Pigs'n Poodles

By Dr. Geoff Cochrane

The city of Ottawa spay-neuter clinic opened for appointments April 24 at 95 Bayview Rd. The clinic has been established under city bylaw 103-78 and is restricted to spaying and neutering cats and dogs within the city and in the surrounding area.

All animals are admitted between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. daily. Generally, neutered animals will be released from surgery the same day (usually late afternoon) and spayed animals are kept overnight and released the following morning. Release of the animal following anesthesia and surgery is at the discretion of the veterinarian in charge.

A return visit is requested for the removal of the stitches in seven to 10 days. The recommended age for spaying of female animals is four to six months and neutered animals (males), six to 12 months. Information and appointments: 722-4264 or 722-4265.

QUESTION: I'm curious about hip displasia. What animals does it affect, what causes it, how is it treated, can it be cured? I'm especially interested in how it affects dogs.

ANSWER: Hip displasia is an orthopedic disease of dogs affecting the hind leg(s) and hip(s). It is a dislocation of the hip with or without an arthritis (inflammation of the joint) plus other tissue changes in the area.

The disease has been diagnosed in several countries and in over 40 breeds of dogs. The large breeds of dogs seem more often affected, especially the "giant" breeds (Great Dane, German Shepherd, St. Bernard).

It is believed to be hereditary and genetic (passed on from parents to offspring). Several other factors have also been incriminated as possible causes of the disease which is not infectious and cannot be transmitted from one animal to another.

The various forms of hip displasia have been graded by professional associations based on the examinations of the animal, signs of the disease and X-rays of the hip-joint.

There may be no obvious signs of the disease even though it is present possibly in the early stages. Some of the signs that may be seen are lameness (especially after exercise), waddling type of walk, difficulty in getting up, a reluctance to be active and pain. A diagnosis of hip displasia is generally based on a history of the animal (breeding background and signs of the disease and X-rays).

Medical treatment consists of cage rest and-or restricted movement of the animal, pain-killing drugs and drugs used to fight the inflammation. Less serious forms may be treated in this way along with a sling bandage on the leg and hip. More serious forms are generally treated surgically and there are numerous techniques for the operation. With the dog under general anesthesia, the hip joint is opened up by surgery. If there is debris within the joint (bone chips, scar tissue, blood) these are removed.

The treatments, both medical and surgical are not 100 per cent cure but will lesson the effects of hip displasia. Much research is presently being carried out in this field in order to find a more satisfactory method of treatment. An important responsibility for the control of hip displasia lies with the veterinary profession, the dog breeder and the pet owner. Control of this condition is based on an early diagnosis of affected dogs or carriers (genetic carriers) and an elimination of affected individuals from a breeding program.

Editors's Note: Dr. Cochrane welcomes any questions related to veterinary medicine. Questions should be written and mailed to Pigs 'n Poodles, Castor Review, Box 359, Russell, Ont. Questions may not necessarily be answered in the first issue following submission because of space limitations.

Visits

Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Mac-Donald and Keith spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Black of Oxford Station.

Mrs. David Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln Steele and daughters of Toronto spent the weekend with their Mother, Mrs. Lloyd Steele, and attended the ninetieth birthday celebrations of their Aunt, Miss Grace Webster.

Mr. John Codrington of London, England spent a weekend with his son, Mr. and Mrs. Simon Codrington, Adam, Toby and Alexander.

Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Sunsmore of Vankleek Hill had dinner Sunday evening with Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hay.

Following the baptism of their infant son, Andrew William

James, in Russell United Church Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. James Kidd entertained to dinner Mr. and Mrs. J. Arthur Kidd, Mrs. Beth McCurry and Miss Ann McFarlane of Ottawa, Rev. and Mrs. Leonard Woolfrey, Mr. Wilfred May, Mrs. William Linegar, Mr. and Mrs. Donald May and family, Mr. Irvin Sunstrum of Russell and Miss Brenda Dawson.

Mr. and Mrs. Miles McLeod of Kingston spent Sunday afternoon with Mrs. James Dempsey.

Mrs. Carmen Miligan of Manotick spent a day recently with Mrs. John Twiname.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Gamble spent a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Reg. Gamble in Trenton, New Jewsey.



CELEBRATES 90th

A host of friends united with the Felton Group of Women's Association of the United Church to honor Miss Grace Webster on her 90th Birthday. Miss Webster's Birthday Cake recipe appears in Castor Cupboards on the page.

DIANE'S HAIR DESIGN

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EVENINGS BY APPOINTMENT

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CASTOR CUPBOARDS

BIRTHDAY CAKE

By Grace Webster, Russell

- 1 cup butter (scant)
- 2 cups sugar (scant)
- 3 cups flour
- 3 eggs
- 14 cup milk
- 2 teaspoons baking powder salt
- 2 teaspoons vanilla

Stir butter and sugar together with boiling water. Add 1 cup flour and 1 egg, beat well. Repeat. With last cup of flour add baking powder and last egg. Add milk and flavoring. The success of this cake depends upon thorough beating at each stage, also when all ingredients are in. Bake in a slow oven for 1 hour.





HUSTLING FOR HEALTH

Teacher Rick Chataway leads this class of vigorous exercise routine practiced for 10 minutes Metcalfe Public students in the health hustle, a each morning by everybody at the school.



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Call Jackie at **445-5497**

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