



Paw Prints Monthly

October 2010

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

Liberty Veterinary Hospital strives to create a state-of-the-art pet care facility that meets all of our clients' & pets' needs from nutritional supplies, boarding and grooming to the highest level of medical and surgical care. Because our team can only be as good as the sum of its parts, we nurture and educate our staff so that we may all provide uncompromising service, compassion, kindness and caring for each patient as a member of our own family.

OCTOBER IS EXOTICS AWARENESS MONTH



Did You Know ...

- We offer dog obedience class recommendations
- We offer boarding and laser surgery
- We offer massage and rehabilitation therapy recommendations
- We offer *free* educational seminars
- We really look forward to visiting with you and your pet! Ask us about Exotics!

OUR HOURS:

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. 7:30am - 7pm
 Wed 7:30am - 6pm
 Sat 8:00am - 2pm
 Sun Closed



Dear Friends,

“Exotic pets” is a term that describes a wide variety of animals that contrast with traditional pets, such as dogs and cats. “Pocket pets” is another term which is often used when referring to small exotic mammals. The “exotic” term includes many pets that can be purchased in the pet store, including a variety of reptiles, amphibians, mammals and birds.

Birds are enjoyed by many owners, particularly large psittacine (hookbill) species such as macaws, cockatoos, parrots, and their smaller cousins like conures, cockatiels, and parakeets. Mynah birds, lorikeets and toucan species are also kept as pets, though less commonly. Because they often live quite long, choose a pet bird based on your willingness to give it a home for its entire lifespan. Birds are highly intelligent and thrive with activities that entertain and interest them. Finches and canaries are "passerine" birds that do well with an interesting habitat and healthy diet. They are delightful and interesting to watch and will happily interact with others of their own kind in a cage that allows them room to fly.

Ferrets and sugar gliders have gained considerable popularity as pets. Ferrets are very playful throughout adulthood and thrive on a healthy diet with an appropriate environment that stimulates their desire to play. Many small pets, including sugar gliders, rats, mice, gerbils, and guinea pigs are nocturnal (prefer to be awake at night).

Your exotic pet can benefit from routine examinations. We recommend that ferrets be vaccinated yearly according to a healthy vaccine protocol. Frequently, rabbits, guinea pigs and rodents can have dental disorders that, when treated early, do not cause severe health problems. Animals with a short life span (2-7 years) may be helped with twice yearly examinations. Your veterinarian will examine their teeth, body, diet and lifestyle to determine if healthy changes can be made.

The kind of pet that is right for a family depends on the family's lifestyle, time availability, interests and abilities. Your veterinarian can advise you on the proper diet and activities to promote good emotional/psychological and physical health. We offer high quality Oxbow Veterinary products for small mammals and Avi-X products for birds. Also, you may want to know that we do board many exotics at LVH for safe care of your pet while you are away. Previous visitors have included parrots, iguanas, rabbits and guinea pigs, and even fish.

Holly F. Gossett, DVM

Amy L. Johnstone, DVM

Robyn T. Collins, DVM

Guess The Exotic Pet



1) _____



5) _____



9) _____



13) _____



2) _____



6) _____



10) _____



14) _____



3) _____



7) _____



11) _____



15) _____



17) _____



4) _____



8) _____



12) _____



16) _____

- 10) Skunk
- 11) Canary
- 12) Gerbil
- 13) Macaw
- 14) Ball Python
- 15) Ferret
- 16) Guinea Pig
- 17) Sugar Glider

- 1) Welsh Rabbit
- 2) Cockatiel
- 3) Leopard Gecko
- 4) Rat
- 5) Cockatoo
- 6) Parakeets
- 7) Hedgehogs
- 8) Mouse
- 9) Box Turtle