

Warm Weather Brings Bugs

Most of us welcome the warm weather, but with the extra sunshine comes more insects. Some of these insects transmit diseases to our pets. Remember to stock up on your flea/tick and heartworm preventatives. Many of the manufacturers are running specials and discounts. Ask us about them today.

Quick Tip

Do you know what medication your pet is taking? When calling for refills try to have the bottle handy so you can tell us exactly which medication needs to be refilled. As always, if you have questions about medications and their uses or side effects feel free to call the clinic or ask our vets.

Contacts for you:

Web: www.SuburbanAnimalClinic.com

E-mail: Info@SuburbanAnimalClinic.com

Office Hours:

Mon.-Fri., 7am-6pm and

Sat., 7am-1pm

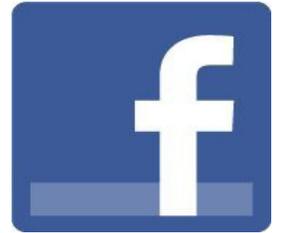
Phone: (614) 276-5479

In case of Emergency (24/7)

MedVet Columbus (614) 846-5800

MedVet Hilliard (614) 870-0480

OSU Dublin (614) 889-8079



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Suburban Animal Clinic

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Pet Pause

Suburban
Animal Clinic

Your Pet's Health

- Warm Weather Brings More Bugs!
- Heart Disease and Testing
- Do We Have to See the Vet?

News For You

- What's News at Suburban
- A Note About Prescription Diets
- Quick Tip
- AAHA Accreditation
- Looking Back this Past Year with

Dr. Seimer and Dr. Maul



AAHA Accreditation

In December, Suburban Animal Clinic had an evaluation by the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA). We're happy to say we passed the evaluation with flying colors and are still accredited members of AAHA. This organization is dedicated to the veterinary profession as a whole, and helps animal clinics and hospitals give patients the best possible care. From their website:

"To become accredited, companion animal hospitals undergo regular comprehensive evaluations by AAHA veterinary experts who evaluate the practice on approximately 900 standards of veterinary care. The Association also develops other publications and educational programs and resources designed to help companion animal hospitals thrive. The AAHA membership philosophy is team-focused, allowing every hospital staff member, from veterinarians

to receptionists, to benefit from AAHA's resources through one group membership. AAHA accreditation is an honor that only 12-15% of all veterinary practices in the United States and Canada have earned."

We are proud to be a part of AAHA and have been a member since 1975.



Do We Have to See the Vet?

Sometimes we get phone calls where people ask if our doctors can prescribe medications without seeing their pet. In most cases the answer is no. In general, our veterinarians must do a physical exam on your pets prior to prescribing medications. Not only is this good medical practice, but it is also required under Ohio law. Just like you or your child will need to see a physician, your pet needs to see a veterinarian when they are sick. Disease processes can look similar to each other. For example, a cat may be straining in the litter box due to constipation or a urinary tract infection. These are treated completely different and it's not something we can diagnose over the phone.



What's News at Suburban Animal Clinic

- Please welcome Christine as the newest member of our team. She graduated from Columbus State Community College veterinary technician program in 2010. She has a purebred golden retriever named Riley Jake and has gone through extensive training with him. Riley has passed both S.T.A.R. puppy and canine good citizen tests. The next step would be for Riley to pass the therapy dog test and be able to give back to the community. Christine has also been a martial artist for 13 years and has been ballroom dancing for the past 11 years. She still enjoys these hobbies today and occasionally competes for fun in both.

- In collaboration with Girl Scout Troop 1270 we collected donations for Citizens for Humane Action. Many times after the holidays our friends in shelters are forgotten, but we can help them out with some toys, food or other items they are in need of. Here's their web site for more information: www.chanimalshelter.org

Heart Disease and Testing

Every time our doctors listen to your pet's heart they are evaluating several things. They are listening to the heart rate, the rhythm, and they are also listening for abnormalities like murmurs and clicks. The heart can make a lot of noises beyond the regular "lub-dub" that we are used to hearing. And there are many different cardiac diseases that will cause noise changes in the heart. Sometimes these diseases don't have any changes associated with them as well. There are several diagnostics the vet may recommend if heart disease is of a concern in your pet.

- Blood pressure - Just like in humans, too high or too low blood pressure is an important thing to monitor for in our pets.

- X-rays - X-rays of the heart and lungs can give us information on chronic or acute changes to the heart.

- Pro-BNP - This is a blood test that helps us differentiate lung disease from heart disease.

- Heartworm test - Heartworms are a parasite that are actually worms that like to live in the heart and great vessels of the heart and lungs. Unfortunately this disease is very prevalent in certain areas of the country and can be common in shelter dogs. The simple blood test we perform in house at your dog's annual exam tests for heartworm disease and multiple tick born diseases. The American Heartworm Society recommends monthly preventative year round and annual testing.

A Note About Prescription Diets

Is your dog or cat on a prescription diet? We must see them at least annually to continue prescribing that the food for them. Most pet foods are formulated to be 'complete and balanced' for the dog or cat and contain the appropriate amount of fat, protein, carbohydrates, fiber, vitamins, and minerals. Prescription diets are specially formulated to meet a specific need, but some may not be complete and balanced. Some of the diets are only supposed to be used for a short period of time, others can be used long-term. Due to this it's important that a doctor sees your animal to make sure they should still be on the prescription diet.

Looking Back this Past Year...

Dr. Seimer

What's happened since our retirement?

There have been some good times and some speed bumps of life. After retiring in January 2015, my wife Sherry and I were fortunate to travel to Phoenix and Sedona Arizona, then Hilton Head, South Carolina. In June 2015 our oldest daughter, Kim Blake, was diagnosed with stage 2 breast cancer. She immediately had surgery and completed chemotherapy this past January. The disease was caught early and her prognosis is good. Much of our time, especially Sherry's, was spent helping Kim, her husband Andy, and their children, Kendall(5) and Griffin(2). Kim was a trooper and wants to help support breast cancer research. To help her effort see the blog with her link at Suburbananimalclinic.com.

Spare time was spent with our other two grandchildren, Evie(5) and Felix(3) Brooks. Thank goodness everyone lives in Columbus now! In November I had double knee replacement (5 days apart) surgery. I knew this had been needed for awhile, so I bit the bullet and did it! After a few tough months, rehab and physical therapy, I am walking and continue to improve to the point that golf is back in the near future.

Now our retired life is back on track. We continue to care for our 17 & 1/2 year old senile, hyperthyroid cat Pepper and her demands. I like spending time reading the Columbus Dispatch each morning, but no more 5:15 am wake ups for me! I continue to love cooking for our family (soup of the week is appreciated by all) and we like finding happy hour deals around town (G. Michaels and Hudson 20 are excellent). We enjoy being involved in our church - Trinity United Methodist. I man the kitchen's pizza oven once a month and we supply 60 pizzas for a local shelter.

Instead of 3-4 movies yearly, we now enjoy movie mantinees almost weekly. We start back traveling again soon, to Florida and Hilton Head.

We miss you all but know your pets are in good hands with Drs. Maul, Shardy and Jarden along with the super staff at Suburban. If you need to reach me, I still occasionally check my old clinic email: jseimer.sac@sbcglobal.net.

With hope, peace and happiness,
Michael Seimer DVM

Dr. Maul

It was certainly a busy 2015 for Errol and me and as of January 2016 it has been one year that we have been at Suburban Animal Clinic.

We had the distinct pleasure of moving twice in 2015, which was even more fun since both moves were during times of cold weather. We moved to a home we were renting in Worthington the beginning of January 2015 after selling our place in Illinois. We then spent much of 2015 in search of a place where we and our horses would be happy to call home. The new place was found just north of Powell and we closed on it in November, which brought us to our next, thankfully shorter distance move of 2015. We now are able to have our horses with us at home again and our two terriers are very happy to have more room to play ball in the yard.

In the past year my horse, "Melanie," and I traveled about the Midwest for competitions in the sport of eventing, (it is like a triathlon where you ride the same horse in three different disciplines, two of which include jumping fences). I have been involved in this sport since I was fourteen and am enjoying meeting fellow riders in Columbus. Some of the Suburban clients ride as well and it has been great to share horse stories with them.

The last year also saw the addition of a new resident "clinic cat" at Suburban. Midnight, who now resides full time at the clinic, had been my cat for many years. I found him about 15 years ago on the side of a country road in Illinois. He was at the time a tiny malnourished kitten and there was no sign of the mother or litter mates. Midnight is not exactly tiny anymore and has such an outgoing and inquisitive personality that he has fit in wonderfully at the clinic. His favorite places at the clinic are on Dr. Shardy's desk begging for her treats or in his chair that overlooks the table where we eat lunch. Midnight is frequently featured on the clinic Facebook page as he often engages in antics that we love to share with our friends.

The most enjoyable part of the year by far has been meeting all of the clients and patients of Suburban. Dr. & Mrs. Seimer were indeed accurate in their belief that Suburban has the most wonderful clients. Now one year later I can say I completely agree that Suburban has wonderful clients that care deeply for their pets and are delightful people.