



The Paw

A publication of Paws Animal Rescue



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Stately Stitchers

STATELY STITCHERS MEET MONTHLY AT Lutheran Memorial Church. The basement of the church is filled with ladies at sewing machines and ironing boards. Their president is Pam Meyer and vice-president is Paula Blake.

They sew beautiful quilts for residents at Golden Living Center, Mary House, Hospice and Growing Up Together.

They also sew hats and pillow cases for chemotherapy patients. Many of their quilts have been used for raffles.

This year they added PAWS to their list of organizations. They use their leftover scraps of material to stuff into beds for both the dogs and cats. They also made many different-sized pillows for the cats to nap on.

The ladies also attend retreats and quilt shows. PAWS is very thankful to them to be added to their list of giving.



COBRAS Volunteers at Shelter

In February, a group of high school aged boys from St Joseph's school in Chamberlain made a trip to the shelter to volunteer.

The boys and house parents did everything from mopping the cat area and brushing dogs, to bleaching out pet

porters.

The group is called COBRAS – Creating One Brotherhood Responsible for the Actively Serving.

The boys also brought donations that they had collected over the past month.

Cleaning supplies to dog/cat toys filled their sacks. The cats and dogs of course loved the attention and the boys enjoyed their time with them.

We look forward to seeing the kids again!



Left: Danny getting some love from Kato.



Right: Jay mopping in the cat area while one curious cat looks on.

Below right: House-parent Tim Sams brings a smile to Trooper's face.

Below middle: House-parent Jess Sams plays with Gypsy while daughter Lilya checks out the doggie door.



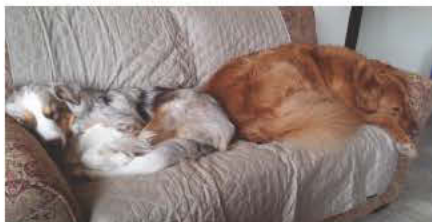
Below left: Nysean and Trenton cleaning pet porters.



Pup Dates

Athena (now Holly):

Update #1: She is doing very well and we will continue to give her all the time she needs to adjust. She is a sweetheart and she is getting lots of love and attention along with learning basic rules."



Update #2: Holly is doing really well. I am working with Dr. Howard and Dr. Tedrow to find the right medications for her anxiety, but other than loud noises bothering her, she has settled in and is very well loved by the whole family! She is a sweetheart and I will continue to do whatever I can to give her a happy life. Feel free to stop by and see her anytime!

Camille:

"Camille is doing fine. She doesn't flip out any more but startles easy. She feels pretty well at home but is still cautious. Still can't break her of constantly eating. She will sneak if she thinks you are not watching. Her and Benny are getting along great."

Bass:

"Cherree and I bumped into Bass's adopters today at Running's. They showed us a picture they took just today of him and his lab-brother laying in the sun in their living room. They seem to be doting on Bass and taking care of his weight issues. He's walking a couple miles a day and said he's gained more muscle tone in his hind-quarters and gets up and down with ease. He's in a good and loving home."



Above: Baker with his two-legged brother and sister over Christmas.

Cody:

"Cody is doing very well in his new home.

He had an exciting first week when an unexpected trip to Sioux Falls came up. A death in the family provided them with the chance to introduce Cody to lots of family and friends.

He gets along great with all the kids and eats like there's no tomorrow. They said it's as if he belongs with them.

He loves to play ball and they are teaching him not to bark when he drops the ball."



Above: The KCCR Farm and Home show was again a great opportunity to showcase our dogs. Here's Charlee, a 2-1/2 month old Weimaraner mix, taking a snooze after a busy day of meeting people. We also made more than \$300 in donations that will help with everyday expenses such as food and vaccines.

Donate on Our Web Site

People can now donate through our website at pets4adoption.org, using their debit card, credit card, bank account or PayPal. Just click on the Donate



Above: Mr. Peabody found his own little hammock in the storage room where kitty food, litter and cleaning supplies are kept.

iGIVE

Join in helping Pierre-Fort Pierre Area Humane Society. If you join iGive and shop once before March 31, your cause will earn a \$5 Bonus! Plus, by visiting stores (up to 10 a day) you earn entries for your cause to win some amazing prizes.

To read details about the Surf into Spring contest, use this link: <http://www.igive.com/surfspring>

iGive is a free service where shopping at any of 1,566 stores like Amazon, Travelocity, Overstock and many more, means a donation to your favorite cause. To learn more or sign up now, use this link: <http://www.igive.com/lsro2o>



Memorials and Honors

January

Alan and Yvette Thomas in memory of LaVonne Briggs.

The following made donations in memory of Lavonne Briggs: Don Sandal, Dona Mae and Jeff Johnson, Lawrence and Charlotte Lesmeister, Bonny and David Merxbauer, Donna Davis, Jim and Carmen Keyes, Brad and Dawn Stover, Brenda Donelan and Larry and Patty Donelan.

Donations made by Mary Keeler, Duane and Karen Boyer and Deb Gregg in memory of LaVonne Briggs.

A donation by Jerry and Erika Lindberg in memory of Sandy Swanson.

Donations by a number of people in memory of Brianne Bechtold.

A donation was made by Pierre Barnes in memory of Jill Krogstad.

Numerous donations made in memory of Jessie Elder.

Donation from Robert Polasky in memory of his mother, Mary Ann Polasky.

March

Donation in memory of Delbert Jones from Bob and Gloria Bartlett.

Six Signs Your Cat is Bored

When we're bored, we mindlessly snack on bad carbs or shop for shoes online, but what does your cat do? You may believe Fluffy is never bored, thanks to approximately 47,253 toys, three plush cat beds and top-quality snacks. But cats can experience boredom and sometimes express it in unappreciated ways that do not involve playing Candy Crush (shredded drapes, anyone?).

Marilyn Krieger, certified cat behavior consultant and founder of The Cat Coach, LLC (www.thecatcoach.com), described some of the warning signs of boredom that cat parents should be aware of. "Typically, cats who do not have enough mental or physical stimulation become bored. They may be left alone for hours without other people or animals to interact with," she says "Bored kitties live in a boring environment – they do not have toys to play with, objects to climb or other mental stimulation."

Signs of Boredom in Cats

- 1. Over grooming or other repetitive behaviors.** Cats may repeatedly lick themselves, pull out their fur or chew/bite at their skin, resulting in irritation that prompts them to continue this frustrating behavior.
- 2. Chasing or fighting with other household animals.** Running after the other cats in the household, trying to corner the dog (even if he's 10 pounds heavier!) or stalking the guinea pig are all signs that suggest your cat needs other stimulation. "Although there are many other reasons for this behavior," says Krieger, "bored cats sometimes will annoy and chase other pets."
- 3. Inactivity.** Cats spend an average of 15 hours each day napping, so it's not uncommon for pet parents to catch their cats resting. But if your cat's natural curiosity isn't kicking in, it could be a sign of boredom. "Although cats normally spend a great deal of their day napping, they do have times of activity, when they climb and play," says Krieger. "Some cats who have no or little stimulation will become couch potatoes." If your cat is only moving from the couch to the food bowl, you could have a bored feline on your hands.
- 4. Your cat is moping around the house.** If your cat seems glum or uninterested in things, even food, it could be a sign that he isn't getting enough activity or mental stimulation. However, if this behavior continues even after you make positive changes to your cat's environment to increase activity, make sure to see a veterinarian.
- 5. Creating their own version of stimulation.** "Bored cats sometimes create their own entertainment – such as playing with toilet paper rolls, climbing the curtains or engaging in other unappreciated behaviors," Krieger says. Cats looking for trouble usually find it, especially if it's a costly new comforter on your bed.
- 6. Overeating.** Bored cats are in synch with bored humans on this score. They'll eat and eat, not to appease hunger but for something to do. And the overeating results in obesity, which further depresses a cat.

While all these signs may be symptoms of boredom, explains Krieger, they may also be indicative of medical or behavior problems. She reminds cat parents that any possible medical causes should be looked into so health problems can be ruled out. "Cats exhibiting changes in behavior should be thoroughly examined by veterinarians," she says.

Battling Boredom in Cats

Once you and your vet have confirmed that your bored cat has no health issues masquerading as boredom, let the battle against bored cat syndrome begin! Krieger says that cat parents "need to enhance the cat's environment with interactive toys the cats enjoy, plenty of high places for the cats to climb, scratching posts and horizontal scratchers." She recommends placing tall cat trees or condos next to secure windows to help entertain cats with what's happening in the neighborhood.

The biggest key to success is quality time with your cats, explains Krieger. "Playing, treasure hunts and clicker training" are all great options, she says.

With boredom banished, your couch-potato cat will thank you with bright-eyed interest and an eager energy that says, "Who has time to be bored? Let's play!"



Let's Cats-Up

Bilbo and Frodo (now Priscilla and Jeff):

I wanted to send a quick email for Molly. She helped us adopt Bilbo and Frodo last July, now Priscilla and Jeff. They are doing fantastic! You would have no idea what a rough start they got. They are playful and growing to be big healthy kitty's. We still have to give them medicine everyday but other than that they are like normal kittens, no other medical issues have arose. They are part of the family and can often be found snuggling with each other while there big brother, Beagle dog Abner lays close by. They accompany us when we visit my sister in Belle Fourche and my parents in Wall. They travel really well in the car. Enjoy the pictures and thank you so much for these two little bundles of joy!! Sorry for picture overload, I couldn't pick just one!



Rooster:

Rooster will be going to his new home on Friday. As much as we may believe that we are in control, I honestly believe that many times cats choose their owners and last night proved it. A young couple were looking for a cat to adopt. I told them to just go in and look around. Rooster went up to the gentleman and stretched up to him. He picked Rooster up and that was the end of it. Rooster slept in his arms for the longest time and whenever he was put down he would follow them around. When they left, Rooster stood at the window watching them. I think Rooster knew exactly what he was doing!! I've attached a photo showing how content and happy Rooster was.



Johnny (now Buddy):

I talked to Johnny's new owner this weekend and they absolutely love him!!! He has become everyone's buddy so they have now named him Buddy. She said they couldn't have asked for a nicer cat. She said he is so loving and sleeps with them at night (which is exactly what she wanted). She kept saying "we love him so much!!" They are going to be taking him for rides in the car a little at a time as when they travel to Minneapolis, they want to take him with them.



Upcoming Events

April 11
Zonta at the Pierre Mall
Pottery to Paint ends
National Pet Day

April 16
Perkins Fundraiser

May 2
Anytime Fitness Color Run

May 11
Fiesta Supper at the
Legion Cabin

Watch for more information
to come on these events

KEEP THOSE RECEIPTS!

Paws Animal Rescue is asking for your Dakotamart receipts. With every \$10,000 we turn in, Dakotamart donates \$100 to the rescue. Your receipts can be dropped off at the shelter during open hours or please feel free to mail them in. This is an ongoing fundraiser so please keep them coming! Thank you for your support and stay warm.

Lumps and Bumps on Dogs

THERE ARE VERY FEW SURPRISES THAT WILL STARTLE YOU MORE than discovering a lump or bump on your dog. As your hand wanders over your canine pal in affectionate scratching or petting, your fingers just may chance upon a lump that “was not there before.”

It will scare the biscuits out of you ... GUARANTEED! With that nagging “C” word drifting about the back of your mind, your first fear is that your dog might have cancer. Setting in motion your search for an answer as to what this lump is you make a quick trip to the I hope that lump isn’t serious.

“How long has this been here?” the veterinarian asks. “Just found it yesterday, doctor,” you respond.

“Let’s see if we can find any others,” says the doctor as experienced and sensitive hands work the dog over. Sure enough, “Here’s another one just like it!” says the doctor as she places your hand right over the small, round, moveable soft mass under the skin of the dog’s flank.

“I think these are what we call Lipomas, just fat deposits under the skin. They are very common and usually present no problems,” says the doctor. Your relief at hearing the good news is cut short as the doctor continues ...

“However, we honestly do not know what these lumps truly are unless we examine some cells under the microscope. So I’d suggest that we do a simple needle biopsy, place some cells on a slide and send the slides to a veterinary pathologist for a definite diagnosis.”

The doctor in this case is being thorough and careful. How true it is that a definitive diagnosis of “what it is” simply cannot be made without microscopic examination of the lump’s cells. A veterinary specialist in pathology is the final authority and judge when it comes to shedding light on these lumps and bumps that we too often find on our canine pals.

The lipoma is one of the most commonly encountered lumps seen by veterinarians during a physical exam. These soft, rounded, non-painful masses, usually present just under the skin but occasionally arising from connective tissues deep between muscles, are generally benign. That is, they stay in one place, do not invade surrounding tissues and do no metastasize to other areas of the body. They grow to a certain size and just sit there in the tissues and behave themselves.

Most lipomas do not have to be removed. Occasionally, though, lipomas will continue to grow into huge fat deposits that are a discomfort to the dog and present a surgical challenge to remove. And even more rarely, some lipomas will be malignant and spread throughout the dog’s body.

Is it a tumor?

And therein lies the true challenge in dealing with lumps and bumps on dogs -- we simply cannot predict with 100% accu-

racy just what any of these foreigners will do. So we do the best we can by removing them when indicated or keeping a close guard over them so that at the first sign of change they can be removed.

Not every lump or bump on your dog will be a tumor. Some superficial bumps are due simply to plugged oil glands in the skin, called sebaceous cysts. Skin cysts can be composed of dead cells or even sweat or clear fluid; these often rupture on their own, heal, and are never seen again. Others become chronically irritated or infected, and should be removed and then checked by a pathologist just to be sure of what they are. Some breeds, especially the Cocker Spaniel, are prone to developing sebaceous cysts.

And yes, the sebaceous glands in the skin do occasionally develop into tumors called sebaceous adenomas. According to Richard Dubielzig, DVM, of the University of Wisconsin, School of Veterinary Medicine,

“Probably the most commonly biopsied lump from dog skin is a sebaceous adenoma. This does not mean it is the most commonly occurring growth, just that it is most commonly biopsied.” Fortunately this type of skin growth rarely presents trouble after being surgically removed.

So how are you to know which lumps and bumps are dangerous and which can be left alone? Truthfully, you are really only guessing without getting the pathologist involved. Most veterinarians take a conservative approach to the common lipomas and remove them if they are growing rapidly or are located in a sensitive area.

However, caution needs to be observed because even the common lipoma has an invasive form called an infiltrative lipoma. For example, when a nasty looking, reddened, rapidly growing mass is detected growing on the gum aggressive action is indicated. Also, keep in mind that not all lumps and bumps are cancerous, and some are fairly innocent and do not warrant immediate surgery.

Types of Lumps and Bumps

Non-cancerous lumps

Cysts, warts, infected hair follicles, hematomas (blood blisters) and others do cause concern and can create discomfort for the dog, though non-



cancerous lumps have less health impact than cancerous growths.

Cancerous lumps

Cancerous growths can be either malignant or benign, and occasionally even share characteristics of both. Malignant lumps tend to spread rapidly and can metastasize to other areas of the body. Benign growths tend to stay in the place of origin and do not metastasize; however they can grow to huge proportions.

Mammary gland tumors, mast cell tumors, cutaneous lymphosarcoma, malignant melanoma, fibrosarcoma and many other types of tumors with truly scary names command respect and diligent attention on the part of dog owners and veterinarians.

Diagnosis

Below are the most common methods of finding out “what it is” ...

Impression Smears

Some ulcerated masses lend themselves to easy cell collection and identification by having a glass microscope slide pressed against the raw surface of the mass. The collected cells are dried and sent to a pathologist for staining and diagnosis. Sometimes the attending veterinarian will be able to make a diagnosis via the smear; otherwise, a specialist in veterinary pathology will be the authority regarding tumor type and stage of malignancy.

Needle Biopsy

Many lumps can be analyzed via a needle biopsy rather than by total excision. A needle biopsy is performed by inserting a sterile needle into the lump, pulling back on the plunger, and “vacuuming” in cells from the lump. The collected cells are smeared onto a glass slide for pathological examination. Usually the patient isn’t even aware of the procedure. Total excision of the mass is attempted if the class of tumor identified warrants surgery.

CT Scans

Superficial lumps and bumps do not require that CT Scans be done, so this procedure is usually reserved for internal organ

analysis. If a superficial malignant tumor is diagnosed, however, a CT Scan can be helpful in determining if metastasis to deeper areas of the body has occurred.

Radiography

As with CT Scans, X-ray evaluation is generally reserved for collecting evidence of internal masses. Most lipomas are superficial and reside under the skin or skeletal muscles. There are other lumps that can be palpated by the veterinarian via manual examination; however, the extent and origin of that mass will often be best revealed via CT Scanning.

Treatment

Since every type of cell in the body potentially could evolve into cancerous tissue, the types and ferocity of tumors that develop in the dog are numerous and highly varied. Each case needs to be evaluated on its own circumstances and variables. For example, should surgery be done on a 16-year-old dog with what appears to be a 3-inch wide lipoma? Maybe not. Should that same dog have a quarter inch wide, black, nodular mass removed from its lower gum. Probably should! That small growth may be a melanoma that could metastasize to other areas of the dog’s body.

Surgery

An important basic tool in eliminating a nuisance or dangerous lump is to surgically excise it.

Chemotherapy

Chemicals that are highly toxic to rapidly dividing cells make up an important mode of treatment for fast growing tumors. A combination of surgery and radiation/chemotherapy can help the veterinarian gain the upper hand in achieving a cure. Chemotherapy is often employed as an additional precautionary procedure after a mass has been “removed” via surgery.

Radiation

For invasive tumors that do not have well defined borders and for tumors that tend to spread rapidly, radiation therapy

can be a lifesaver. Available at most veterinary medical schools and some veterinary specialists in radiology, radiation therapy is appropriate for certain types of tumors. Radiation is often employed in addition to surgical excision.

Experimental

Emerging science such as gene therapy and immunotherapy hold promise for some amazing ways to combat tumors. The future looks promising for these new methods of dealing with tumors.

According to Dr. Dubielzig, the best approach to understanding what to do about a lump or bump on your dog is to be vigilant and treat each situation individually. “In cases where vigilance for tumors is part of the animal’s care, such as in animals where a malignant tumor has been removed and the veterinarian wishes to keep abreast of the stage of disease, then every lump should be submitted for histopathology,” Dubielzig said. “In other cases where the clinician is sure of a benign diagnosis such as lipoma or a wart-like skin mass then it might be understandable to use discretion. The clinician also has to take into consideration the risk of surgery compared to the risk of health problems from a particular lump or bump.”

Take a good surface inventory of your dog today, then at least once a month from now on. If you find any imperfections, take heart in knowing that modern veterinary medicine has some very effective remedies for almost all of these lumps and bumps.



PET+CARE

CHOKING AND CPR

A CHOKING PET

If your pet is choking, it is imperative you take immediate action to try and dislodge the object. You'll know your pet is choking because, like people, your pet will gag, retch, and cough to try and expel the object. If you suspect choking, you might not have time to make it to your veterinarian, so instead take action with these techniques.



First, open your pet's mouth and sweep from side to side to see if you can dislodge the object. Be careful not to get bitten or push the object further into the throat.



OPTION 1

To aid your pet's efforts of coughing up the object, first remove the collar. Try and lift your pet by the hind legs and hold him up vertically with the head facing down, like a wheelbarrow. This position may dislodge the object.



OPTION 2

Try the pet Heimlich maneuver. With your pet standing or lying down, place your arms around the waist. Close your fist and place it on the underside of the torso, where the ribs end just below the sternum. Compress the abdomen by pushing up with your fist 5 times, in rapid succession. Alternate with CPR if your pet is not breathing.



OPTION 3

As a final solution, try administering a "sharp blow" with the palm of your hand between your pet's shoulder blades. Then go back to repeating the abdominal compressions (Option 2).

Sweep the mouth again for the object. Once dislodged, seek veterinary help immediately.

CPR & CHEST COMPRESSIONS

Only perform CPR if your pet is not breathing! Do not attempt on a conscious animal. Always follow the ABC order (check **AIRWAY**, **BREATHING**, **CIRCULATION**) when performing CPR on your pet.

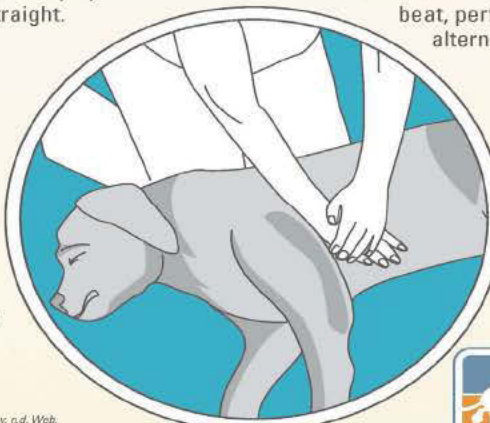
AIRWAY: Lay your pet on its side and open the airway by extending the head and neck, until the neck is straight.

BREATHING: Hold your pet's mouth shut and forcefully blow with your mouth over their nose — just enough to make your pet's chest rise.



Repeat four or five times, then check to see if your pet begins to breathe on their own. If your pet is not breathing, or breathing is shallow, continue assisted breathing for a maximum of 20 minutes.

CIRCULATION: If there is no pulse or heart beat, perform chest compressions and alternate with breathing.



Stand or kneel behind your pet with your arms extended, and your hands cupped, and place your palms over the point on the chest behind the elbow.

Compress the chest 1-3", keeping the elbows locked and arms straight.

Do 3-5 compressions to one breath. Alternate chest compressions with breaths and check for a pulse after each minute.



¹ Brown-Farris, Casey. "Pet First Aid and CPR." Go Dog Academy, n.d. Web. <http://www.godogusa.com/FirstAid.html>

For more information visit www.kurgo.com



go together

