



The BVH Barker

News for Pet Owners

FALL 2005

INTRODUCING: BARRIE VETERINARY HOSPITAL ONLINE

The online presence of the Barrie Veterinary Hospital has undergone a major upgrade. In our continuing efforts to provide high quality customer service, a modern approach to the delivery of veterinary medicine and service, and a professional image on the internet, the evolution of our online experience was natural. Gone are the images of the eccentric characters from Southpark, replaced with biography's and photos of our staff members, a virtual tour of our facility, plus many extras which will be highlighted in the next few pages.



Good Bye, Eric Cartman

The overall appearance of the site and functionality has changed dramatically. The site, www.barrievet.com, will be a continual work in progress as we endeavour to provide monthly articles on veterinary medicine and pet related stories we feel will be of interest to our clients. From seasonal articles on pet safety to cruciate surgery features, we know our clients will want to make The Barrie Veterinary Website a regular place to visit. Please see page 2 for a more in-depth discussion of the hospital website.

NEW FORMAT FOR THE BVH BARKER

Our hospital newsletter, The Barrie Veterinary Barker, has undergone a format change. The BVH Barker will be a quarterly production. It will be available on our website for download, or can be picked up in the hospital. Similar to the website, we will focus on issues of interest to our clients, as well as features on staff, medicine, and pet health. We hope you enjoy this production.

IN THIS ISSUE

Preview of the new Barrie Veterinary Hospital website.

Heidi Report:
Halloween Safety



Changes never end...

Since June 2004, the only real constant at our hospital, has been change. First, we relocated to our new facilities in June 2004, after 63 years in our previous facility. In April 2005, we switched our veterinary software to Avimark. We embraced the annual medical examination for preventive care and early detection of possible illness as our medical focus. The next step in our transformation is a redesigned website to provide our clients with an enhanced online experience.

The only true way to experience Barrie Veterinary Hospital Online is to go to the site and check it out. It's internet address is www.barrievet.com. However, since you are reading this, the internet inspection will come later. Therefore, please read on to get an idea of what you will find on our website. On our "home" page you will have links to the following pages.

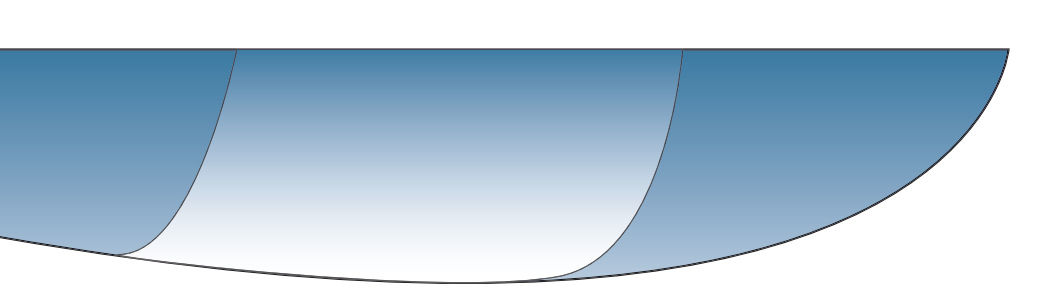
[Clinic Profile](#)
[Our Services](#)
[Client Services](#)
[Grooming Services](#)

[Newsletters](#)
[Online Resources](#)
[Pet Memorial](#)
[Our Staff](#)
[Contact Us](#)

There is also a link called Vetinsite. Soon the link will be changing appearance to a log on button which will allow you a more interactive experience on our website. Clients that have registered their e-mail address with us, will be able to log on into a password protected area and perform many tasks. (See immediate right panel). We hope to have this service functioning by December 2005.

Vetinsite link allows you to:

- * Check pets' vaccination status
- * Request appointments and boarding
- * Request medication and food refills
- * Inform us when pets are lost or deceased
- * Notify us of address changes



Two other areas which we would like to discuss are the Online Resources and Pet Memorial. Online Resources are internet links to **Veterinary Associations and Organizations**, **Veterinary Industry** links to pet insurance companies, prescription diet producers, and manufacturers of vaccines and other products used in veterinary medicine. We also have a **General Interest** Link which leads you to Animal Health, Humane Society, World Wildlife Fund Canada, and Bite Prevention for Kids. Finally, we have a link for **Pet Loss and Grief**. This is a very serious issue in veterinary medicine and society as a whole. The past 20 years has seen a dramatic change in how our pets are perceived as family, and not just a pet. The grief we feel when we lose our pet is very real, and very understandable. The links we have under Pet Loss and Grief will grow as we uncover more useful internet sites.

Pet Memorial

If you would like a virtual memorial to your pet, we now have a place for you to remember your pet on our website. If a photo is brought to our hospital or e-mailed to us at admin@barrievet.com and include a 50 words or less write up, we will set up your pets virtual memorial. Please indicate the following information as well:

Pet's Name (how you want it to appear on the memorial)

Owner (how you want your name to appear, i.e.. Doe Family, Jane Doe, Jane D.

Species:

Breed:

Birthdate and Death Date if known.

Pet ID Card will be available for all pets that have annual examinations, current vaccinations, fecal tests, and have annual heartworm tests and are on heartworm preventatives.

The Pet ID Card will have Client, Pet, Vaccine, and Emergency Information, plus a picture of your pet and our hospital information.



Heidi,
Pet Correspondent

BARK BACK!!!

BY HEIDI

QUESTION: Halloween is coming, is there anything we should be concerned about with our pets safety?

Halloween can be a dangerous time for your pet. The Humane Society of the United States has come up with several suggestions which you should consider.

Protect your pet on Halloween by keeping it indoors.

If you have a black cat, you should be especially careful about keeping it indoors on Halloween.

Keep your pet confined and away from the door while you're greeting trick-or-treaters at your home

If you have a dog, it may feel that its territory is being invaded by the constant onslaught of visitors. Keeping your dog in a secluded area of the house will help it stay calm and prevent it from growling or possibly biting your visiting ghouls and goblins.

Keep Halloween candy out of your pet's reach because it can make your pet sick. In fact, chocolate can be fatal to dogs! Dogs and puppies do not have the ability as we humans do to digest a simple chemical found in chocolate called "Theobromine". Theobromine is toxic to dogs in sufficient quantities.

Preventive medicine is the best medicine to practice. Call (705) 728-4545 to schedule your pets annual examination.



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