



## Scully's Big Mousy Adventure...

Sometimes I wonder if the staff at the clinic realize just how mischievous I am. Until now they have only seen a small part of all that I can do. I'll take you back to an incident a couple of weeks ago after I tell you a little about my history here. I have been the "clinic" cat for over 12 years now (I'm almost 16). I greet, console, annoy, pester and much more on a daily basis. I didn't think that the staff had ever really appreciated my gift, except of course, my dearest Kristy. So it was get-even time with the disbelievers. I have never been known to venture outside much over the years but lately that has changed as I have sensed a need to prove I can do more. On a bright summer day I spotted my opportunity. The front door was propped open for some fresh air and the waiting room was full of people and

dogs! I strolled outside acting as normal as I could and searched the grass for something I could bring back as a prize to prove I am all that a cat can be... ..and then



there it was - my golden ticket - an opportunity that could not be passed up. In the tall grass I saw what I vaguely remember from my younger days as a mouse. But this was not just any mouse! It was fat

and huge and to my advantage because it was very slow. I was a little concerned at first because of my heart condition but I knew if I was to have any respect in the later years of my life, I needed this. I got really low... ..crouched down... sprung up and got the little sucker by the scruff of his neck. You know, so as not to hurt him. At last I can prove I am capable! I sauntered into the waiting room, looking at all the unsuspecting clients and dogs there. As soon as one of the staff members came around the corner I dropped the mouse and watched clients jump on the benches and dogs bark in excitement. I then remembered most cats kill their prey but this was much more fun. Horrified, the staff began to try to catch the mouse...

...but that is another story!

## New Dog Breeds!!! *They crossed a what...?*

A collie and a Lhasa Apso. Can you guess? Callapso – A dog that folds up easy for transport.

They crossed a Collie and a Malamute. The new breed is a Commute, a dog that travels to work.

A Pointer and a Setter. The new breed is a Poinsetter – a traditional Christmas pet.

1 part Bloodhound and 1 part Labrador gives you a Blabrador – a dog that barks incessantly.

A Pekingese and a Lhasa Apso makes a Peekasso – an abstract dog.

A Spitz and a ChowChow. The new breed is a SpitzChow – a dog that throws up a lot.

What would you call an Irish Water Spaniel and a English Springer Spaniel? An Irish Springer – shower fresh.

1 part Labrador Retriever and 1 part Curly Coated Retriever gives you a... Lab Coat Retriever – a Lab Researcher's choice.

A Newfoundland and a Basset Hound. Your new breed is a Newfound Asset Hound – the ultimate dog for financial advisors.

Joking aside, some very interesting crossbreeds have caught our eye. We would recommend having your pet spay/neutered in order to help control the pet population. If you decide to breed, please be aware that two crossbreeds will not yield the same offspring. Breeding two Labradoodles won't produce Labradoodle offspring because they are not purebreds. You might get a lab, a poodle and everything in between. It is also important to know that cross breeding won't eliminate hereditary problems such as hip dysphasia. Breeding is more than skin deep!

Come in and see our new retail items!

# Laminitis (aka: Founder)

The beginning of fall is in the air. Summer holidays are over and many of us have settled back into daily routine. There's hay in the barn and it will soon be time to bring horses in from pasture. You notice that "Ben" is overweight and walking slowly on the heel bulbs of his front feet. Days pass and he isn't moving much. You see him lying down often and when he is standing he has back legs situated so as to support more of his body weight. Now you know there is a problem. What could be going on? There is a good chance that Ben has a condition called Laminitis aka Founder. Your veterinarian is the best individual to consult for diagnosis and treatment. Laminitis is inflammation of the laminae of the foot. Simply put it means the tissue that connects the hoof wall to the rest of the foot is swollen

and possibly damaged. The easiest way to explain the feeling is to imagine that you have a long fingernail that is continually bent back so that the tissue underneath the fingernail aches. Imagine having to hold your entire body weight on that fingernail. It would hurt! But how does it get inflamed? The acute inflammation is said to be caused by toxins produced in the body. The toxins can be caused by gastrointestinal problems, inflammation of the uterine lining, retained placenta and grain overload. Laminitis may take as long as several weeks or as little as a couple of days to progress. It usually happens over a long period of time and is associated with horses that are obese and/or receive poor hoof care. If the damage to the laminae is extensive enough, the coffin bone in the foot will begin to rotate and eventually (if not treated) will protrude through the sole

of the foot. How can you be sure it is laminitis and not an abscess or other lameness and how can the condition be treated? Choosing to discuss a treatment plan with both your veterinarian and farrier is best for optimal healing. Treatment will often include a prescription for pain and therapeutic shoeing. If it was toxins within the body causing the laminitis, the problem must be dealt with right away as the horse can become very ill, very quickly. The laminae in the foot will never return to normal state and to help prevent laminitis in the future, keep your horse's weight down and resist turning them out on lush pastures for a long duration of time.

*Photo on right:  
Sawhorse stance  
caused by laminitis*



## Flying with Your Pets...

Many of our clients have been asking what the restrictions are for flying with your pets. Each airline sets its own rules and regulations that are subject to change. In July 2007 Air Canada ceased the carriage of pets on all international and domestic flights. WestJet still allows pets to travel on their aircrafts. Any time you are planning to bring a pet on a plane, be sure of the airline's import regulations if you are flying internationally. Most often animals are required to have up to date vaccinations and a health certificate for travel in Canada and the US. We do provide this service.



## ...Driving with Your Pets

Prince George has recently been a pilot city for a campaign launched by the BCSPCA in conjunction with the RCMP and ICBC to make traveling in vehicles safer for pets and people. Section 72 of the Motor Vehicle Act states that it is illegal to transport an unsecured pet in the back of a truck. While in your vehicle they recommend using a secured crate or dog seatbelt to restrain your pet. This is not a law just yet but pet owners have told us of fines and tickets received for having pets on their lap while driving.

## DON'T FORGET...

### Senior's Month in November!

Bring in your senior pet (7 yrs +)  
and receive a Wellness Profile  
at a 15% discount

(Profile includes complete vet exam,  
diagnostic testing, free bag of Medi-Cal,  
free personalized wellness report & more!)

*Please contact us with questions, comments and  
suggestions or to see your pet featured!*

### HOLIDAY CLOSURES

*We will be closed on the following days*



*Monday October 8<sup>th</sup> (Thanksgiving)  
Monday November 12<sup>th</sup> (Remembrance)  
Tuesday December 25<sup>th</sup> (Christmas)  
Wednesday December 26<sup>th</sup> (Boxing)  
Tuesday January 1<sup>st</sup> (New Years)*

*On these dates a veterinarian is  
available for emergency service only  
by calling 250.963.9898*



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