



TATTLE TAILS

MAGRANE PET MEDICAL CENTER / (574) 259-5291 / SUMMER 2016

SOPHIE AND HER HEARTWORMS

By T. J. Niemann, D.V.M.

Sophie is a sweet 7 year old Golden Retriever who was recently adopted by a conscientious pet lover. Prior to being adopted, Sophie lived on a farm and had received minimal health care. She was not spayed, nor current on vaccinations. As part of the annual health care done at Magrane, we performed a blood test for heartworm disease. Unfortunately, Sophie's lack of routine health care caught up with her; she tested positive and was diagnosed with heartworms.



Over the years heartworm treatment has changed and improved, but is still quite involved, and complications are common. The worms must be killed without damaging the pet's heart or lungs.

Sophie was otherwise healthy and fortunately showed no signs of heart failure related to the worms in her heart. The treatment to kill the adult heartworms consisted of giving Sophie a single injection followed one

Heartworms (*Dirofilaria immitis*) are transmitted by mosquitoes, and their lifecycle is quite complicated. It takes 5-7 months for the larvae injected by the mosquito to travel through a pet's body and eventually live as adult thread-like worms in the right side of the heart. Heartworms are a specific parasite that only affects cats, dogs, ferrets and other mammals. (Editor's Note: In rare cases, heartworms infect people, but they do not complete their life cycle. They may migrate to the lung and cause a round lesion that looks like a tumor. The worms then die.)

month later by a series of two injections given 24 hours apart. Throughout the entire treatment, Sophie had to be restricted from exercise, which for some dogs can be difficult.

Sophie's treatment began in February and won't be considered complete until November after a negative heartworm blood test. Sophie's case is a reminder to make sure your pet is receiving its monthly heartworm preventative medication because it is a lot easier and cheaper to prevent heartworm disease than to treat it. Sophie would agree!

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It's easy to manage your pet's health! Just go to our website, www.magranepmc.com and click on the Pet Portal log in at the bottom of the screen. Then click on the "Request an Account."

WRIGLEY'S "MIRACULOUS" RECOVERY



This happy Cavalier King Charles Spaniel is Wrigley, in April, one week after nearly losing his life to spontaneous pneumothorax (collapsed lungs).

His owner says, "We awoke to find Wrigley laboring to breathe and a look of 'help me' on his face. Wrigley is only 7 and we were in no way prepared to lose him so abruptly!"

Wrigley was taken to the Animal Emergency Clinic, and referred by them to Magrane for continued care when we opened in the morning. When it became clear that Wrigley would not get better with time, and with surgery not being an option, Dr. Spake performed a relatively new procedure in an attempt to save his life. After another night at the AEC and a week that included two rounds of treatment and cautious care, Wrigley had recovered enough to go home.

His owner adds, "We know every day is a gift, and no day is promised, but last night after watching Wrigley play like nothing ever happened, we appreciated Dr. Spake and the gift of life she provided for an animal and a family that was not ready to part!"

Wrigley is enjoying trips to the beach this summer, and his owners are delighted.

We Accept CareCredit

CareCredit is a credit card for medical expenses. It allows you to make convenient monthly payments on out-of-pocket healthcare expenses for you, your family, and also your pets.

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You can use your CareCredit account to pay for the things that keep your pet healthy and happy—the cost of annual check-ups, vaccinations, dental care or other treatments. While the card can be also be used for unexpected expenses in the case of emergency, many pet owners use their CareCredit healthcare credit card to budget for their best friend's care all year long. It can also be used for doctor recommended pet food purchased from your veterinarian's office.

There is a link on our website, www.magranepmc.com for a link to apply online. Applying is fast and easy, with almost no wait time to find out if you've been approved. You can also apply over the phone by calling (800) 677-0718 to speak with one of the live customer care representatives Monday - Friday, 9 am - 8 pm EST.

We have a new "On Line" Store!



Shop from the comfort of home for your pet's medication refills and prescription food. You can now purchase many of these on line. If you choose the "Auto Ship" option, there is no charge for shipping! Check out our store to see if your pet's medication and/or prescription food is in the catalog. It's easy to log on: Go to our website at www.magranepmc.com and click the icon (pictured at left) on our home page to begin shopping. If you don't find what you're looking for, check back often, as new items are always being added. Save \$5.00 on your first order by using this coupon code: welcome62 at checkout.

We Now Offer Texting

We have a new texting app that allows us to text updates while your pet is here for procedures. You can also text us using this number: 574-253-0063. When dropping off your pet, always let us know your preference on how to be contacted.

F.Y.I.

Veterinarian Schedules

Monday – Friday 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM

Monday AM
Dr. Niemann

Monday PM
Dr. Niemann
Dr. Neuhoff
Dr. Spake

Tuesday AM
Dr. Niemann
Dr. Neuhoff

Tuesday PM
Dr. Niemann
Dr. Spake

Wednesday AM
Dr. Spake

Wednesday PM
Dr. Neuhoff
Dr. Logue

Thursday AM
Dr. Spake

Thursday PM
Dr. Niemann
Dr. Spake

Friday AM
Dr. Niemann
Dr. Neuhoff
Dr. Spake

Friday PM
Dr. Niemann
Dr. Spake

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.

Recognizing Pain in Your Pet

No one likes to think about pets being in pain. But pets cannot tell us how they are feeling—we must observe them every day to keep track of their health. Below is a list of signs most often exhibited by painful pets.

- Loss of appetite: Pet may appear to be hungry but then loses interest in the food
- Urinating or defecating in the wrong locations; vocalizing while urinating or defecating
- Other unusual vocalizations such as growling, whining, whimpering
- Aggression or impatient interactions with other pets or family members
- Altered facial expression, such as a fixed stare or a glazed appearance
- Increased body tension or flinching in response to gentle, normal, petting
- Unusual activities such as licking, chewing, rubbing
- Decreased activity level; unwillingness or slowness when rising from lying down; just standing when taken outside or lying in a corner all day
- Decreased grooming
- Failure to greet people coming to the door
- Unusual actions or posture: Restlessness or trembling, restricted movement, thrashing, weak tail wag or low carriage of tail, lowered head, stiffness, lameness
- Physiologic indicators: Increased heart rate and/or breathing, elevated body temperature, dilated pupils
- Normally social cats may avoid people, while normally aloof cats may seek out attention from owners, hoping for help.

If your pet exhibits any of these symptoms please call us to schedule an appointment!

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!

MAGRANE PET MEDICAL CENTER
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www.magranepmc.com



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Our new APP is available for download



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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!