(Answer: 1 Trillion ~ 6 feet ~ 1 year ~ Lyme's Ehrlichia, Rocky Mtn Spotted Fever ~ Jump ~ climb)

### DNA Testing For Dogs

Have you ever wondered why your dog wants to herd the children or why your dog can play fetch all day long and not get tired? With a simple blood test, the breed(s) that make up your pet can be determined. With the DNA test you can gain insight into why your dog looks and acts the way he/she does. Also, some breeds are more prone to certain medical problems, therefore knowing the breed(s) can be helpful.

We can now have your dog's DNA tested !!

Beginning of the year ~ Don't forget to license your dog with your county !!



## February is National Pet Dental Health Month

**10% off** all Dental products during the month of February !!

Just like you, your pet's teeth are a big part of a healthy body.

Looking inside your pets' mouth can be difficult and frustrating at times, we understand that. If you need any help or want us to take a look at your pet's teeth, let us know and we will be happy to help you. Bad teeth and gum disease can lead to other health problems; heart disease and kidney disease are a couple of medical problems that can arise due to poor oral care. Keeping the mouth healthy, helps to keep the entire pet healthy too. There are several things that can be done at home to reduce the tartar build up & gum disease.

At Home Care      Teeth Brushing ~ Oral Hygiene Rinse ~ Dental Chews ~ Dental Foods

### What does a Dental cleaning entail?

Ultrasonic subgingival scaling  
Electronic polishing  
Hand Scaling w/ gum recession measurements  
Fluoride treatment if needed or of age  
Dental Radiographs if needed  
Extractions if needed  
Teeth sealants if wanted (OraVet)

What is OraVet?      OraVet is a series of sealants that are applied to the teeth 1 x a week to prevent plaque from build up.

Feel free to call with any questions and we would be happy to go more into depth and or show you how to use the above products at home.



**Pet's Have Teeth Too !!!**

### Dry, Flaky Skin ? We have the products for your pet ☺

Derm Caps: Promotes Healthy Skin ~ Soft, Shiny Coat ~ Omega 6 Fatty Acids  
Comes in either Gel Caps or Liquid

3V Caps: Supports Immune System ~ Healthy Joints ~ Inflammation Reducer  
Healthy Skin/Coat ~ Omega 3 Fatty Acids  
Comes in either Gel Caps or Liquid