



Ansley Animal Clinic
593 Dutch Valley Road, NE
Atlanta, GA 30324

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Email Appointment and Reminders

Want to receive appointment reminders and other Ansley info by email? We can now email reminders for vaccination due dates, appointments and scheduled procedures. If you would like to opt-in, send a message to remindme@ansley-animalclinic.com Be sure to include the following:

- name on your account
- pet's name(s)
- phone number
- preferred email address

IMPORTANT: If you use a spam blocker in your email program, please add the following addresses to your "trusted" or "white list" of incoming emails:

- info@ansleyanimalclinic.com
- service@ansleyanimalclinic.com

Contest: Find the Flea!

Find the flea hidden within this issue of the Pet Gazette for your chance to win either one 6-month supply of flea control or one 6-month supply of Heartworm Preventative. To enter, send a postcard including the following information: Name, address, phone number (to reach the winner), and where you found the flea, to:

We will choose the winner on March 7, 2011 from all the correct entries (email or postal) received by March 4. The winner will be notified by phone at the number provided on your entry card. One entry per client please and the prize may be redeemed by February 25, 2012.

Newsletter Contest—I Found The Flea
C/O Ansley Animal Clinic
593 Dutch Valley Road
Atlanta, GA 30324

Also, you can reply by email at:
findtheflea@ansleyanimalclinic.com



FIND US ON FACEBOOK! Ansley Animal Clinic is now on Facebook! If you want to receive announcements and updates, come visit our page and click the "Like" button! Over the course of the year, we will be using our Facebook page to post staff photos, pet photos, special announcements and helpful information.

Find us at www.facebook.com/AnsleyAnimalClinic



ansley ANIMAL CLINIC

PET GAZETTE

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dental month(s):

Have you ever noticed a foul odor coming from your pet's mouth? Have you ever seen a brown accumulation on your pet's teeth? If so, your pet may suffer from oral disease.

Oral disease is one of the most commonly diagnosed health problems for cats and dogs visiting veterinary hospitals today. Bacteria in the mouth not only cause plaque and periodontal disease, but may also increase the risk for disease in other organs, such as the heart, liver, and kidneys.

The only treatment for established plaque, dental calculus, and periodontal disease is a dental cleaning and polishing. Sometimes extractions are necessary, also.

But like people, prevention is the best treatment for dental disease. Certain diets or treats can also help reduce the accumulation of plaque and tartar on your pet's teeth.

At Ansley, we support good dental health. Schedule your pet's annual dental cleaning in **February** or **March** and receive a \$25 discount.

Dental Hygiene helps pets stay healthy

Important information before your pet's dental procedure:

- If your pet is 7 years or older he/she will need pre-anesthetic blood work before the procedure. Schedule this in advance.
- Your pet will be sedated for this procedure, so they will need to "fast" (no food or water) the night before and morning of the procedure.

Remember: just like in humans, dental health in pets is very important and is linked to overall health. Call us today to schedule a dental cleaning appointment.

Leptospirosis

Dr. Brower answers questions about Lepto, it's causes and treatment.

What is Lepto? Leptospirosis is a disease caused by spiral-shaped bacteria called leptospire. Leptospirosis (also known as "lepto") occurs worldwide and can affect humans as well domestic animals like dogs and cats. Due to increased building and development, humans and their pets are encroaching into areas that were previously rural. Pets may be exposed to more wildlife than before, such as raccoons, skunks, squirrels, opossums, or deer infected with lepto. Cases of leptospirosis are extremely rare in cats, so the remainder of this article will focus on its significance in dogs.

How can my pet get Lepto? Leptospire are spread through the urine of infected animals, which can get into

water or soil and can survive there for weeks to months. Infected animals may excrete the bacteria into the environment continuously or periodically for a few months up to several years. Dogs become infected through contact with contaminated urine, water, or soil. Drinking, swimming, or walking through contaminated water can cause infection. The bacteria enter the body through the skin, especially if the skin is broken from a cut or scratch, or through the mucous membranes (eyes, nose, or mouth).

What does it do? Once the leptospire or organisms enter the body, they quickly spread through the bloodstream leading to fever, joint pain, and general malaise that can last up to a



week. The organism settles in the kidneys and begins to reproduce, leading to further inflammation and eventual kidney failure. Depending on the type of leptospire involved, other organ failure (especially liver) can be expected, as well. The clinical signs of leptospirosis vary and are non-specific. Common clinical signs reported in dogs include fever, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea, anorexia, severe weakness and depression, stiffness, severe muscle pain, or infertility.

Continued...

Something in the Water

Perhaps there's something in the water at Ansley Animal Clinic. In 2010, three of our vets were expecting boys! Two out of three arrived before Christmas.

If you visited Ansley Animal Clinic during the last few months, you may already know that Dr. Joanie Brower had her second son, Matthew Eric. Matt's arrival makes quite a story! At around 2:30am on September 26th, Dr. Brower, her husband Eric Myracle and their young son Jack left their Decatur house bound for Piedmont Hospital. By the time they reached the intersection near Emory, it was clear to *all in the car* that they wouldn't make it to Piedmont Hospital in time. So, they re-routed to Emory Hospital where Matthew Myracle was born in the emergency room at 2:50am.

Dr. Brower is back at Ansley, working part time. We're all glad to have her back.

Dr. Liz Wood joined Ansley in June of 2010. A very impressive and personable doctor, there was something special about Dr. Wood. There was something other than her talent, a certain glow about her. Dr. Wood and her husband Patrick were expecting a baby (their first). The baby was due to arrive around Thanksgiving. Sure enough, on November 16, 2010 Henry Arnaud Wood arrived in Atlanta. Judging from Dr. Wood's photos, he's a happy guy. We look forward to seeing Dr. Wood back at Ansley by the time this newsletter goes to print.

Last but not least, Dr. Kelly Coates is expecting a baby, too! If you haven't been to the clinic since Thanksgiving, you may not have known that Dr. Coates was expecting. Her small, athletic frame didn't give it away at first. But the baby is due to arrive in March and it's going to be a boy! This will be Dr. Coates and her husband Matt's first child. Thanks to the magic of ultrasound, we were able to get a sneak peak at the little nipper.

All of us at Ansley are happy and excited about the new arrivals. Staff parties will take on a whole new dimension.



Dr. Brower



Matt Myracle



If this trend continues, we'll be starting an Ansley Animal Clinic football team in a few short years.



Dr. Wood and Dr. Coates



Henry Wood

Welcome (back) Dr. Fireman!

In June of 2008, a young woman came into Ansley looking for a job as an assistant or technician. She was a vet student at UGA. She wanted to gain some clinical experience over the summer. Her timing was great because we needed one more assistant to help us for the summer. Her name was Kimberly Fireman and she made a good impression on everyone on the entire staff at Ansley.

And apparently, Ansley made a good impression on Kimberly because this year she returned as Dr. Fireman to inquire about job openings for a veterinarian. Her timing was impeccable. We knew we would need another veterinarian very soon (see *Something in the Water*).

Dr. Fireman received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Georgia in May 2010. She joined Ansley Animal Clinic in September 2010. She and her husband David live in midtown with their cat, Rafi.



Continuing Education

Dr. Brandley attended the following: Resistance in heartworm disease. Parasite control in cats. Cutaneous Manifestations of Internal Disease. Paw and Order.

Dr. Brower attended the following: Western State Veterinary Conference in Las Vegas, NV.

Dr. Coates attended the following: AVMA Convention in Atlanta. Parasite Control in Cats. Cutaneous Manifestations of Internal Disease. Paw and Order in November.

Dr. Fireman attended Resistance in heartworm disease.

Dr. Kearney attended the following: The Coughing Dog: Differentiating Between Cardiac Airway Disease.

Dr. Hayes attended the following: VPI Mid-Year Conference. Parasite control in cats. Cutaneous Manifestations of Internal Disease. Paw and Order.

Dr. Scott attended the North American Veterinary Conference.

Dr. Wood attended Behavioral Pharmacology, Cardiac Arrhythmias, Parasite prevention in cats, and Otitis.

Dr. Woody attended the Smokey Mountain Veterinary Conference in Asheville, N.C.

Several of our technicians, including **Gray Broyles**, **Jenn Krix**, **Nicole Morgan** and **Dorothy Stephens** attended Practical Dentistry for Veterinary Technicians.

About Leptosporosis

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Sometimes dogs do not have any symptoms. The time between exposure to the bacteria and development of disease is usually 5 to 14 days but can be as long as 30 days or more.

Treatment. Leptospirosis is treatable with antibiotics. If a dog is treated early, it may recover more rapidly and if any organ damage occurred it may be less severe. Other treatment methods, such as dialysis and hydration therapy may be required if significant kidney failure or other organ failure is occurring.

Prevention. Preventing leptospirosis can be done by keeping rodent problems (rats, mice, or other animal pests) under control, removal of standing water, and through vaccination. Vaccination against the four most common leptospirosis strains affecting dogs is sometimes included in the distemper shot (**DHLPP** - the "L" stands for leptospirosis). Therefore most dogs have been vaccinated against leptospirosis during their annual visits.

The leptospirosis vaccine is currently being given separate from the distemper shot at Ansley Animal Clinic. Most dogs should continue to be vaccinated against leptospirosis **annually**. Certain dog breeds (e.g., Dachshunds, Chihuahuas) may not be given this vaccine because of the potential for a vaccine reaction to occur in that breed.

If your dog has never been vaccinated against leptospirosis, the veterinarians at Ansley Animal clinic can help you decide if the vaccine is appropriate for your dog.

www.AnsleyAnimalClinic.com

404.873.1786 | Appointments Preferred