



Wheaten Gazette

July 2014

1/2014

"A dog has one aim in life. To bestow his heart"

"J. R." Ackerley (4 November 1896 – 4 June 1967), British writer and editor.

A few months have passed, spring is upon us and here we are with our third issue. I hope you enjoyed our first effort and I would love to receive contributions for future editions.



International news



Wheaten Terriers in the St Patrick's Day Parade in Boston, USA

Having pets can teach your child many important life lessons. In today's busy lives, many parents see pets as just another thing to spend money on and look after. But to a child, having a pet can teach them more about real world experiences than you may think.

1. Caring for others. With the pervasive use of technology, we are supposed to be more connected than ever. But virtual relationships cannot replace the value of direct care for something other than ourselves. Having a pet teaches young children that they need to have care for others and that the health and welfare of their pet is dependent on them.

2. Consistency. Ask any health trainer (or financial planner) what the key to long term success is and they will tell you consistency. Doing the things that matter on a regular basis. Kids need to learn that no matter what else is going on in their lives, the fish\bird\cat always needs to be looked after.

3. Time Management. Most people spend their lives rushing around complaining that they don't have enough time while envying the people that seem to "have it all". How do busy, successful people find the time to do all the things they want? Good time management (and prioritisation).

Little people need to learn how to make strong choices with their time.

Having a pet teaches them that there are tasks that need to be done and that loved ones (the pet) depend on them. This doesn't mean that having a pet is all work and no fun. My sons love to run around in the backyard with the dog in the morning. But they know they need to get up and get ready for school in time to have the playtime with the dog.

4. Unglamorous jobs are part of life. Most kids grow up with a sense of entitlement that is disconnected from reality. My own children have suffered from this. The first time my son saw a hotel maid he was amazed. He just assumed that hotels magically reset their rooms each time you left for the day because all the hard work goes on behind the scenes.

Being responsible for the care and maintenance of a pet helps children to realise that sometimes you have to shovel dog poop. And if that is your task, you should be the best poop scooper you can be. You can't half-way clean a bird cage and expect to have a happy, healthy bird. You need to put in your best effort, no matter how unglamorous the job may be.

5. Sad things happen. Sadness, disappointment, loss and grief are all natural human emotions that parents often try to shield their kids from feeling. This is why everyone is a winner and always deserves a trophy or ribbon on sports day. Children who do not experience the full range of emotions lack resilience and the ability to cope with challenges as they get older.

It's sad, but sometimes pets get sick and even die. This is a natural cycle of life and the emotions that go with it can be important to helping your child learn to realise that while they may feel sad now- it is only a temporary state. Life goes on and you can come out the other side of dark times.

Most of all having pets can teach your child about unconditional love. And that is a lesson worth learning.

<http://familypetnews.hubgarden.com/profile/72/>

Health

Date: Fri, 6 Dec 2013 12:23:10 -0700
From: lydia kearney <lydiakearney@COX.NET>
Subject: Dog Herbal Remedies

I just ran across this. I don't know if it will be of interest to anyone, but I thought I'd share:

Herbal Remedies for Pets

As caregivers for our animal companions, we take great pride in their wagging tails, thick fur and sparkling eyes. Equally intense is our worry when they limp, cough or scratch so hard they draw blood. We may

fret for a day before visiting the veterinarian. Often, we leave the vet's office with an optimistic prognosis, a prescription for a salve or other remedy and the expectation of a quick return to normalcy after a few days of home care.

For many minor problems, though, waiting to visit the vet isn't necessary. Stocking a medicine chest with ingredients for a Calendula compress, Echinacea tea and other preparations makes caring for your dog or cat's minor ailments as easy as treating a child's scraped knee

with antiseptic and a Band-Aid. Herbal remedies may not end your fretting, but they can help you and your pet feel better.

We've compiled a list of 10 common ailments, herbal remedies used by some veterinarians and instructions for making the remedies. Use these and any treatments cautiously. Work with your veterinarian, the person who best knows your pet's health conditions. In 1996, the American Veterinary Medical Association officially recognized the importance of botanical medicine and other complementary therapies in veterinary care.

Unless otherwise specified, use these recommended dosages for liquid preparations to be taken internally:

- 1/2 teaspoon three times daily for cats and dogs weighing less than 20 pounds.
- 1 teaspoon three times daily for dogs weighing between 20 and 40 pounds.
- 1 tablespoon three times daily for dogs weighing more than 40 pounds.

Tender Paws

Dogs and cats have protective pads on their toes, but they can still pick up thorns, burrs or other foreign objects. If your pet is limping, examine its paws. If you can see a foreign object embedded, pull it out with tweezers. (If it's deeply embedded, bathe the paw several times a day in a warm solution of 1 teaspoon salt in a cup of water to draw the object to the surface so you can remove it.)

After you've removed any foreign object, wash the skin with soap and water to prevent infection. Check the wound every day. Swelling and/or an oozing sore are signs of infection. You may want to give your pet some Echinacea (*Echinacea* spp.) tea to help its immune system fight off the infection; see the guidelines below. (If your pet is listless and has dull-looking eyes, or if you suspect a more serious infection, you should check with your veterinarian.) When the oozing has stopped, keep the wound clean by wrapping it in a Calendula (*Calendula officinalis*) compress. Calendula preparations are widely used to treat slow-healing wounds.

Echinacea Tea

Echinacea increases the ability of immune-system cells to attack foreign invaders and fight infection. Humans use the herb to fend off colds and flu. A small amount of Echinacea also can help your pet recover from a minor infection that accompanies a wound.

To make a tea, boil 1 cup of water and pour it over 1 teaspoon of dried (1 tablespoon of fresh) Echinacea roots or leaves. Steep, covered, for 15 minutes. Strain the liquid into a jar and let it cool.

Make a fresh infusion daily.

Alternatively, you may dilute 3 drops of Echinacea tincture in 1 teaspoon of water (9 drops tincture in 1 tablespoon of water), then use the dosage guidelines.

Fill an eyedropper with the recommended amount of tea or diluted tincture and squeeze it into your pet's mouth. Administer the tea three times daily for no longer than a week. If the infection shows no signs of improvement or gets worse after several days, call your veterinarian.

If your pet resists taking liquid Echinacea preparations, try capsules: 1/2 capsule three times daily for cats and dogs weighing less than 20 pounds; 1 capsule three times daily for medium-sized dogs; and 2 capsules three times daily for dogs weighing more than 40 pounds. Just open the capsule(s) and sprinkle the powder on your pet's food.

Calendula Compress

Applying Calendula flowers to cuts and wounds to help them heal is a centuries-old tradition; scientific studies have shown that calendula preparations reduce inflammation and promote the growth of healthy new tissue.

Calendula tea is made exactly like Echinacea tea, but you don't need to strain it. While the tea is cooling a bit, cut some terrycloth

into

strips long enough to wrap several times around the paw. When the liquid is comfortably warm, dunk a strip of towel into the liquid, wring it out and wrap it loosely around the paw over the wound. Wrapping it tightly could cause more pain. If your pet will allow it, keep the compress against the area for 15 minutes, refreshing it in the warm liquid halfway through this period. Repeat twice daily for as long as a week.

Battle Wounds

When animals fight and bite, they can get puncture wounds, most often around the face, neck and chest. Punctures may not look serious, but the damage done by a cat's narrow teeth or a dog's strong bite can cause considerable soft-tissue damage beneath the victim's skin.

When your pet has been bitten, let it calm down before assessing the damage. (If your pet appears extremely agitated or very listless, you may need to have your vet check that it hasn't been more seriously hurt.) If the skin has been punctured, clip the hair away from the wound. Remove any loose hairs, then carefully bathe the area with warm, soapy water.

Watch for signs of infection as described under "Tender Paws." If they appear or if the pet treats the wound gingerly itself, give it Echinacea tea, tincture or capsules.

Body Aches

As our dogs and cats age, they can slow down as much as some humans do. An old battle wound may act up, or arthritis may set in. Some common causes of animal aches and pains include osteoarthritis, a degeneration of joint cartilage and bone caused by poor nutrition, disease or hereditary factors; hip dysplasia, a hereditary condition that causes lameness and pain in the hind legs; and elbow dysplasia, which often occurs as the result of a poorly healed fracture or other injury.

Although these conditions are irreversible and a veterinarian will need to diagnose the problem, you can help relieve your pet's pain by applying a compress made of a washcloth or hand towel moistened with warm water to the affected area.

Another effective treatment is a cream containing capsaicin, the compound in hot peppers that's responsible for their pungency. Capsaicin blocks a protein called substance P from relaying pain messages from nerve endings to the brain. Repeated applications of a capsaicin cream to the painful area may lead to desensitization, pain relief and reduction of inflammation. Apply the cream with gentle circular motions, massaging it through the fur onto the skin. Start with just a little bit and check the site after four hours for an adverse reaction, such as skin irritation.

Pets Behaving Badly

Antisocial behavior is as prevalent among animals as it is among humans, and even the best-behaved pet can have a bad day. When offensive behavior is the rule rather than the exception, though, consider obedience training, going back to the basics (relearning "no," for example), or correcting environmental conditions that may be upsetting your pet, such as constant loud noise.

Several herbal preparations also may help. All except Valerian (*Valeriana officinalis*) may be given internally at the recommended dosages for no more than two weeks at a time; Valerian should be given for no longer than a week. You may prefer to use these remedies as a preventive measure only. For example, if your pet is hyperactive when company comes, try giving it some valerian tea when you know you'll be having guests.

Irritability

Chamomile (*Matricaria recutita*) is a mild sedative that is recommended for irritable pets and for dogs with a tendency to whine and snap. To ensure that your pet is not allergic to Chamomile, give it only a fraction of the recommended dose and wait four hours to see whether it shows signs of adverse reaction. Make a tea of fresh or dried Chamomile flowers following the guidelines for Echinacea tea.

Hyperactivity

Studies have shown that Valerian root depresses the central nervous system and relieves muscle spasms. It is especially helpful for a dog that tends to become overexcited or suffers from anxiety when it is separated from you. However, it's not a cure: don't use it for more than one week. Make a Valerian root tea by following the directions for echinacea tea.

Chewing

When your pet chews the life out of the arm of a sofa or another of your possessions, you may wonder whether the two of you were meant for each other. Hot peppers may save the sofa and your sanity. Try applying a dash of pepper sauce to the spot where your pet has been chewing; test a bit on a small area first to see if it will stain. Or, try hot pepper flakes or powder, which you could later vacuum up.

Periodontal Disease

Common in both cats and dogs, periodontal disease is caused by a buildup of bacteria that destroys the cement that holds the teeth and gums together and, over time, causes teeth to fall out. Bleeding gums, bad breath, drooling, painful chewing signified by dropping food, loss of appetite and loose teeth are signs of periodontal disease.

Prevent periodontal disease by giving your pet a good diet and hard, durable toys to exercise its teeth on. If periodontal disease has set in, your veterinarian may advise corrective surgery. Recovery is painful and uncomfortable. Either the Echinacea Tea Treatment or Goldenseal Tea Flush can help a pet during the recovery period.

Echinacea Tea Treatment for Periodontal Disease

This Echinacea tea treatment for periodontal disease can help your pet during the recovery period.

- 1 teaspoon dried, chopped Echinacea root
- 1 cup water

Simmer Echinacea root in water, covered, for 10 minutes, then steep for 1 hour.

Strain and gently swab the decoction on the gums twice a day for no longer than 10 days. If the swelling or infection doesn't subside, check with your veterinarian.

Goldenseal Tea Flush

This Goldenseal tea flush can help your pet recover from the symptoms of periodontal disease.

- 1 teaspoon dried, powdered Goldenseal root
- 2 cups water

Make a tea of the Goldenseal and water; Let cool and strain the mixture.

With a syringe or turkey baster, squirt all of the tea gently over the affected area and out of the mouth. Do this twice daily for 10 days. The herb has a bitter taste, so be aware that some pets will not like it.

Diarrhea

Milk intolerance, allergies, chronic pancreatitis, roundworms, colitis, infections or poisoning may all cause diarrhea. At the first sign of diarrhea, withhold food for 24 hours, then feed your pet a bland meal of rice and unseasoned hamburger or chicken. If diarrhea continues for longer than two days, consult your veterinarian.

Painful

or bloody diarrhea requires immediate attention.

A preparation made from Slippery Elm (*Ulmus rubra*) powder can soothe an irritated intestinal tract. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved it for this use for humans.

Slippery Elm Stomach Soother

Slippery Elm powder can soothe an irritated intestinal tract and the

U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved it for this use for humans.

- 1 rounded teaspoon dried, powdered Slippery Elm bark
- 1 cup cold water

Combine the powdered bark and the water in a pan and bring to a boil, stirring constantly.

Turn down the heat and continue cooking over low heat, stirring constantly until the mixture thickens.

Remove pan from heat and let cool. Give cats and small dogs 1/2 to 1 teaspoon every 4 hours; medium-sized dogs, 2 teaspoons to 2 tablespoons every 4 hours; and large dogs, 3 to 4 tablespoons every 4 hours.

Ear Disorders

Head shaking, constant ear scratching and smelly discharge from the ears are signs that your pet has an ear disorder. Cats and dogs alike can contract ear infections from allergies, ear mites or trapped grass seeds, among other causes. Dogs with flopping, furry ears can benefit from the Lemon Flush and are more likely to suffer from ear disorders than cats or dogs with erect ears.

Swimming Ears Lemon Flush

This lemon flush is especially suitable for floppy-eared dogs that love the water. Use it once a week during swimming season, more often if your pet swims daily.

- Juice of half a lemon
- 1 cup warm water

Mix the lemon juice and warm water.

With an ear syringe or dropper, gently and quickly squeeze some of the liquid into your pet's ear, holding the syringe at the entrance to the ear canal, not inside it. Avoid making squirting sounds, which might scare your pet.

Gently rub it in, then stand back and let your pet shake its head. Blot the excess moisture from the inside ear and gently swab out just inside the ear opening with a cotton swab.

Repeat the process with the other ear.

Yellow Dock Ear Mite Treatment

Use this ear mite treatment made with Yellow Dock (*Rumex crispus*), an astringent herb, to kill your pet's annoying pests. Ear mites invade pets' ears and cause them to scratch incessantly. One way to prevent ear mites from invading pets' ears and causing them to scratch

incessantly, is to thoroughly shampoo your pet's head, ears and tail at least once a week.

- 3 drops Yellow Dock tincture
- 1 tablespoon distilled or filtered water

Dilute Yellow Dock tincture in the water.

Instill 1/2 of a dropperful in the ear canal and massage gently. Let the animal shake its head, then blot the opening with cotton swabs.

Repeat the treatment once every 3 days for as long as 3 weeks.

Calendula Herbal Flush

This Calendula herbal flush will help keep pets' ears free of discharge and reduce irritation. Use it once or twice daily. You may cut this recipe in half for smaller animals.

- 1 cup warm distilled or filtered water
- 1 teaspoon Calendula tincture
- 1/2 teaspoon Sea Salt

Combine the water, Calendula and salt in a glass.

With an ear syringe or dropper, gently and quickly squeeze some of the liquid into your pet's ear, holding the syringe at the entrance to the ear canal, not inside it. Avoid making squirting sounds, which might scare your pet.

After instilling some of the liquid into the ear, gently rub it, then stand back and let your pet shake its head.

Repeat the process with the other ear. Your pet may even look forward to this treatment.

Skin Disorders

Skin irritations are common in both cats and dogs. You may notice small white scales, large brown flakes or red patches underneath the fur. Scabs, crustiness and even pimples or blisters between the toes can show up. Skin problems may be caused by a poor diet, an invasive parasite, exposure to pest-control chemicals or an allergy.

Red blotches: Acutely inflamed, irritated patches of skin, or hot spots, have a variety of causes, including moisture. To soothe them, clip away the hair, then give your pet a bath with a nonirritating soap about once a week. Dry the skin thoroughly with a towel, then dab the affected areas with black tea (*Camellia sinensis*); it contains tannic acid, which helps dry up moisture.

Between baths, you can smear the afflicted area two or three times a day with the gel from a piece of fresh Aloe Vera leaf. Stop if your pet objects or persists in licking it off. Commercial preparations of

Aloe gel are available in health-food stores.

Colds

Just as in humans, infections of dogs' and cats' upper respiratory tract cause runny noses, sneezes, sore throats and coughing. The two that infect cats, however - feline viral rhinotracheitis and the similar but less serious feline calicivirus - require a veterinarian's care.

Kennel cough in dogs (contracted from other dogs) causes inflammation of the voice box and windpipe. For this and other less serious infections that result in coughing, an herbal cough syrup containing Wild Cherry bark (*Prunus serotina*) and Horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*) will help coat and soothe the throat. It is available in health-food stores and features dosage guidelines on the label; reduce the dose (calculated for a 150-pound human) according to your pet's size. On the other hand, for acute coughing, which may indicate bronchitis, pneumonia or foreign bodies in the airway, take your animal friend to the veterinarian immediately.

Dry, Flyaway Fur

When you stroke your cat and sparks fly, you know that it's just static electricity. Humidifying the air with a room or furnace humidifier will make everyone in the house more comfortable. Applying an oil conditioner when you bathe your pet can reduce static and restore shine to dry hair. For a medium-sized dog, mix 1/4 cup of olive oil and 2 teaspoons of dried Sage (*Salvia officinalis*); massage the mixture through the fur and onto the skin, then rinse with warm water and dry with a towel.

Top Tips for Toilet Training

by [Jen Higgins](#) ([follow](#))

Jen Higgins www.doggydogma.com.au www.askthedogtrainer.com.au



Got a new puppy, or an older dog that is pooping or peeing where they are not suppose to? Getting frustrated that your toilet training is getting you no where? Almost given up all together? Check out my top tips for helping your pet over come toileting problems.

1. Keep'em out of trouble - When a puppy (or older dog) is learning where to go, they aren't going to get it straight away. They aren't horrified if there is pee next to their bed - or in their bed. They aren't going to be upset if they stand in a poop. For dogs this kind of icky mess is generally a sniffing, licking or eating opportunity. So since you are going to get upset if your dog pees on your bed or you stand on a poop, be proactive and put Fido somewhere they can't get in trouble. Set up a special Puppy Area, a pen or an easy to clean space - where if there is an accident, it doesn't have to be the end of the world.

2. Write it down - That's right, you need to keep a toilet training diary - cover date, time, what, where. This can help uncover a pattern, highlight a time when the dog is toileting so you can adjust your outside times.

3. Consistency is key - if you are not playing, pampering or patting your pet, put them away - simple right? If you have trouble being consistent with this simple rule then you will have trouble toilet training your dog. It is your job to set your dog up to be successful as possible in this routine

- be consistent.

4. Reward on completion - so your out in the yard, and finally your little puppy is on the job, they have started toileting and you say "good dog", and your puppy runs over to you to grab a treat. You then come inside and they pee on the rug... what the..? The odds are that you actually stopped the puppy from going to the toilet and they had some stuff left over. So keep quiet and wait for your puppy to finish toileting before praise and reward.

5. Double Check with your Vet - If your dog is peeing a lot, it is time to rule out medical problems such as urinary tract infection. It is always better to be safe than sorry.

Follow these tips and you will be on your way to be toilet trouble free.

The Stud Dog's Lament

My job is making puppies, and I get two tries at that.
They pat me on the head and say 'Good Boy' and that is that.

It's half my job to give them teeth And toplines, fronts and others,
Remember it's just half my job,
they also have a Mother.

It's not my job to carry pups and make them grow and nurse them
And feed and clean and teach them,
That's for Mother and a person.

It's not my job to wean and feed the calcium and food.
And stack and gait and housebreak
And make them a showing brood

It's not my job to plan the breeding and learn what produces well.
To study pedigrees and learn what's there,
and pick out those to sell.

It's not my job to guarantee champs.
The breeder picks the pair to mate and whelp
and feed and show and hope the champ is there.

It's not my job to be on hand when points are given out,
The breeder, owner, dam and friends take credit with a shout.
It's not my job to deliver a winner, it's only genes I sell.

But let the puppies turn out bad and guess who catches HELL?

Author – Auld Terrier Man



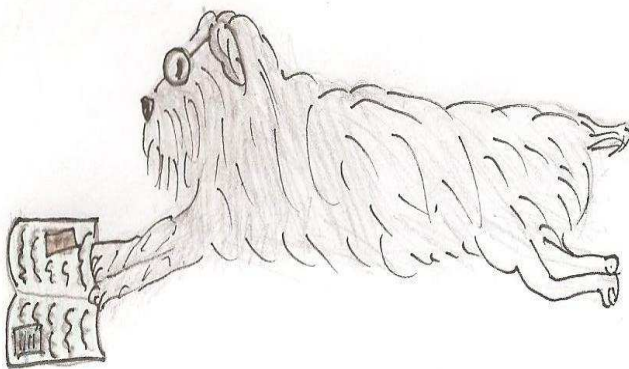
petfriendly holiday listings, such



as:

- www.takeabreak.com.au
- www.holidayingwithdogs.com.au
- www.petsplayground.com.au
- www.stayz.com.au
- www.wotif.com
- www.visitnsw.com
- tourism.nsw.gov.au
- www.petnet.com.au
- www.lastminute.com.au

Take care and look after yourselves. Don't forget that I would love to receive contributions from you for our newsletter on items such as fun photos and stories of your dogs, wheaten gatherings, good training books you have read, good groomers, good puppy training and obedience classes for your dogs.

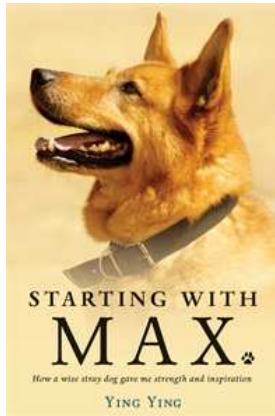


A Prayer for Animals

Hear our humble prayer, O God, for our friends the animals, especially for animals who are suffering; for any that are hunted or lost or deserted or frightened or hungry; for all that must be put to death. We entreat for them all Thy mercy and pity, and for those who deal with them we ask a heart of compassion and gentle hands and kindly words. Make us, ourselves, to be true friends to animals and so to share the blessings of the merciful.

Albert Schweitzer

Starting with Max



Author: Ying Ying Pages: 208
<http://www.allenandunwin.com>

\$24.99

- [Ying Ying's profile](#)

Description

My dog has demonstrated a grand theory about life's simplest activities. He acts out the meaning of life by actively living it. Do not think so much about yourself, he tells me. Know where you're going, and just get up and go. Be playful and joyous.

Starting a new life in a new city, in a new country, Ying Ying and her family adopt a stray dog, the much loved Max. As changes in Ying Ying's life bring frustration and sadness as well as surprise and joy, quite unexpectedly she realises that what remains most constant in her life is her dog.

Starting with Max captures the journey of a migrant in mid-life crisis struggling to come to terms with her new identity in a foreign land. Ying Ying finds herself driven by her dog to pursue a life of action and meaning, persistence and determination. She must not just survive, but thrive and it is her faithful four-legged friend who has become her source of wisdom and strength at this most fragile period of her life.

This is not just another book about life with a dog, but a quest for deeper understanding of humans and their dogs. In her contemplation of her four-legged friend and all that he is,

Ying Ying reflects on matters of significance such as love, faith, beauty, ageing, mortality and creation.



