



TATTLE TAILS

MAGRANE PET MEDICAL CENTER / (574) 259-5291 / SUMMER 2014

SAVING LUKE'S EYE



In early May, the owner of Luke (an adorable French Bulldog) noticed that Luke's right eye appeared red, cloudy, and swollen. A visit to Luke's regular veterinarian resulted in the following notation: "Right eye - Sclera inflamed, corneal edema, globe looks distended – Diagnosis Glaucoma." Luke's doctor at Clayview Animal Clinic prescribed two kinds of drops for Luke's eyes and referred Luke to Magrane Pet Medical Center's Dr. Kathleen Neuhoff, who has special expertise in eye problems.

Magrane Pet Medical Center has some diagnostic and treatment options for glaucoma such as Ultrasound of the eyes, Retinography, and Laser surgery. These are not available from any other veterinary office in Michiana.

Because Luke's owner had been advised that Luke had a 50/50 chance of losing his eye, he brought the Frenchie to Magrane right away. Dr. Neuhoff did a tonometry test to check the eye pressure, as well as a

Retinogram to determine whether the retina was functioning. Dr. Neuhoff asked Dr. Doversberger to perform an immediate Ultrasound of the dog's eye. These tests revealed that Luke had a luxated (displaced) lens. His eyesight was already damaged, and the remaining vision was at risk. The eye was very painful.

According to Dr. Neuhoff, no treatment at all could eventually leave Luke with a painful blind eye. The most common treatment for this condition is surgical removal of the lens, which she has done at Magrane. But, after consulting with an ophthalmologist at Michigan State University, she offered Luke's owner another option.

Dr. Neuhoff explained that she could try, using sedation, to reposition the lens in Luke's eye. Dr. Neuhoff told the owner that she had never done this procedure before. If this attempt failed, she advised the owner that Luke should go to Michigan State University for another attempt to replace the lens and possible extraction. But if her attempt succeeded, it would be less damaging to the eye than lens removal, and less costly. Luke's owner asked her to proceed with the attempt to reposition the lens.

Minutes later, Luke was sedated with dormitor ("doggie magic"), and placed in a dark room where his pupil was dilated. Dr. Neuhoff positioned his head to line up with the ultrasound image, and pushed the lens into place by manipulating the eyeball. She then applied a medication to shrink the pupil, holding the lens in place.

For more than a month, the lens in Luke's right eye has remained in place. With medications, the glaucoma is improving, meaning that the eye pressure has been managed so that no pain is present. Only the future can tell whether Luke's vision in that eye will be maintained.

Luke's owner is quite pleased with his dog's progress. He says he would recommend Dr. Neuhoff to other pet owners because of the treatment Luke received here. He respects the way she researched Luke's options, and used her contacts at Michigan State to determine the best course of action for Luke.

We think Luke is a very good patient!

Activate your FREE Pet Portal Today!

You've given your pets everything except their own personal websites.

MPMC is now providing FREE individual Pet Portals for your pets. These Portals will allow you to:

- Request and track appointments
- Check your pet's vaccination and exam status
- Order prescription refills
- Receive medication reminders
- Access answers to your pet health questions
- Receive important alerts

To activate your online access to manage your pet's health, please send an email to magrane@magranepmc.com with the following information:

Your name, Your email address, Pet's Name(s)

WHAT ABOUT LYME DISEASE ?

With the onset of summer, the topic of Lyme Disease (In North eastern America, *Borrelia burgdorferi*) pops up in various media. Lyme Disease is transmitted to both humans and to pets by ticks, notably the deer tick (*Ixodes scapularis*). If a Lyme infected tick is brought to humans on a pet, and then attaches to a human, the human can get Lyme disease. It takes about 48 hours for infection to occur after attachment of the tick to the pet or to a human. If the tick is removed less than 48 hours after it attaches, no disease occurs.

Symptoms of Lyme disease, as well as incubation times, are different in humans and in pets. In humans, there is often (but not always) a rash and/or flu-like symptoms. In dogs, signs of Lyme disease (arthritis and sometimes fever) do not appear for weeks or months after infection from the tick. In both humans and pets, Lyme disease can be eliminated with antibiotics if treated early. Left untreated, Lyme disease can cause ongoing and serious damage to internal organs and joints.

After looking at all the available information including guidelines from AAHA infectious disease specialists, the veterinarians at Magrane have agreed on these recommendations for preventing Lyme disease in both you and your pets:

For humans, careful examination of the skin and scalp for ticks after exposure to wooded areas, with prompt removal of any ticks found is essential. Consult a human physician if any bulls-eye rashes appear on the skin.

For cats and dogs, use Tick Control medications. These are available in both topical and in oral forms, and are carried in house at Magrane Pet Medical Center as our main recommendation for your pet. After administering these medications for the first time, they become effective against ticks in about 48 hours, and remain effective for a month. It is best not to bathe your pet nor to allow it to become soaking wet for 48 hours before OR after administration of the topical forms of medication. Set a date of the month, and administer these medications to your pets year-round.

There is a vaccine for Lyme Disease, that Magrane Pet Medical Center can order for your dog upon special request after consultation with one of our DVMs. This vaccine is not one of Magrane's core vaccines, nor one that the American Animal Hospital Association, of which we are a member, recommends. The vaccine currently available is NOT highly protective, and using it can trigger symptoms of Lyme, including lameness. At Magrane, we avoid over-vaccinating, which can stress your pets' immune systems.

Our veterinarians work very hard to stay abreast of the latest information concerning parasites and diseases that may affect you and your pet. If you have any questions regarding these issues, do not hesitate to call or to email your questions to us!

DENTAL CLEANINGS SAVE LIVES

By Felicia Cochran
Surgical Nurse at Magrane

In the past, the most frequent recommendations for pet tooth care we at Magrane made were dental cleanings followed by home tooth brushing. Brushing is still our number one recommendation for home tooth care. We recommend making tooth brushing a pleasant experience for pets by calmly giving extra petting and praise, even offering treats when the procedure is done. However, the task of brushing their animals' teeth is overwhelming for many pet owners.

Today there are additional tools for pet owners to use. We now can offer a water additive that not only helps with joint care, but also decreases plaque development. There are oral gels and liquids that can be applied to the gums and teeth daily at bed time. And some veterinary diets as well as rawhide chews fight plaque and tartar build up on teeth. These are not intended as a substitute for tooth brushing, but they do help some pets.

Today, when you have a minute, lift up your pet's lip and look at the teeth beside the cheek. First look at one side, then the other. Here are signs of periodontal disease to watch for:

- Tooth loss or loose teeth
- Bad breath
- Brown or yellow crust on teeth
- Bleeding gums, or bright red irritation of gums around teeth
- Swelling of the gums
- Other signs include:
 - Subdued behavior
 - Abnormal drooling
 - Dropping food from the mouth
 - Swallowing food whole
 - Going to food bowl, but not eating
 - Changes in chewing or eating habits
 - Pawing at the face or mouth
 - Chronic sneezing
 - Abnormal discharge from the nose

Any of the above signs may indicate a problem that can cause pain, disease of internal organs, and even death for your pet.

Periodontal disease is the most prevalent illness among dogs and cats, affecting 80% of these pets by age three. Good oral health care can extend your pets' life expectancies (sometimes by several years), as well as making them more comfortable every day. Bring your pet to Magrane for regular exams that include a Dental Score. If you have questions or suspect a problem, call us right away. Your pet will thank you! We are also offering sealants for those that cannot brush their pets teeth. Please call for details.



THE FELINE

3945 Edison Lakes Parkway • Mishawaka, IN 46545-3006 • (574) 259-5291 • www.magranepmc.com

A MAGRANE PET MEDICAL CENTER INSERT FOR CAT LOVERS, SUMMER 2014



by Vikky Warner

Dear Opie,

My cat is not using the litterbox to urinate. I've found cat urine in different areas of my house.

Help! What can I do about this?

Desperate Cat Lover

Dear Desperate,

This can be a really tough nut to crack! Inappropriate elimination is the number one behavior problem of cats. This can lead to indoor cats being turned outside or given to a new home.

To be sure the problem does not stem from a medical condition, it's a good idea to have the cat examined by one of the veterinarians at Magrane Pet Medical Center. Feline lower urinary tract disease might be the cause. Symptoms include frequent straining to urinate in different places, bloody urine, and vocalization while urinating. This is only one possible medical cause; your veterinarian can advise you about others.

In order to properly diagnose the problem, a urinalysis needs to be performed. You can bring in a sample freshly collected at home, or else bring in your kitty so that we can collect the sample at MPMC. You could try to confine the cat in its carrier for a couple of hours before the visit, or else drop the cat off at Magrane in the morning to allow the bladder to fill with urine that we can test.

However, inappropriate urination can also be caused by behavioral issues. If no physical disease is found by your veterinarian, it's time to consider your cat's surroundings as a cause.

Cats can use urine to mark their territory. It's one way they communicate with other cats. Have you introduced a new cat to the household? Is a stray outdoor cat hanging around your house? Your cat may be letting the newcomers know that the space has been claimed.

Stress can also trigger this unwanted behavior. Have you changed the cat's environment? Moved the furniture? Changed the brand of litter or moved the litterbox? Has the cat's primary caregiver been absent for a long period of time? Any of these scenarios could be the cause.

At Magrane, we have anti-anxiety medications and can advise you on use of a pheromone spray to calm your cat. We have literature that may help you, and our behavior specialist, Neika, gives expert advice about cat care.

*Call us. We can help!
Opie*

Cat Grooming Tips

Unlike dogs, cats do not usually need baths and are great at keeping themselves clean. However, sometimes they need a little help, especially the long-hair breeds.

Bond with your cat and make brushing a daily experience. Cats tend to be more sociable when brushed and petted often.

Use a blanket or towel on the grooming surface to avoid slip offs. Groom cats in an area they prefer, such as their usual resting spot or bed, or on your lap.

Use the correct grooming tools, a comb for long-hair cats, a soft baby brush for short-hair cats. Use upward strokes. Lift the hair, don't pull. For short-hair cats, try brushing against the hair grain to stimulate the skin. Then brush with the grain to finish.

Take it slow. Don't hold the cat down. Let the cat tell you when it has had enough.

Give a treat before and after grooming.

Use a soft baby brush for kittens, and get them used to a daily routine of brushing.

Be very careful when cutting mats. It is easy to mistake skin for a clump of hair.

If your cat hates to be groomed, and gives you more resistance than you can manage, call Magrane Pet Medical Center.

We can sedate your kitty and groom him or her for you!

NEW - CHEWABLE FLEA AND TICK PREVENTATIVE IS AVAILABLE!

The makers of Frontline Plus and Heartgard have released **NexGard Chewable!**

The soft, beef-flavored NexGard chew makes it easy to protect your dog from fleas, and it kills ticks too! It's easy to give and there is no worry about it washing off or of touching the oily fur where the topical preventative is applied.

NexGard works the same as Frontline Plus by killing existing fleas. It kills new adult fleas before they can lay eggs, kills ticks (American Dog ticks, Lone star ticks, and Deer ticks), and stays strong ALL month long! When given consistently, year round, it is much more effective and safer than anything else for preventing diseases carried by ticks and fleas. It is better than the Lyme vaccine for preventing Lyme disease.

Please call Magrane Pet Medical Center if you have questions about the new NexGard!

PUPPY TIP SHEET THE BASICS OF CRATE TRAINING

Crate training is teaching your puppy that he has a safe and secure place of his own. A crate is a valuable tool for house training, preventing destructive behaviors and keeping your puppy safe when you cannot watch him. A crate also gives your puppy a safe area to go to when his environment is too overwhelming. Your puppy's crate is comparable to a crib or playpen for a young child.

KINDS OF CRATES

Wire and plastic are the two most common types of crates. The fold up wire crate is very easy to transport but many puppies prefer the closed in-den like area that a plastic crate offers. It is useful to cover a wire crate with a blanket to help give this effect. The crate should only be large enough for your puppy to stand, stretch out and turn completely. If your puppy will be a large dog, it would be a good idea to purchase a crate that will be the correct size to accommodate him as an adult. Your puppy may eliminate in a crate that is too large, therefore, block the rear area of the crate off with a milk crate until he is fully housebroken. To prevent entrapment, **never** leave a collar on your puppy while he is in his crate.

WHEN TO BEGIN

A dog can be crate trained at any age, although it is much easier at a very young age. The best situation is to have your puppy's crate waiting for him when he arrives at his new home.

WHEN TO USE THE CRATE

Your puppy should only be in his crate when you cannot watch him, when you must be gone or when it is time to quiet down. Just as it would be difficult for a child to settle down in a high traffic area of your home, it would also be difficult for your puppy. Find a quiet, but not secluded, area to keep his crate. You must remember your puppy is not a toy that you can put away when you are tired of playing with it. Your puppy is a social animal and must be with his family as much as possible. If your puppy is too rambunctious, even after intense play time, allow him to settle in his crate, then permit him back with you. You should **never** use your puppy's crate as punishment. Resist the temptation to send your puppy "to his room" when he has misbehaved. Your puppy needs to learn that going to his crate is good and that he wants to go to his crate.

“CAN I GO TO MY CRATE NOW?”

THE FIRST STEP

The first step in crate training is to teach your puppy to like his crate. Your puppy should not be forced into his crate, but should go in with his tail wagging. Begin by leaving your puppy's crate door open. Place his food bowl in his crate at meal times so he can enter and leave the crate when he wishes. Lure him into the crate by throwing food pieces, treats or toys into the crate. Anytime you see your puppy voluntarily enter his crate reward him with praise and a treat. Begin closing the door for short periods of time as your puppy becomes more comfortable with his crate.

Purchase a few special toys that your puppy is only allowed to play with when he is in his crate with the door closed. The Kong Toy is an excellent choice because it is hollow and therefore can easily be packed with treats. Your puppy will spend hours trying to get to the goodies inside. A Kong Toy in your puppy's crate is comparable to a Play Station in your child's bedroom!

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F.Y.I.

Veterinarian Schedules

Monday – Friday 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM

Monday AM
Dr. Niemann

Monday PM
Dr. Niemann
Dr. Neuhoff

Tuesday AM
Dr. Niemann
Dr. Neuhoff

Tuesday PM
Dr. Niemann
Dr. Meltzer

Wednesday AM
Dr. Meltzer

Wednesday PM
Dr. Neuhoff
Dr. Logue

Thursday AM
Dr. Meltzer

Thursday PM
Dr. Niemann
Dr. Meltzer

Friday AM
Dr. Niemann
Dr. Neuhoff

Friday PM
Dr. Niemann
Dr. Meltzer

Surgery Schedule

Monday-
Dr. Meltzer

Tuesday-
Dr. Neuhoff
Dr. Doversberger
(ultrasounds and
echocardiograms)

Wednesday-
Dr. Logue

Thursday-
Dr. Niemann
Dr. Doversberger
(ultrasounds and
echocardiograms)

Friday-
Dr. Neuhoff

Saturday Hours:
7:30 am - 12:30 pm

Veterinarians work on alternating Saturdays; they also fill in for each other on an irregular schedule. Always call for an appointment!

Friendly, Fast, and Affordable!

We are matching PET MEDS' online pharmacy prices (after we send in your rebate) for 12-month supplies of Heartgard. No more waiting for your pet's preventative to arrive in the mail! Call us at (574) 259-5291 for fast, friendly service!

Mission Statement

The Magrane Pet Medical Center Health Care Family seeks fulfillment by providing the best medical and surgical care available. We are dedicated to relieving pain and suffering in a compassionate way. The care and education we provide will maintain the highest quality of life for pets, their owners and our community.

PRESCRIPTION REFILL REMINDER

Please allow our office at least **24 hours** from the time you request a prescription refill to the time you will pick it up. Thank you!

FUR AND FEATHER FUND

Thank you to all of our clients that have donated to our Fur and Feather Fund!

A special thank you to Amy Devos for donating her collection of salt and pepper shakers to be given to individuals who donate to this fund. The generosity of our clients and Amy Devos is appreciated and will be used to assist some of our clients going through financial hardships that qualify for Fur and Feather Fund assistance.

CONGRATULATIONS, DR. LOGUE!

One of our veterinarians, Dr. Keith K. Logue, was elected President of the Purdue Veterinary Alumni Association and College Advisory board in March.

WOOF STUDIOS

The professional pet photographers of WOOF STUDIOS will be at Magrane Pet Medical Center on Saturday, August 30th. The sitting fee is \$10.00, and photos can be purchased by the sheet or individually.

Call Magrane at 259-5291 for an appointment!

Thank You

We'd like to thank the following clients for their referrals:

David Appleman
Chelsea Atwell
Jennifer Bloom
Amy Boardley
Kelly D'Amico
Sandy Decicco
Kim & Doug Fecher
Shelley Fowler
Max Good
Lisa & Jared Hanover-Payne
Lorraine Hull
Sarah Kinder

Lawrence Metcalf
Sarah Naramore
Stephanie Parello
Valerie Patout
Jill Powers
Brian Proffitt
Patricia Roth
Christine Rullo
Gordon & Bonnie Schermer
Neika Smessaert
Luanne Thompson
Tammy Zorn

If you made a referral and your name does not appear on this list, please accept our thank you for the referral and our apology for omitting your name.

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PUPPY TIP

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“HE WON’T STOP BARKING!”

Your puppy’s crate is his “safe confinement” area. Your puppy has just left everything that is familiar to him. He is probably lonely and frightened. It is normal for your puppy to bark and cry for attention for the first few weeks while in his crate. Remember if your puppy has a wire crate you can cover it with a blanket and remember to pack a Kong Toy for the night. When your puppy begins to bark **ignore** him. Do not play with him or talk in a soothing voice to him. He is barking for your attention. If you do not give him what he wants, the behavior will stop. Keep in mind, the barking will get worse before it gets better, it will then go away entirely. Please remember, this is only **temporary**. The sleepless nights will soon be a memory.

HINTS: It can be helpful in the first few days of bringing your puppy home to have the crate near you at night. Puppies have spent weeks sleeping with their siblings and mother and being alone can be scary. This is just for the first few nights and then you can slowly start moving the crate towards the area you would prefer it to be.

It should also be noted that having your puppy spend some time in the crate during the day when you are home will help ease the transition of being crated at bedtime.

When used properly, crate training is neither cruel nor unfair. A crate is a humane tool to train your puppy and to keep him safe when you cannot be watching him.

Raising a puppy is a wonderful and sometimes frustrating experience. We are here to help you in any way we can. If there are any areas of your puppy’s development you would like to discuss, please contact us to make an appointment for behavior consultation.

Vet Tech Coach – Neika Smessaert, RVT
www.vettechcoach.positively.com

A Referral Program



Please take advantage of our Client Referral program that works in conjunction with our Feather and Fur Fund. We’ve developed a “Gift Card” that you can pick up at our office. However, this is a Gift Card that you do not have to pay for! Just pick up several of these cards the next time you are in our clinic. When you refer a friend and give them the card, they will receive a complimentary complete physical exam and Magrane will donate \$20.00 to the Feather and Fur

Fund in your name. We appreciate the confidence you’ve placed in us to care for your pet, and we appreciate each and every referral you send our way.

Friend Us on Facebook



Magrane Pet Medical Center prides itself in staying current with the most up-to-date medicine available for your pet. When it comes to social networking, we want to do the same. However, we can’t do this without your help. Please search for and friend Magrane Pet Medical Center on Facebook today and begin networking with our clients and staff. It is a fun way to share stories, pictures, and information with people who have something in common—a unique bond with their pets!