



**September / October 2007**

## **Newsletter**

### **Trick or Treat!!!**

**We all know that candy is not good for our pets (especially chocolate and sugarless gum containing "xylitol" – these are highly toxic), but we may not think about some of the other things that can be harmful to our pets. Even though some fruits and vegetables are great for our animal companions, the ones to avoid are: grapes/raisins, onions, tomatoes and avocados (also best to avoid nuts of all types). For those dogs who love to "dumpster dive" - guardians beware of what you throw in your trash. Seeds from fruits can be toxic.**



**When your kids are finished with their caramel apples, don't let the dog get a hold of the core. Onion skins, tea bags and coffee grounds are also bad choices for those trash thieving pooches.**



**One of our autumn favorites can be of benefit to our animal companions. Pumpkin (canned pure pumpkin – NOT pie filling), is a good item to use for short term weight loss. You may add a teaspoon (for small animals) or tablespoon (for large animals) to their kibble, but the key is to cut back on the amount of kibble when adding the pumpkin. Add pumpkin for 4-5 days then stop and slowly increase the kibble to an appropriate amount for their size. Pumpkin may be used for constipation or diarrhea, but check with your veterinarian if your pet is experiencing these symptoms because there may be something more serious that you need to identify.**

### **How to be proactive in your pet's health care?**

**It is helpful to get to know your pet through observation and touch (mindful touching/stroking of your cat or dog). You learn a lot by doing this slow stroking (or TTouch if you know the techniques), down the body and limbs, especially if you do this at least weekly. You will be able to find warm or cool spots, areas that are sensitive to touch, changes in the texture of fur, and any lumps, cuts, hot spots, etc., not to mention cockleburs or ticks. It is also helpful to observe your animal companion's movement. You can do this by spending a few minutes walking around in your house or yard watching their gate to see if they appear balanced when they walk or run (or if they put more weight on one side, if they limp, etc.). When you take the time to get to know your pet's body, then you will be more knowledgeable at the vet's office for their next check-up or if you have an emergency situation. When you take your dog in for an annual exam and your vet asks you, "how long has Scruffy had this lump on his hind leg?", you will be able to say, "for about 3 weeks." Then if you need to keep an eye on it you will be able to report back to your vet in 6 months that it hasn't gotten any bigger. Getting to know your animal family member can be useful in an emergency situation as well. You will be asked several questions and it is good to know whether or not she typically drinks a lot of water, whether or not she has always favored one leg (maybe due to a birth defect), etc. These are things that help a vet diagnose a problem. If you do encounter an emergency situation, don't panic. You will be able to**

**take better care of your pet if you stay calm. Becoming familiar with emergency procedures can save your pet's life. Pet CPR classes are available (see below).**

## **Feature Companion for this issue: Bella**



**Bella is a very sweet miniature Schnoodle. Last year, in one of her efforts to greet some folks passing by, she was hit by a car. Able to get up and run back to her hysterical "mom", she was then rushed to the vet. Through TTouch, Bella and her mom were both able to stay calm. TTouch helps calm both the giver and the receiver. There have been several cases where TTouch (ear slides) kept an animal from going into shock on the way to the vet. Hurray to Bella's mom for remembering TTouch and many blessings to a long and healthy relationship.**

## **Emergency Vet References:**

**North: Animal Emergency Center, 8141 N. Oak Trfwy, KCMO, (816) 455-5430**

**Midtown: Mission Med Vet, 5914 Johnson Dr., Mission KS, (913) 722-5566**

**South: VSEC, 11950 W. 110<sup>th</sup> St., OvPk KS, (913) 642-9563**

**East: Animal Emergency & Referral Hospital, Lee's Summit, MO (816) 554-4990**

## **Just for Fun (Tip & Quote of the Month):**



When training your dog (or cat), you need to be consistent when reinforcing a cue, otherwise you will get inconsistent behavior. Learn to "be predictable".

Dear GOD – Re: Complaints about barking We dogs can understand human verbal instructions, hand signals, whistles, horns, clickers, beepers, scent IDs, electromagnetic energy fields, and Frisbee flight paths. What do humans understand? I rest my case – Rags [Pets' Letters to God – Mark Bricklin]

## **Upcoming Events for N2paws & other fun stuff**

**Aug 25 – Oct 6 - Doga Class, Saturdays 10–11am, Mission KS**

**Sep 22 – Barkery & Bath, Olathe Grand Opening**

**Sep 22 – Pete & Macs Client Appreciation Day**

**Sep 22 – Paws in the Park (Parkville)**

**Sep 29 – Strutt w/your Mutt, Brookside MO**

**Oct 21 – Dogtoberfest, Lake Jacomo/Fleming Park MO**

**Oct 28 – Pet CPR offered by Peg's Pet Care (Gladstone) 816-420-9806**

**Nov 18 – TTouch for Dogs workshop (Gladstone)**



**If you would like to learn more about TTouch, you may contact N2paws by email: [pat@n2paws.com](mailto:pat@n2paws.com) or 816-522-7005, for a private session, group workshop or a public speaking engagement for your club or organization. Also, visit our website [www.n2paws.com](http://www.n2paws.com), for interesting links and current workshop schedule.**

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