

# CVC Newsletter

January 2004

Countryside Veterinary  
Clinic, Ltd.

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[www.countrysidevetpets.com](http://www.countrysidevetpets.com)

## Pet Dental Care Discounts - January & February

February is National Pet Dental Care Month, but due to the large volume of people that take advantage of our discounts on dental care during that period, CVC is beginning the celebration in January!

Come into Countryside Veterinary Clinic during January or February to get a bargain on your pet's dental care!



### Pet of the Month Bhalo Colosimo

There are many words to describe our dog Bhalo. The one that comes to mind first is loyal. Bhalo came into our lives two years ago with his "girlfriend" Cujo. Unfortunately we lost Cujo this October and our connection with Bhalo has grown stronger due to our mutual loss. Bhalo is a wonderful dog who loves to sit at your feet and watch everything you do. He also loves to chase around a bundled pair of socks. The best part of having Bhalo in our family is each day when we walk in from work he is waiting at the door, wagging his tail, ready to welcome us home. Bhalo is truly a part of our family and a loyal friend. We look forward to many more wonderful years together.

To submit your pet for "Pet of the Month" visit our website at [www.countrysidevetpets.com](http://www.countrysidevetpets.com).

## Your Pet's Bad Breath

Periodontal disease is almost always the cause of bad breath in dogs and cats. Veterinarians report that between 60% and 80% of dogs and cats have periodontal disease by age five. This condition develops when bacteria accumulates on teeth and gums and causes infection. Gum problems and tooth decay are the common result. Other possible causes for a pet's bad breath include infection from a foreign object stuck between teeth or under gums, a broken tooth, and tumors or ulcers in the mouth. Underlying illnesses may also give your pet's breath a strange odor. For example, diabetes can lead to an excessively sweet smell, while kidney disease may produce an ammonia-like odor. Healthy pets have odorless breath.

To help keep your pet's teeth and gums healthy you can clean them with special toothpaste and toothbrushes, or a soft cloth. Feeding dry food can also be helpful. Dental care is part of our complete service at Countryside Veterinary Clinic.

## Cushing's Disease (Hyperadrenocorticism)

Cushing's disease occurs, mostly in dogs, when excess hormones get pumped into the blood. This may happen from an overactive adrenal gland or a growth in the adrenal or pituitary glands. Symptoms vary widely due to the numerous hormones produced by the adrenal gland. Glucocorticoids (steroids) are commonly overproduced with this condition. Symptoms of steroid excess include muscle breakdown that leads to a thin-legged, potbellied appearance. The dog may also drink and urinate more frequently due to secondary infections. Other symptoms include hair loss, palpable lumps under the skin, increased appetite, panting, and high blood pressure. Cushing's disease can be treated medically and surgically.



## CVC Team Announcements

### Congratulations!

Missy is this month's "Employee of the Month". Missy has been a member of the technician team since 1999. She is responsible for many aspects of patient care with an exceptional style. Each day she arrives ready to meet our patient needs with a smile and willingness to assist anyone. In addition to her superb work ethics, Missy has increased our patient care technique through developing many of our nursing flow sheets. Missy often stays late to ensure all the pets are taken care of and comfortable. Recently Missy stayed at the clinic until after 1:00am caring for a critical patient. Missy has also been spotted at the clinic during her personal time checking on the patients. Missy's devotion to patient care is immeasurable and she is truly an asset to the practice. To show appreciation Countryside Veterinary Clinic awards Missy "Employee of the Month".

#### Birthdays

none this month

#### New Team Members

Welcome to:

Jen                      Receptionist

#### Thank You

Last month was the company Christmas party and as always it was wonderful. Fun was had by all. Everyone in attendance thanks Gary and Angie and everyone else involved for making it a great evening.

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To: Our Valued  
Countryside Veterinary  
Clinic Clients



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