

ANIMAL HOSPITAL NEWS



Animal Hospital of Cornelius, PA

Volume 3, Issue 5

June 11, 2013

IT'S SUMMERTIME !!!

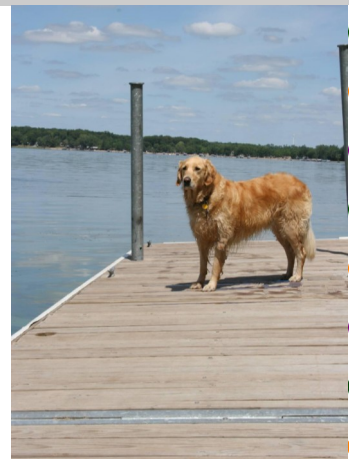
Nothing feels quite as good as stretching out after a good nap. I woke curled up in my soft pillow, stretched and yawned, then stood up. My best friends were still sleeping so I trotted over to the little door made just for us in the human-size door. Sticking my head outside, I found that it was bright and warm and I stepped out. Slowly, I breathed in and sniffed the air. A perfect summer breeze brought scents of trees and grass, squirrels and my human's big water hole, which smells odd so I never drink from it, on purpose anyways. People enjoy playing in that water when it gets hot out though, and sometimes I do too.

I started walking around the yard, sniffing and listening and finding myself alone, did my business. I heard something behind

me and a split second later, Riley had tackled me and nipped my leg. I swung around and grabbed his leg and we wrestled around in the grass. He's still a pup and loves to play. I enjoy a little rough-housing around too and grabbed his collar and spun him off me. I let go and wagged my tail, put my front legs scrunched down in front of me and my rump in the air. I was now in ready position! Riley yipped at me and copied my position, then jumped at me. Easily being twice his size I pushed him down again and he lightly pulled at my throat. I released again and he yipped like the silly pup he is. I let him get me down on the ground then knocked him to the side. I ran a little ways and barked and panted. He chased after me but couldn't keep up

and lay down in the light to chew on a stick he had found.

I could hear people were down on the dock so I decided to stroll out and see what was happening. The people were pulling the cover off the pontoon boat and lowering the jet ski into the water. How I loved riding the waves with my people, wind in my fur, cool spray kissing my face. Ah lake life is sweet. I got to the end of the pier, as the people continued their work on our afternoon transportation, my attention turned to my arch nemesis here at the lake. A most foul fowl, a bird I loathe nearly as much as those cursed squirrels. It is a known fact that Canadian geese poop every 10 minutes, **on my yard!!** As much as I find the cat's litter somewhat fragrant and sometimes find Riley's business interesting, these



geese are just plain disgusting! And aren't they supposed to be migratory birds?!! At least a squirrel can take a hint where they're not wanted. These birds just keeping pushing their luck with me on patrol. I saw that the lousy goose hadn't noticed I was on the pier yet and was swimming right on up like he owned the place. He was headed to the shore and our lawn. Wrong Move!

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Submit pictures of your pets to us at animalhospitalofcornelius@mi-connection.com

Animal Hospital Employee of the Month

The Animal Hospital of Cornelius congratulates Linda Mulligan as our May 2013 Employee of the Month! Linda has worked as a kennel attendant in our practice for 16 years. It is obvious to all how much she loves animals. One of our longest term employees, Linda is very supportive of the practice and her co-workers each month taking care of our patients, boarders and showing great service above self. We are proud to have staff that make our practice a priority and a success. And we have come to expect our staff to do this. However, Linda went above and beyond this month with tremendous compassion. Our local Cornelius Animal Shelter called with a situation — five newborn kittens were

brought there by a concerned citizen, but the mother cat was not found. They were so young, it was unlikely that they would survive without round the clock care. Add to that the shelter is not staffed overnight, and you understand the problem. So as their veterinary care provider, they contacted us to see if there was anything we could do here. Linda did not even hesitate, knowing that these kittens needed help, she stepped up to the task taking on all five. Now a few weeks later, as the adjacent photos attest, all are very grateful to have a wonderful person like Linda giving them the loving care they need. Great job Linda!!!



Doctor Spotlight — Dr. Kathy Halada

Dr. Kathy Halada draws the short straw this month as the objective lens of the newsletter focuses on her career here at the Animal Hospital of Cornelius. Dr. Kathy Halada has been employed here with our practice since January 1996. Dr. Halada attended N.C. State for her undergraduate degree and completed her doctorate degree from the NCSU - Veterinary School graduating in 1994. Dr. Halada lives in Concord

with her husband Jeff and two children Austin & Lauren. She currently has three cats: Jango, Kalo & Stormy, and a Labrador retriever mix named Clover. Dr. Halada is an excellent practitioner, and with her tenure here, she has experienced every kind of medical case we see. Kindly referred to as the "Tornado" by the technician staff for her ability to pace her appointments, her knowledge and use of appropriate diag-



nostics make her able to assess and create a treatment plan accurately and timely. Her associates appreciate her skill, and will consult her on cases where her advice is beneficial. Dr. Halada is a thorough caring professional with terrific exam room demeanor which makes her very popular with our clients and patients alike.

SUMMERTIME !

I made my way back around the busy people, never taking my eye off the dirty bird and **BAM!!** I was in the water!



And **KASPLOOOOSH!!!** I was on him!! **YEAH!**



Should have been wearing some goggles though - as the splash blinded me momentarily, and as fowl luck would have it, it offered just enough time that the poopy bird escaped me again. My splashing got

the attention of my people and they began chiding me for jumping in after the bird, but fell short of saying not to do it again if the goose nears. So I take that as a green light to continue my security measures. The boy called my name and tossed a toy into the water for me to return, so my beautifully executed dive was not in vain, and I circled back to retrieve it for him.



He did this several times drawing Riley's attention. We then both went for the fetch game. I beat him to the mark every time and could have skunked him, but let him get the last one, to keep him hooked to compete the next time. It's way more fun to race



against someone. Well the people had the boat all ready, so I shook off and got on. Riley did too. He follows me a lot, and while it gets annoying sometimes, it's also fun to be admired. And he doesn't always eat his treats, which leaves me able to swoop in and make it disappear. Leave no trace I like to call it. Learned that when camping with the boy and his cub scout pack back in my puppy days. The boat ride was the best and I ride up front - face in the wind. We go slow enough that I don't get thrown off, I like to stand beyond the front rail too. Riley tried that last time too and learned a little something about "earning your sea legs." He thought it would be just a cake walk. Instead he walked the plank, and went ker-plunk.

That day Riley sure was lucky for the boat coat the people have him wear. It not only keeps you afloat but has a handle on the back to make it easy to retrieve the retriever. Man am I hot today! Cruising around the lake sure is great. Sometimes I wonder what it might be like to live somewhere else, places I have heard about like a big city, or a farm. But I am really glad that I live right here in Cornelius, I am truly blessed to have the family I have. And endless lake sunsets to enjoy.



Summertime Tips

Now that summer is upon us, school is out and our families will travel on vacations, we need to consider some important issues relative to pet safety.

We have all read in the newspapers about pets left alone in a car during hot weather. People mistakenly believe that parking in the shade or leaving the windows partially open will prevent the car from heating up too much. Unfortu-

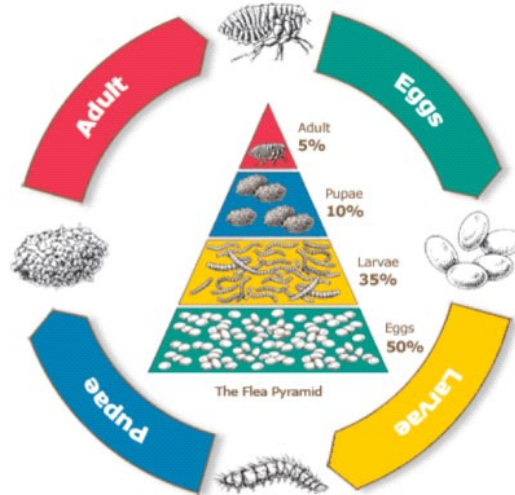
nately they learned too late that this just isn't true. In just minutes, the temperature inside a car can reach over 100°. We recommend that you never leave your pet alone in a parked car, even with the windows cracked. A dog or cat can overheat quickly and the risk of a fatal stroke is too great. Here are a few more situations to be aware of: If your dog likes to play on the ocean beach, realize that salt

water can be dangerous. Excessive intake can cause hyponatremia. Salt poisoning can progress quickly to lack of coordination, seizures and ultimately severe brain swelling. Carry a fresh bottle of water and offer it's contents frequently to your dog while at the beach.

Pool chemicals are also concerns for your pets. Algaecides and chlorine shock water treatment are generally safe

when diluted appropriately, but never leave open containers where pets are present. Stings and bites can be treated preventatively by having your pet tested for heartworms and taking regular doses for flea and heartworm prevention. More severe bites like snakes or scorpions need veterinary attention immediately. Talk to your veterinarian about ways to stay safe this summer.

PREVENT HEARTWORMS & FLEAS



We recommend the following flea and heartworm protection options

DOGS

Comfortis Oral Flea Preventative

- Convenient oral administration; once a month
- Will not wash off, even with frequent bathing and swimming
- Only covers fleas

Trifexis Oral Heartworm & Flea Preventative

- Combines the flea adulticide, Spinosad, found in Comfortis with the heartworm preventative, Milbemycin Oxime
- Kills adult fleas and won't wash off
- Prevents heartworm disease and also removes and controls adult parasite infections of Roundworms, Hookworms, and Whipworms

Sentinel Heartworm Preventative

- Convenient oral administration specifically designed for your size pet; once a month
- Flavored palatable tabs prevents heartworm disease
- Removes and controls adult parasite infections of Roundworms, Hookworms, and Whipworms



CATS

Revolution Topical Heartworm & Flea Preventative

- Inclusion of heartworm prevention is very important
- Once a month simple application

Program Injectable 6-month Flea Preventative

- By far the simplest way to protect your cat from fleas
- No topical application required

Protect your pet today!