



Tall Tails



A PUBLICATION OF THE TAMPA BAY KENNEL CLUB, INC.

Tall Tails

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www.tampabaykennelclub.com

A Message from the President



We are busy planning our January shows and hopefully will have the legal issues behind us. We appreciate Ocala letting us hold our shows on their property but we will be happy to be home. We will need some help getting the property in order before the November shows and if some of you can come up and help we would appreciate it.

We need to start planning our Christmas party and August picnic so anyone who has ideas about either, please let me know. I liked the place we had the Christmas party last year but we are always open for new ideas. See you soon.

Mary

From the Corresponding Secretary Meeting Notice

The next **General Meeting and Board Meeting** of the Tampa Bay Kennel Club will be held on **Thursday April 11, 2013 at the Apex Publix 16560 N Nebraska Ave Lutz, FL 33549-6172 at 7:30 PM.**

Board meeting take place on the following months: March, April, June, September, November and December.

Hospitality

Will be provided by Connie Delaney for the April meeting.

Notice from the club Treasurer to all Members

Please see the Dues Notice for 2013 attached to this newsletter.

If you have any changes to your club information please complete the form. Please return with your dues payment to:

Lucy Granowicz
6547 Bonnie Blue Drive
Wesley Chapel, FL 33544

Delegate's Report



See Insert

Mary Manning-Stolz

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Why Does My Pet Snore?

Pet Column for the week of January 7, 2013

Information Specialist

Source - Dr. Brendan McKiernan

The National Sleep Foundation

reports that approximately 90 million American adults snore each night.

And they're not the only ones: a lot of their pets snore too.

Dr. Brendan McKiernan, director of the University of Illinois Veterinary Teaching Hospital in Urbana, is a veterinary internist and internationally known expert in respiratory diseases of companion animals. He explains what causes snoring and what can be done about it.

"Snoring is different from just having a stuffy nose. With snoring, the soft palate or other pharyngeal tissues are caused to vibrate as inspired air is drawn through a narrowed air passageway," explains Dr. McKiernan.

"It can be caused by a soft palate that is too long, excessively thick, relaxation of muscles in the back of the throat, obesity or edema (swelling) of these tissues," he says.

While any breed can snore on occasion, certain breeds of dogs and cats, called the brachycephalic (literally: "short headed") breeds, are well known as snorers. These breeds include English bulldogs, boxers, pugs, Boston terriers, Shih-tzus, Persians, and Himalayans. Flat-faced breeds are more likely to snore

because they have been bred to have short noses, which has resulted in their airways being more constricted.

"Brachycephalic animals typically have enlarged soft palates, overly narrowed nostrils, and everted laryngeal saccules, meaning that tissue in the airway is pulled into and obstructs the airway," explains Dr. McKiernan. Problems also occur when tissues become swollen and when repeated small injuries to tissue go without treatment over many years.

In addition, thin scrolls of bone in the nasal cavity called "turbinates" may grow abnormally in these breeds, causing further obstruction of the airway. All vertebrates have turbinates, which serve to warm, humidify and filter air, providing the first line of immunological defense against pathogens. Because the skulls of brachycephalic breeds are foreshortened, their turbinates often grow backwards into their nasopharynx, according to Dr. McKiernan.

While snoring may be annoying to owners, it does have possible health concerns for these animals. Snoring is associated with a reduction in airflow and thus to reduced oxygen levels and poor exercise and heat tolerance, which could be life-threatening on occasion.

A veterinarian with special training in respiratory diseases can identify the specific complications to the respiratory tract and offer surgical intervention to correct many of these problems. Ideally the diagnostic evaluation and any surgical correction should be made during a single procedure so as to reduce risks associated with anesthesia.

Excess weight exacerbates breathing troubles. For most pets, respiratory issues, such as snoring, can be minimized by keeping the pet at a healthful weight. According to Dr. McKiernan, more than half the dogs and cats in the United States today are obese, meaning they weigh 15 percent or more above their ideal weight.

To achieve and maintain a healthful weight for your pet, provide your pet with an appropriate amount of food and daily exercise, never feed your pet table scraps, and monitor the number of treats your pet is given.

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University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Link to the column archives

<http://vetmed.illinois.edu/petcolumns/>



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Ovarioectomy vs. Ovariohysterectomy: Which Way to Spay?

Pet Column for the week of April 1, 2013

Related information:

Related site - [Surgery services at the University of Illinois Small Animal Clinic](#)

Source - [Dr. Heidi Phillips](#) In veterinary medicine, one very common surgical procedure is the ovariohysterectomy, more commonly known as a “spay.” This procedure involves removing the ovaries and uterus down to the cervix to prevent a female pet from reproducing. According to Dr. Heidi Phillips, a surgeon at the University of Illinois Veterinary Teaching Hospital in Urbana who specializes in urogenital and microsurgery, the traditional ovariohysterectomy is not the only way to safely sterilize a female pet.

“Another effective sterilization procedure for pets is the ovariectomy, in which the veterinarian surgically removes the ovaries and part of the uterine horn that is in close association with the ovary, but leaves most of the uterus,” says Dr. Phillips.

So which surgical procedure is better?

Dr. Phillips explains that studies show these surgical techniques are equal in terms of achieving sterilization of the pet. The choice of procedure likely depends on what the surgeon has been trained to do. Ovariohysterectomies are more commonly performed in the United States, since this is the technique that is taught in veterinary colleges here, while ovariectomies are much more common in Europe.

Some advocate the ovariohysterectomy over the ovariectomy due to concern for a condition called “stump pyometra.” Stump pyometra occurs when fluid collects in what remains of the uterus after the surgery and causes severe infection. It has been suggested that removing the entire uterus to the cervix may help prevent this

condition. However, stump pyometra results from hormone production from residual ovarian tissue, so removing the whole uterus is not necessary.

This was confirmed in a review of the literature published in Veterinary Surgery in 2006 by Dr. Bart van Goethem and co-authors, who concluded that ovariectomy will not increase the chance of developing a pyometra compared to ovariohysterectomy.

Removal of the entire uterus has also been advocated as a way to prevent uterine diseases, such as uterine cancer. However, according to Dr. Phillips, the incidence of uterine tumors in dogs and cats is very low. The review carried out by Dr. van Goethem and colleagues reports the incidence of uterine cancer in dogs makes up only 0.4% of all cancers in canines. Among the few animals that do develop uterine tumors, the majority of these tumors are benign.

Dr. Phillips also advocates the ovariectomy over the ovariohysterectomy because of the risk of complications associated with the latter procedure. She says that when the uterus is surgically removed along with the ovaries, the ureters—the tubes that convey urine from the kidneys to the bladder—can easily be damaged, either by becoming entangled in suture material or by being caught in a surgical clamp. Damage to a ureter could cause lifelong medical issues or even death for the animal.

“The greater risk and concern, in my opinion, is damaging the ureter during the more invasive surgical procedure,” she says.

A third procedure, a laparoscopic spay, uses a minimally invasive approach to remove only the ovaries. For this surgery, a veterinarian uses a bipolar electrothermal vessel sealing device that can be used on the blood vessels of the ovaries and uterus and on the uterine horn. According to Dr. Phillips, performing a spay using devices that seal the tissue minimizes concern that bleeding could occur.

The incision made is extremely small, which may lead to a faster recovery for the patient.

In a study published in Veterinary Surgery in 2009 by Dr. William Culp and other veterinarians, dogs spayed laparoscopically showed more activity postoperatively than dogs spayed via the routine ovariectomy method. However, because it requires specialized training and instruments, fewer veterinarians may offer the laparoscopic spay.

For more information about ovariectomies, speak with your local veterinarian.

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Link to the column archives

<http://vetmed.illinois.edu/petcolumns/>



**Tampa Bay Kennel Club
General Meeting & Board Meeting**

**Thursday
April 11, 2013**

**Apex Publix
16560 N Nebraska Ave Lutz, FL 33549-6172**

**Newsletter
Next Due Date:
April 25, 2013**



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709 W. River Heights Ave.
Tampa, FL 33603