



PAWPRINTS



CLAUDIA'S PLACE

Despite the mud we are getting settled into the shelter. Things are getting organized even if it doesn't seem to be at times.

Office staff is still needed so we can handle the work that we need to do each day. If you are interested in helping in this way please call the office.

We are not yet ready for animal residents but are working towards that goal. If you would like a tour of the building to see what we are doing now and will be doing in the future just drop in during the week from 10am to 3pm. We will be glad to show you around.

PET PROFILE

Annabelle is a beautiful black and tan Coon Hound who is 18 months old, vaccinated and spayed. She is good with other dogs and is affectionate. Obedience training would benefit her and her new family. In the meantime she is working on her leash training. This big girl is gentle and is anxiously waiting for her new home.

DOGS and CATS and BIRDS Oh My!!

Hazel is still residing with us and looking for that perfect home for her.

Rufus is a Cairn Terrier who arrived in late January and is looking for his new home, too.

Ushi is a Border Collie/Chow who is about 5 years old. He is very active and loves to play and run.

Zeus is a 3 year old Chocolate Lab. He needs a patient home to learn to enjoy life again.

Misty is an older calico cat who is spayed. She needs a loving family and a warm lap of her own.

Bibi is a black and white cat who is about 1 year old. She loves to "talk" to you and cuddle with you.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Bake Sale just in time for Valentine's Day will be at Overwaitea on February 12th and 13th.

Concert Concessions will be on February 28th and on March 6th

If you are able to help with baking or tending tables please contact the office.

DOLLARS AND SENSE

We are having a raffle!!

First prize is a beautiful log house dog house complete with insulation and even a porch! It can be viewed at North Star GM dealer.

Second prize is a lovely handmade afghan which can be seen at Kootenay Medical Supplies.

Third prize is a double pet dish stand and bowls also at Kootenay Medical Supplies.

Watch for tickets at Kootenay Medical Supplies, North Star, Black Bear Books and PAWS events.

PURRS and GRRRS

Purrs to all the wonderful people who have come forward to help move our office from Northwest Boulevard to Lower Wynndel Road.

Grrrs to the people who leave their dogs out on chains in all kinds of weather even though these pets are supposedly part of the family.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS

Happy Birthday to Ted Heynen who is busy holidaying in Arizona!!

PET POINTS

Sports and Such

You can't take your dog to most ski resorts, but there are quite a few people winter sports that your pooch will love. Cross-country skiing and snow shoeing are two such activities, provided you do them in an area where dogs are permitted off leash. It's very awkward for you, and unsafe for your dog, to ski while leashed to your dog. Snow shoeing on leash is a little bit easier, but much more fun for both of you if you're both unencumbered.

Keep in mind that if your dog's a novice to the sports, you'll need to spend some time familiarizing him with the equipment. A human being on cross country skis looks like a very strange creature to most dogs - and those two sticks he keeps on swinging about, they're just asking to be chewed.

Indoor Pursuits

There will be days when neither of you want to venture outside - especially if your pooch is shorthaired and short-legged. Before you curl up by the fireplace or in front of the television, consider playing an indoor game with your dog. While you can't throw snowballs or build snow forts or labyrinths in your living room, you can construct an obstacle course, you can play hide and seek (this time, it's safe for the dog to be the hider), and you can play many of your dog's other favorite games, including fetch, catch and tug of war. If you have hardwood floors, you can even slide.

Two things to keep in mind as you romp around the house. First, be considerate of your neighbors, especially if you live on top of someone. Second, remember that whatever behavior you permit as part of a game has now been allowed in the house. In other words, if you don't want Nellie to slide on the parquet or crawl under chairs whenever she feels like, you probably shouldn't teach her to do so during a game.

Safety First

Indoors or outdoors, when you play, remember to keep yourself and your canine companion safe. You don't have to worry about heat stroke in the winter months but dehydration can be a problem even in the coldest conditions. If you're out for a long period of time, make sure you make time for a drink break (I prefer not to let my dog eat snow, and carry tepid water in a thermos). And remember that having fur doesn't mean you don't feel cold. Dress up your pooch in really cold weather, and don't be out too long when the weather is particularly harsh.

Take care of your dog's feet, too. During walks, check paws for icicles and balls or hard snow. They make walking very difficult. If you live in a city where roads and sidewalks are salted, you may want to consider getting some dog booties or rubbing your dog's paws with petroleum jelly before going out, and washing the salt off when you get home. Salt can dry and crack paw pads.

- Greyhounds are so fast they can reach speeds up to 45 mph for short amounts of time.

DID YOU KNOW?

CARTROPHEN[®] is an injectable medication used for managing osteoarthritis in dogs. Though available for over 10 years, it's only recently come into the spotlight because a head-to-head evaluation showed it to be as effective as the popular medication Rimadyl[®].

Administered as an injection once weekly for four weeks, Cartrophen improves joint health in several ways: it reduces inflammation and in addition to inhibiting enzymes that degrade cartilage, it nourishes the cartilage and increases the synthesis of new cartilage.

Dogs do not show improvement as quickly as they do with non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs). Cartrophen takes time to reduce inflammation, and therefore pain, but its effects last longer than prescription painkillers, which need to be given daily. About 80 per cent of arthritic dogs receiving Cartrophen show an increase in spontaneous activity, mobility and weight-bearing, and a significant decrease in pain and discomfort. Dogs that do not respond may have significant joint instability (hip-dysplasia or a ruptured cruciate ligament), nerve damage, or such severe arthritic change that mobility is restricted.

The main advantage of Cartrophen is that it has few side effects compared to NSAIDs. The most widely used NSAIDs include Rimadyl, Deramaxx[®] and Metacam[®]; their potential negative effects include gastrointestinal ulceration and liver damage. In contrast, Cartrophen causes minor adverse reactions. Transient increases in bleeding times have been reported in dogs given Cartrophen at three times the recommended dose. Five times the dose given daily caused depression and appetite reduction, which resolved after the medication was discontinued.

Cartrophen should not be used in dogs with clotting defects, abdominal cancer or low platelet numbers (thrombocytopenia). The effects of this medication on fertility and reproduction have not been studied.

In the study comparing the effects of Cartrophen and Rimadyl (carprofen) on arthritic dogs, each medication was given for four weeks as directed (weekly injections for Cartrophen and daily oral tablets for Rimadyl). After four weeks, there was little difference between the two treatment groups; all dogs in the trial showed a significant improvement. At eight weeks, the dogs given Cartrophen were significantly better than the Rimadyl-treated dogs. Of course, treatment with Rimadyl is not normally stopped after four weeks, so the study didn't reveal the full benefits of an NSAID used long-term. The research did, however, show that Cartrophen had a positive effect on arthritic dogs well after the injections had been stopped.

When using Cartrophen, the full course of treatment must be finished to ensure the longest response possible. In most dogs, the beneficial effects last approximately three months. Single injections can then be administered, as needed, to maintain the effect.

Jeff Grognet, D.V.M., B.Sc. (Agr.)

HEALTH HINTS

Human Medications - For several years, human medications have been number one on the list of common hazards. These include prescription and over-the-counter drugs, such as painkillers, cold medications, antidepressants and dietary supplements. Pets often snatch pill vials from counters and nightstands or gobble up medications accidentally dropped on the floor, so it's essential to keep meds tucked away in hard-to-reach cabinets.

Veterinary Medications - Even though veterinary medications are intended for pets, they're often misapplied or improperly dispensed by well-meaning pet parents. Animal-related preparations such as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, heartworm preventatives, de-wormers, antibiotics, vaccines and nutritional supplements can be dangerous and perhaps fatal.

TRIVIA and TIDBITS

THE SPORTING BREEDS

Heads up, for those hopped-up humans who are up and doing – the perfect pals for any driven dog!

1. **The Adida** – He’s big into brand names, he’s a bankable sprinting star and proud as punch. The trick with this boisterous breed? Keeping up with the pounding pace they set.
2. **The Pom-pomeranian** – “Gimme a P, Gimme an O!” What’s a team without its cheerleading squad? This eager little breed will back you up whatever your goal.
3. **The German Short-tempered Punter** – Athletes, of course, are famously fractious. None more so than these sleek but sulky souls, who push their canine companions as hard as they push themselves.
4. **The Whiner-yammer** – Similar in style to the German Punter, the Whiner-yammer is distinctive in blaming fate, teammates and other factors for personal shortcomings on the playing field of life.
5. **The 100-Yard Dash-hound** – Self-explanatory. Now you see this short-legged streak, now you don’t.
6. **The Nova Scotia Duck-pin Bowling Retriever** – This good ol’ boy with an anchor tattoo and a deck of Export A’s tucked under his T-shirt sleeve can be found setting up the pins so that other, more energetic athletes can play.
7. **The Damnably Dim-bulb Terror** – Eh, what? You know the type: Rides to the hounds, red-faced and overly tally-ho, but competes mainly to be first to sip from the stirrup-cup when the hunt is over.

So, canine confreres, there you have it – a comprehensive compendium of human breeds to choose from, as your life companions.

Pick wisely, because if you do manage to find the absolutely appropriate humanoid – simple as these creatures may be – you’ll find they stand up surprisingly well as long-term friends, almost uncannily able to adapt to the doggie demands you make of them.

By Erika Ritter

- *Laikia was the world's first ever canine astronaut. She was sent into space in an artificial earth satellite, Sputnik 2, by the Russian government in 1957.*

TAIL END

Important Links:

Creston Vet Hospital – 428-9494

Cranbrook SPCA – 250-426-6751

Nelson 2nd Chance – 250-352-2228

PAWS office – 428-7297

Trail SPCA – 250-368-5910

Animal Control (Town of Creston only) – 428-2214

If you are interested in adopting a new companion, need to re-home one or have found a pet or lost one – please check out our ***Weekly Wag and Meow Mart*** which is posted at the Vet Clinic, Sunset Seed and Lil’ Mutt Grooming. Or check with PAWS - 1420 Northwest Boulevard - or check our website.

Everyone is invited to participate in PAWS events, projects, meetings and fund raisers. If you are interested in volunteering, fostering or becoming a member please contact us.

CRESTON PET ADOPTION & WELFARE SOCIETY

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