Computer Model to Assist Residue Avoidance
Puppy Problem Prevention Class

Beginning in September 1992 the Behavior Clinic at VHUP will reinstate its Puppy Problem Prevention Class. Started in the Spring of 1992 with a trial run, it will now be given weekly since it was such a resounding success. The Puppy Problem Prevention Class is not an obedience class; it is a single two-hour session that focuses on normal behavior and the importance of early socialization. During the session clients learn appropriate verbal and physical techniques to correct puppies and how to teach them desired behaviors. Puppies interact with each other in play as a way of illustrating appropriate behaviors and techniques to owners. Additionally, vaccination schedules, heartworm prophylaxis, intestinal parasitism, diet, exercise, neutering vs. breeding, and general health concerns are discussed. Clients are provided with handout packages that emphasize the goals of the class. The visit costs only $25. It includes a complete physical exam, and occurs in groups of no more than six puppies. Preference is given to puppies six months of age and under. Appointments are scheduled on Saturday mornings and can be made by calling 215-898-3347.

An offshoot of the Puppy Problem Prevention Class the Behavior Clinic at VHUP has received a grant from Miles Laboratories to investigate the extent to which early intervention prevents future behavior problems. 150-200 puppies six months of age or under, are being actively solicited for this study. Puppies will be followed for at least a year. The first appointment will be a standard Puppy Problem Prevention Class; thereafter, re-exam appointments will be scheduled every three months. Clients will be asked to complete a questionnaire about their puppy’s behavior prior to the first appointment. This same questionnaire will be completed at three-month intervals during re­exams. All puppies will be videotaped while being asked to perform specific behaviors separately and in groups during all exams. Some puppies will be fitted with PROMISE System canine head halters without cost to the client. Clients will complete a weekly one page diary of puppy activities and will discuss any questions they might have with an assistant in the clinic on a weekly basis. There is an initial $25 fee for the first class; however, clients choosing to participate in the study will receive the following free of charge: DHLPP and rabies vaccines for the duration of the study (including any incomplete puppy vaccines), twice yearly fecals and appropriate medications, and annual heartworm tests. Initial appointments are 2 hours and are on Saturdays. Follow-up appointments are 1/2-1 hour and are usually on Saturdays, but can be at other times to accommodate clients schedules. Referring veterinarians will receive periodic updates on patient’s progress. For information and/or to schedule an appointment, please call 215-898-3679.

The School had a booth at the International Seafood Show in Boston in March to promote the Aquavet Program and the Laboratory for Marine Animal Health at Woods Hole, MA. Our participation and the display were made possible through contributions by Mr. Robert Haig, Mr. Lewis Heafitz, Mr. Michael Sandler, and Mr. William Schawbel. Shown here, manning the booth, are Mr. Jeffrey Roberts, Dr. Robert Bullis (standing) and Dr. Donald A. Abt.

Penn Annual Conference

The 1992 Penn Annual Conference was a great success and we offer our thanks to the 750 veterinarians, 155 technicians and 80 exhibitors who attended. A special thanks to the following exhibitors who sponsored lectures at the Conference:

A.J. Buck and Son

DVM Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

The IAMS Company

Hills Pet Products

Peterson Imaging, Inc.