



# Arbor Animal News

A Quarterly publication from Arbor Animal Clinic

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[www.arboranimalclinic.com](http://www.arboranimalclinic.com)

## Calendar Savings and Dental Month:

Arbor Animal Clinic has participated in National Dental Month for years by offering a discount on our dental services in February. It has been so popular with our clients that we have added the month of March for the last several years, but we still turn away many clients hoping to take advantage of our special. This year we are starting a "dental month" all year-round, through our Savings Calendar in our newsletters. (See the back side of this newsletter for details!) We are offering a 20% discount on dental cleaning services (a \$48.65 savings!) on Tuesdays and Wednesdays through Nov. 30th. We will continue to run these weekly specials and offer the 20% off for the entire month of February.

All of our doctors take advanced training in dentistry. We were closed most of the day, October 9th for a clinic-wide dental seminar by board certified veterinary dentist, Heidi Lobprise. And Dr.s Stephens and Davies will be going to the famed Animal Dental Care Clinic in Colorado Springs in January and February for even more training. Now that is something to smile about!



## Staff Notes: Spotlight on Tom Barton

Tom Barton started working in his father's vet clinic 16 years ago in Georgia. Tom got a B.A. in historic preservation in architecture from the College of Charleston and worked in architecture for two years after graduating before returning to veterinary medicine. Tom is a very experienced veterinary technician who knows every aspect of the clinic from front to back. He became our **head surgery technician** this year and oversees all of our surgical, dental and anesthesia procedures. He is joined by two other wonderful surgery technicians, Kimberly Bundrick and Jason Hayes. Kimberly became a Licensed Vet Tech in the state of Washington in 2007 after having been in veterinary medicine for eight years and loves anesthesia and dentistry. Jason Hayes was a surgery tech for Arbor for many years and has recently returned to our surgery and anesthesia department after several years working at specialty practices. We welcome him back and are very proud of our awesome surgery, anesthesia and dentistry team!

## What's News:

There have been lots of newsworthy items in veterinary medicine or at our clinic lately. Here are a few:

⇒ Arbor Animal Clinic diagnosed our first case of **canine influenza**. The dog came from a kennel in Colorado Springs which had a recent outbreak. Buddy belongs to Dr. Davies' father. His treatment included isolating him from all other patients to prevent exposure to this highly contagious respiratory disease. Canine influenza is a new and emerging disease. It is believed that the virus which is infectious to dogs, not humans, mutated from the horse strain of influenza virus. It has been reported in several states in race tracks and kennels but does not pose a threat to the average pet dog. We continue to keep an eye out for it as well as other new and emerging diseases. We are glad that Buddy recovered so well and is back home.

⇒ Convenience! Pfizer Animal Health has recently launched their new antibiotic called **Convenia**. It is an cephalosporin antibiotic given by injection which lasts up to two weeks after the injection. Giving your cat 28 pills vs. one injection.....Wow that is convenient!

⇒ **Comfortis**: We now have a new once-a-month chewable pill which provides month-long flea protection. The active ingredient, spinosad, is approved by the OMRI (Organic Materials Review Institute) for use in growing organic plants for food, and is now FDA approved for dogs. (They are working on a cat version). We really like this for flea control as it starts killing fleas in 30 minutes and is 100% effective in 4 hours. This makes it especially useful in dogs who have fleabite allergic dermatitis. Watch out fleas!!!

## Did You Know?

↳.....That we will send you a **Client Appreciation Gift Certificate** worth \$10 off your next visit at Arbor Animal Clinic for each new client that you send us. When you tell your family and friends about us, be sure to have them tell us who referred them, so we can say thanks by sending you a thank you that you can use! Our business grows by word of mouth, so we love getting your referrals!

↳.....That you can now receive our newsletters by email? Just go to our webpage to sign up: [www.arboranimalclinic.com](http://www.arboranimalclinic.com)

## Doctor's Corner: A Case of Lepto

Dolly Hight is a 4 year old black Std. Poodle. She came to see Dr. Faught in July because she was leaking urine at night when she slept. It was assumed that she may have developed urinary incontinence but when she failed to improve with medication and felt ill a couple of weeks later, lab tests showed that she had kidney and liver disease. There are many causes of liver and kidney disease so Dr. Faught did specific tests which found that Dolly had Leptospirosis. Early diagnosis and treatment is the only way to save many patients who get this deadly disease and Dolly was treated and is recovering well at home.

It is interesting to note that like several of the dogs in our practice who we have treated for Lepto, Dolly is not the typical dog we expect to be exposed. Traditionally it has been felt that dogs who run wild or have exposure to livestock and wild animals are at greater risk. It is spread through the urine of infected animals. But like Dolly, many of the patients we treat are indoor dogs who only go outside in their yard or on a leash. This is why we have come to recommend the vaccine to prevent Leptospirosis for all dogs. The vaccine does not guarantee 100% protection but is our best tool to prevent this potentially deadly disease.

Dogs who develop Lepto may have symptoms ranging from fever and sore muscles to liver and kidney disease or even death without symptoms. The range of symptoms vary greatly from patient to patient so general testing for infection and organ problems often lead us to suspect Lepto in dogs with consistent signs. Our doctors are testing more and more of our patients for Lepto all the time and are able to successfully treat most cases. If your dog develops clinical symptoms that we feel could be caused by Leptospirosis, we will recommend blood tests to determine if that is the cause of your dog's disease. It is often necessary to start specific treatment before test results return.

Leptospirosis was considered uncommon until several years ago when it was found to be a "re-emerging" disease. It is now considered to be a routinely diagnosed disease in most veterinary clinics. Thankfully it is rare in cats.

