



1056 W. Golf Road  
 Hoffman Estates, IL 60169  
 Ph: 847-310-8668  
 Fax: 847-310-8738

*Newsletter/  
 February, 2010*

*"Providing Love and Care for a Lifetime!"*

**February is National Heart Month!**



**Heart Disease Can also Affect your Furry Friend!**

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women worldwide. Pet owners should also be concerned for the heart of their beloved animal friends. Dogs and cats can be born with cardiac problems or they can also develop them later in life. Some of the acquired cardiac diseases in animals are similar to cardiac disease in people and can include leaky heart valves or weak heart muscle resulting in heart failure. Dogs and cats can both develop high blood pressure. Signs of heart disease can include coughing, increased breathing rate, breathing difficulty and decreased activity level. A heart murmur or irregular heart rhythm might be found during an examination. Diagnostic testing, frequently using a combination of x-rays, heart ultrasound, electrocardiogram and blood pressure, is required to diagnose the underlying heart disease and select the most appropriate therapy. Treatment for heart failure includes a combination of medication and lifestyle changes related to diet and activity level. Dr. House and the staff at Hoffman Estates Animal Hospital can provide all levels of testing right in our office without sending you to other facilities. Heart problems cannot always be prevented, but most can be detected by being aware of what to look for and by having your pet examined regularly by their veterinarian.

**Thank you for your cards and emails!**

We taped up the cards and emails above Frodo's cage so he can see them! He's taking the medication well and visiting up front when he feels like it. We have new chairs in the lobby, so he's enjoying his new job of testing each one out!



"If you think dogs can't count, try putting three dog biscuits in your pocket and then give Fido only two of them....:-)"

-Unknown.



**Dr. Behm gets Married!**



Dr. Sandy Behm and her fiancée, Scott Fehl, left town and headed south for the warm weather of Key West, Florida. They were married on the beach at dusk last Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>! Congratulations to Dr. Behm and Scott! We wish you a lifetime of happiness together!

**Looking for things to do?**



\*International Kennel Club of Chicago Show: February 26, 27 & 28 at McCormick Place Lakeside. More than 6000 purebred dogs and 125 vendors. Admission: Adults \$17, Seniors \$10 and Children 3-12 free. [www.ikcdogshow.com](http://www.ikcdogshow.com)

\*Chicagoland Family Pet Expo is March 19, 20 & 21<sup>st</sup> at Arlington Park Racecourse. Friday from 11-6, Saturday 9-8 and Sunday 9-5. Adults \$10, Kids 3-12 \$6 and parking is \$6 per car.