

Goldenview Veterinary Hospital
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The Golden "View"

Your place for the latest happenings at GoldenView Veterinary Hospital (GVH)

Message from Dr. Kris: An Ounce of Prevention

...is worth a pound of cure. The beginning of 2009 has found many of us facing a bleak economy and uncertain future. Here at **GoldenView Veterinary Hospital**, we are committed to working with our clients to continue to give our pets the best healthcare possible, while staying within your budget.

We all know that prevention of problems is less costly than fixing them once they exist. With this in mind, **GVH** is now offering both a **Senior Early Detection and Junior Early Detection Package** at any time, instead of as monthly spe-

cial. Medical advancements enable us to diagnose potential diseases before they become a serious issue, including heartworm, thyroid disease, intestinal parasites, kidney and liver disease. Early detection of these conditions allows for early intervention which can add years to your pet's life and save you money. Did you know that if detected early, 75% of common diseases in dogs and 63% of common diseases in cats can be prevented by dietary modifications alone over a one year period? For more details about the **Senior and Junior Early**

Detection Packages, visit our website at www.goldenviewvet.com.

Additionally, **GVH** encourages our clients to consider and embrace the use of **Pet Health Insurance**. There are several pet insurance companies available with a myriad of plans to choose from to fit any budget.

GVH supports plans offered by two companies in particular: **Veterinary Pet Insurance (VPI)**, and **Pets Best**.



(Cont. on next page)

Spring 2009

DID YOU KNOW...

- ☺ George Washington had 36 dogs—all Foxhounds—one of which was named Sweetlips?
- ☺ 70% of people sign their pet's name on holiday and greeting cards?
- ☺ An estimated 1,000,000 dogs in the U.S. have been named the primary beneficiaries in their owner's will?
- ☺ That you can easily earn a credit on your **GVH** account? See page 2 for details.

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What's Up with Wednesdays?

By Deb Cat, Manager

Have you ever walked in to a deserted front desk at **GVH**? Every Wednesday afternoon, we have a mandatory staff meeting to enhance communication skills, team protocols and training programs. We often invite guest speakers from local organizations, such as the Colorado House

Rabbit Society and The Gabriel Foundation, or set up in-house training programs with vet businesses to share specialized knowledge, like Hill's Prescription Diets, Vetoquinol's lysine treatments for feline herpes, or Antech Laboratory for Early Detection Wellness testing.

We do not "close-up" or lock our doors during meetings, but any phone calls will go to voice mail. Please do leave us a message and we'll return your call after the meeting.

Now you know the "inside" story!

An Ounce of Prevention (Continued from page 1)

These companies and the plans they offer, along with

several other insurance companies can be compared by visiting the website: www.petinsurancereview.com.

Pet health insurance typically covers accidents, injuries, and illness. However, plans are available to cover routine care and referral to specialists as well. Insurance is also available for avian and exotic pets, not just dogs and cats. Pet health insurance comes in handy, especially when faced with unexpected major medical expenses from unforeseen accidents and illness. It allows pet owners to choose

the best care for their pet without the stress of finances entering into the picture.

Lastly, remember that **GVH** offers a no interest payment plan. **CareCredit** is a leader in healthcare financing that is similar to other major credit cards with two unique features. Every **CareCredit** transaction is eligible for a NO Interest or LOW fixed interest payment plan. It also can be used at other healthcare practices, like your dentist. There are no annual fees and you can use it for routine veterinary exam fees, to buy your pet's medication, or you can reserve

its use for unplanned or emergency veterinary services. We can help you apply for **CareCredit** at your next visit, or you can visit the website at: www.carecredit.com.

If you are ever feeling the economic crunch and worried that your pet's health is at risk, please let us help you. Give us a call and together we can figure out how to give your pet what he needs. Let's make 2009 our healthiest and best year yet!

Dr. Krzis

What is that Smell?

By Stefanie Lesker, Vet Nurse

Does your dog or cat have bad breath? With your own teeth, you are responsible for daily brushing, rinsing, and flossing to slow the progression of periodontal (gum) disease. But who is responsible for your pet's dental health?

Periodontal disease is the most common disease in pet animals. It affects 90% of dogs and 70% of cats over the age of

5 years and dental care becomes more important as we expect our pets to live longer. Brushing your pet's teeth is the best method to prevent plaque from building and periodontal disease from occurring.

Before beginning a tooth brushing program, we recommend a thorough oral examination to determine if there is any dental disease that needs to be

treated. Brushing can cause damage and pain to inflamed tissue if gum disease exists. Additionally, brushing will not remove tartar that has already developed, though it can prevent or slow the progression of periodontal disease. (cont. next pg)

"Periodontal disease is the most common disease in pet animals."

Would You Like to Earn a Credit on Your Account?

Finding a good veterinarian is as hard as finding a good doctor, so we want you to spread the word to those who don't know about **GVH**. We have a New Referral Program:

The friend or family member you refer to us will get a \$20 exam discount and you will receive a \$10 credit on your account!

We also have new brochures to



present **GVH** and **Camp GoldenView**, our exotic boarding facility, to the public. We are proud of the high-quality service we offer and

hope you will spread the word! If you won't be walking in our doors soon, we'd be happy to mail you our brochures or a Referral Card.

Your referral of a friend is a great compliment and we want to continue to build our reputation for exceptional veterinary service!

What is that Smell? (continued from page 2)

Brushing can begin as early as 8-12 weeks of age. While maintenance is not needed at this age, it will help establish a familiar routine. It is a good idea to temporarily stop brushing when the baby teeth are lost, to prevent discomfort. Once the permanent teeth have erupted, you can resume brushing. Daily brushing is best. Try to schedule the sessions at the same time each day, so your pet gets used to the routine and it becomes a habit for you.

To begin, select a pet friendly toothpaste and brush. Do not use human toothpaste! Here at GVH we recommend the CET brand toothpaste. It comes in a variety of flavors including

poultry, malt, and vanilla mint. At first, handle your pet's muzzle and tickle her lips so she becomes familiar with your hands handling her mouth. Then, offer a small amount of toothpaste on your finger as a treat. Next, offer the toothpaste on the tip of a toothbrush for a few days to help her become familiar with the tool. Now gradually work the toothbrush into the mouth, making sure to hold the tip of the toothbrush to the tip of your finger. Only two full strokes on the outside of each side of the mouth are necessary. Work on spreading the toothpaste

around the mouth and allowing the toothbrush to massage the teeth and gums. Acceptance may take days for some pets; for others it may take weeks.

If brushing is not an option for you, GVH offers a variety of products that can help you maintain your pet's dental health, including rinses and chews. We even carry Hills Prescription t/d dental diet. GVH is pleased to also offer complimentary dental exams with a Certified Vet Nurse to discuss further dental care. Please contact us for more information or to schedule a complimentary dental exam.

No-Hassle Prescription Refills

Did you know that you can request a refill of your pet's medication or food—even when GVH is closed?

And that you can have it delivered to your home at no extra charge?

We use a service called ProxyRx which will deliver your refill direct to your home. Let us know what you need and we'll take care of it. You

can use the phone and leave an after-hours voice mail or the internet. Simply log in to your PetPortal via our website and visit your pet's individual record page. There you can review prescriptions and easily request refills (or even request appointments). Don't have a Pet Portal yet? Sign up for one today! Just give us your email address or re-

quest a Pet Portal online at our website.



www.GoldenViewVet.com.

Chip Your Cat...For Free!

GVH is currently providing a complimentary wellness exam and microchip for your cat at **NO CHARGE** to you! We believe in micro-chipping all

pets and have committed to help accomplish this by participating in this wonderful program. You



CHIP YOUR CAT™

can view the details at ChipYourCat.com. Bring your cat in now to take advantage of this special opportunity.

Time and supply are limited!

We need to encourage proper identification, educate about the importance of veterinary care, and improve the overall image and reputation of the household cat. This

program is one way we can do this and is available to both current and new clients. Spread the word to any cat owners you know and help us get our feline friends protected.

Call 303-279-9182 or email GVH@GoldenViewVet.com for your appointment today!

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Monthly Specials

At GoldenView Veterinary Hospital, we continually strive to provide our clients with not only excellent medical care, but also a commitment to quality pricing. Our monthly specials are another way you can take advantage of this. Look for great upcoming specials each month.

April

It's heartworm season!

Take \$5 off 6 months or \$8 off 12 months of heartworm preventative medication. A heartworm test and exam may be necessary, so please call to determine your dog's particular exposure risk and visit www.heartwormsociety.org.

May

Exotic Pet Wellness!

Take 10% off any lab work done during a physical exam for your exotic pet!
Take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about the appropriate care for your special pet!

June

Parasite Prevention!

Take \$5 off a fecal test! Includes flea and tick prevention, as well as product education. Visit www.petandparasite.org for more information.
