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William A. MacKay Scholarship Fund

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Cold Weather Notes

Antifreeze is very toxic to dogs. Dogs seem to love it, and a very small amount can be fatal. Prompt veterinary attention is necessary if any is ingested. Be careful where you drain radiators.

If dogs are kept outside in cold weather, be sure they have a dry bed and protection from drafts. Additional feed may be needed. Avoid shifting between heated and unheated kennels. Different breeds have different requirements. All very young puppies must be kept warm.

City dogs often walk on salted sidewalks. Wash their feet with warm water regularly. Dry with a towel and check between the pads.

Dogs kept in warm apartments should wear a sweater or coat when taken outside in cold weather, especially toy breeds and those with short hair.

Cats may get under the hood of cars. There have been some nasty accidents. If this is the only warm place for your cat, it might be well to check its whereabouts before you start the car.

Don't neglect regular grooming. Bathing usually is not necessary if the dog is kept clean by brushing and combing. As a general rule, regular or frequent bathing is not necessary.

Many dogs will shiver when frightened, excited, or emotionally upset. They will shiver when they are cold. This is not necessarily a sign of illness.

Keep your vaccination schedule up-to-date. Some infectious diseases occur more frequently in cold weather.

AKC Filming

The bucolic background, complete with cows, in some of the terrier video tapes to be released in February was provided by New Bolton Center, the large animal facility of the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania. From October 1 to 8, AKC personnel and a camera crew came to the Chester County campus to tape Norfolk and Norwich terriers, miniature schnauzers, bull terriers, Welsh terriers, fox terriers, and Airedale terriers. The filming for the breed standards series even included Norwich terriers going to ground in a wooden tunnel under a haystack. The weather cooperated and the entire filming went without a problem.

Book Reviews

The Cat Lovers' Cookbook by Tony Lawson (Storey Communications, Inc., Pownal, VT 05261) $4.95

This book offers nutritionally balanced recipes that are palatable for cats. They represent an alternative to commercial cat food. The Foreword, written by Dr. David S. Kronfeld, states that reciprocation is the basis of our relationship with cats. We have selected them as companions for our own pleasure and hopefully they enjoy us in the same way. We have taken away from cats the primitive ability to make their own choices. We now make some, though by no means all, important decisions in their lives. One of the main choices a cat owner faces is the best diet. The recipes offer an alternative to commercial cat food.

Dogs do not thrive on diets used to feed dogs. Dr. Kronfeld's "Theme Recipe" uses ground meat and rice as staples because they are the main sources of energy. The supplements provide all of the essential nutrients not found in the staples: liver, bone meal, corn oil, and iodized salt.

The Theme Recipe

2/3 cup ground meat
1/3 cup dry rice (Brown or white)
2 tablespoons chopped liver
1 tablespoon bone meal
2 teaspoons corn oil
1/2 teaspoon iodized salt
1 cup water

Bring the water to a boil. Add the rice, corn oil and salt, and simmer for 30 minutes on low heat. Dredge the meat with the bone meal. Add the meat and liver to the rice mixture, stir, and simmer for another 15 minutes. Cool and serve. Yields 3 servings. Leftovers should be refrigerated or frozen. Variations of the theme recipe are discussed.

There are useful comments on nutrition and health throughout the text.

... A fish-only diet is definitely unbalanced, but this can be corrected by adding the basic nutritional supplements (liver, bone meal, corn oil, iodized salt).

... Some fish contain an enzyme that reduces the ability to absorb thiamine, which is essential to normal metabolism and nerve function. This enzyme is destroyed by cooking, so it is a good idea to cook all fish before serving.

... You may add one teaspoon of salt to any of the recipes to help promote water intake.

... Both meat and cereal contain very little calcium, so it is necessary to add supplements. Use only the amounts recommended, as too much calcium can diminish the absorption of other nutrients.

... Feline mother's milk has three times the protein of cow's milk, but much less sugar and fat.

There are a few "Tandem Recipes" for people who like to eat with their cats. Special diets are mentioned: Allergy Diet; World's Best Diet; a dedicated protein diet; a Reducing Diet which also is suitable for cats with a history of F.U.S. (feline urological syndrome); Diet for impaired liver and kidney function; Diet for Urinary Stoppages to help prevent stone formation.

The book contains a reference section listing veterinary names and phone numbers in major metropolitan areas that cats will enjoy too: Meowshi Sushi, Boogalo Shrimp, Gizzard Goulash, Kitty Pizza, Turkey Surprise, and Kitty Fondu, plus many others.

Complete Book of Ponies by Lorna Howlett (Howell Book House, 230 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10169) $12.95

This fascinating book is about ponies the world over and the pleasures they bring to young and old. It tells how to judge the quality of a pony, how to select and care for a pony, and it has a chapter on pony clubs. All breeds of ponies are described along with the breed characteristics and standards of excellence.

Pony height is measured in "hands" (four inches). Measurements are taken from ground level to the highest point of the withers, and height limits vary for different breeds. The Shetland is the smallest, measuring about 10 hands while the upper limit for pony breeds is 14-2 hands.

The book covers 16 types classified as Ancient and Native Breeds. These include the Welsh, Shetland, and Hackney Ponies. Endangered species are the British Spotted Pony and the Caspian Pony. Rare breeds are the Dales and Exmoor Ponies. Others are the Darmoor, Fell, Hallinger, Gotthard, Ejord, Holstein, Icelandic, New Foresti, and Connemara Ponies.

The chapter on Modern and Evolved Breeds gives information about Australian Ponies, the Lundy Pony (an extremely hardy pony from the island of 1 lundy in the Bristol Channel), and American breeds including the American Walking Pony, Pony of the Americas, Palouse, and Chincoteague.

There is a Pony Society Index, a world-wide listing of pony shows. A chapter on Running a Pony Stud covers breeding and foaling. There is a brief chapter on exhibiting and judging.

Pony Riding for the Disabled is the most advanced form of activity, apart from swimming, that is enjoyed by disabled persons. In Australia, there is a network of pony clubs, particularly those who would like to know more about the different breeds, will enjoy this book.

William A. MacKay Scholarship Fund

William A. MacKay, Belle Meade, NJ, has endowed a scholarship fund at the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania.

"Our School receives more applications for admission than any other veterinary school in the nation," said Dean Robert R. Marsak. "Yet the difficulty of obtaining sufficient financial aid turns many bright students away. Mr. MacKay's contribution aids us in our efforts to admit the most highly qualified students, regardless of their ability to pay."

"We wanted to do something for one of the veterinary schools," said Mr. MacKay. "Our veterinary school, Dr. Amos Stiulits (V '35), is a Penn alumnus, and that in part determined that our contribution would go to the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. A scholarship fund is a meaningful way to help tomorrow's veterinarians, particularly in light of ever-rising tuition fees."

Mr. and Mrs. MacKay and their six children are ardent dog lovers. "I have had dogs since I was three years old," he said. "My parents owned boxers, German shepherds, and Doberman pinschers. Now my family has wheaten fox terriers, Doberman pinschers, Lakeland terriers, and Pekingese."