



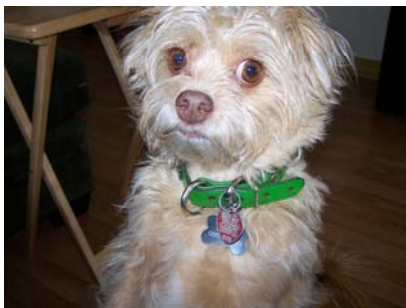
The Straight Hoop

Written & Edited by Luc Bergeron & Jennifer Cohen

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The Latest Scoop

Open House 2009

Mark your calendars! As we've mentioned in the last newsletter, we're going to be having our 2nd annual open house on Sunday, June 14th. This will be your opportunity to stop by and get an inside look at Kamp K9. We will offer visitors a tour of the facility, snacks, giveaways, and good conversation! If you haven't had a chance to



go through the place yet, this is your chance to see the rooms and spaces you usually don't get to see (including our home, as sometimes our guests end up staying in the living quarters with us).

Last year we had roughly 30 people come through, and even though the event was cut short due to mid-afternoon rains, we think it was quite successful. We hope to see you all there!!

More Crushed Stone on the Way!

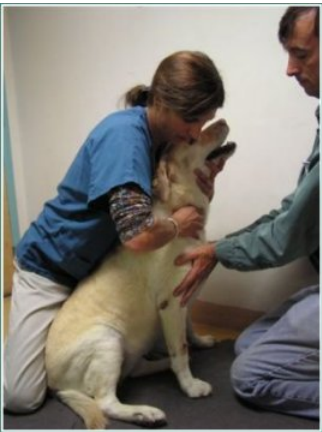
At the end of last summer, we had several yards of crushed stone delivered and spread over the middle section of our play yards. It's on a hill that used to have grass until dog foot traffic came along, which was followed by erosion, which did further damage to the ground. Whenever rains or spring thaw came, a little bit of the hill would simply get washed away, and it would get muddy and soft, making it difficult to get up and down, and of course dogs would get really dirty from it. Once the stone was put in, the erosion was abated and the dirt factor went away...at least, for that section of yard.

It was so successful that we've been dreaming of getting the rest of the West End covered in stone as well. (The "West End" is the part of the yard by the office and parking area.) We're now in the process of trying to get that work scheduled... hopefully, it'll happen before the open house occurs, but in any case, once it gets done, your dogs will go home a lot cleaner, even when it rains.

Random Thought:

Lord, please help me to be the person my dog thinks I am.

“Hippocrates used spinal manipulation, and chiropractors quote his maxim ‘Look well to the spine for the cause of disease.’”



Above & below:

Manipulations are used to bring misaligned bones and joints back into place.



Info Feature: Chiropractic Care for Pets

I see my chiropractor once in a while for maintenance work. People who have a physical job are at risk for things getting out of alignment in their spine, and joints, and scar tissue, inflammation, and by-product build-up in the muscles. Getting an adjustment from my good pal Dr. Garry Bracken at the Sports Therapy Center relieves my aches and pains, and helps keep me at a higher level of functionality. (He also saved my drumming career from ruin by tendonitis a few years ago.) The day this article was conceived, I had gone for a visit to his office, and it made me think about what I've heard regarding the use of chiropractic care on animals.

Spinal manipulation has been practiced on humans for centuries in many cultures. The Chinese were practicing spinal manipulation as early as 2700 BCE. Hippocrates himself used spinal manipulation, and his maxim “Look well to the spine for the cause of disease” is often quoted by chiropractors. The earliest English text on “bonesetting,” an early form of chiropractic, was published in 1656 (Wardwell, 1992).

Although chiropractic is one of the most frequently used forms of alternative therapy for humans in the United States, the application to animals has been haphazard and sporadic. The use of chiropractic on animals was attempted as a curiosity by early chiropractors. The developer of chiropractic, B.J. Palmer, claimed to have run a veterinary clinic as part of his chiropractic school and research facility. He made the following observation: “In the early days of chiropractic we maintained a veterinarian [sic] hospital where we adjusted the vertebral subluxations of sick cows, horses, cats, and dogs, etc. We did this to prove to ourselves that the chiropractic principle and practice did apply.” (Palmer, 1944). More veterinarians are starting to take advantage of this type of treatment, either themselves, or with someone who performs it in their practices.

Subluxations, or misalignments of bones and vertebrae, can cause a variety of symptoms, from very mild to very severe. The most common is pain. Your pets can't tell you that they're having pain with words, but their body language can speak volumes. For example, dogs in pain will compensate in gait or posture, and often refuse to perform certain tasks. The following is a list of symptoms that MAY indicate pain from the presence of a subluxation:

- Puppy sitting out of thin air for no reason, or sitting with the rear legs out to one side
- Discomfort when putting on or taking off collars and harnesses
- Abnormal posture when standing
- Evasive maneuvers, such as dipping the head or hollowing back
- Wringing or tucking tail
- Unwillingness or outright refusal to go over jumps
- Change in behavior patterns; fear biting
- Sensitivity to touch
- Facial expression of apprehension or pain
- Changes in coordination

Here's an amazing statistic: According to veterinary research, evidence compiled since 1985 shows dogs and cats treated consistently with chiropractic live 28.5% longer on average and with less disease. Can you imagine? Not only might your pet live longer but the quality of life they'll have is likely to be better. I like those numbers.

Kamper Profile: Dooley Bergeron

Editor's note: Dooley, Kamp K9's oldest Junior Kounselor, passed away on April 10.



What a funny little character! Dooley was either a Toy Poodle mix, or perhaps was from one of those strains of European Toy Poodles who were bred a little on the long side; it's not known for sure. In any case, he was mostly a calm little dog, but given to bursts of energy, during which he would rocket back and forth from one end of the house to another. His favorite activity, though, was simply relaxing, particularly in the arms of Luc, Jen, or Justin. He thought nothing of being carried about like a human baby; it afforded him the chance to lie on his back, with his head turning about every now and then to see the goings-on below. (If you had him curled up under your sweat jacket with just his head poking out of the neck, it was so much the better.)

He was very tolerant of guests in his house (a frequent thing). Sometimes youngsters or energetic dogs would get on his nerves, in which case he'd just go back to sleep in some quiet corner. He really enjoyed it when he was able to sleep up in bed with mom & dad, although sometimes in his early morning fog, he'd forget how high the bed was and would jump down, resulting in many face-plants. Keeping him separated from us at meal time required us to be in a different room, with him and our other dogs cut off by a baby gate or behind closed doors, which almost always resulted in angry, high-pitched protests from him.

As time went on, his body began to betray him, as it eventually does with all of us. When it got to the point where only strong pain medication made life agreeable for him, the decision was made to free him of his hurts, which happened peacefully at home on April 10th. He was laid to rest in a small garden plot in front of the house next to Willie. We miss his sweet little face very much, and miss being able to sweep him up in our arms and carry him around. How lucky we were to have that silly guy in our lives.

Rest in peace, little man.



Dooley was one little man who knew how to relax.

Kamp K9's Mission:

To provide pets with a safe, fun, comfortable and active haven for boarding, day care, & grooming, with the comforts of home, and without the stress of confinement.

Kamp K9

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pets are treated
like family!*

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On the Web at

www.mykampk9.com

Photo of the Month



Something tells me that Rosie doesn't quite get the point.

That's all for now.

Thanks again as always for your support!

