

# Derm Digest

Indianapolis IN • Louisville KY • Marietta GA • Pasadena CA  
Marina del Rey CA • San Diego CA • Tustin CA



Animal Dermatology Clinic

Advancing the Art of Veterinary Dermatology

April 2011

## Atlanta, GA to Orange County and Back

*Doctor Returns Home to  
Lead Georgia Clinic*



Almost a year has passed and Dr. Joel Griffies has easily settled into his role as the lead doctor in our Marietta clinic, a suburb of Atlanta, GA.

For six years, Dr. Griffies was the owner and the

practicing veterinarian of Riverside Animal Hospital in Atlanta, when he accepted a residency at Animal Dermatology Clinic in Tustin, CA in 1999. He relocated to Orange County CA and started on his dermatology path ultimately earning his Diplomate status from the American College of Veterinary Dermatology.

During his stay in California, Dr. Griffies married and now has two children.

“Certainly, relocating your family across the country has its challenges, but it has been great moving back to Georgia to be closer to our families here in the Southeast. It has been an added bonus to be able to re-ignite relationships with area veterinarians from many years ago.”

Dr. Griffies is now the mentor for dermatology resident, Dr. Sarah Barlett. Clients may make an appointment for with either doctor by calling 770-422-2509.

## Keep Your Pet Flea Free

*Treating environment is key*



*Photo courtesy of anankml*

The weather is starting to warm up and that, encourages the spread of fleas. Certainly, in areas with a more temperate climate, fleas can be a year-round problem.

Many pets may have fleas and are not particularly bothered, but for a pet that is flea allergic, it can be an excruciating condition. A good start to help your pet avoid fleas is to control and treat your environment.

Inside the house, vacuum frequently and especially the areas where pets sleep and under furniture to remove flea eggs.

Borate powders: Often found under the brand name Fleabusters®, these powders are applied to indoor carpets that will result in an environment that will dehydrate fleas and other pests. Please follow all guidelines when applying.

Fleas enjoy a moist environment, so try to remove leaves and other organic debris covering moist ground to allow it to dry. Additionally, keep vegetation near the home or

*continued, page 2*

## Flea treatment, *continued*

kennel mowed or clipped. Keep the area free of carrier hosts such as free roaming cats and dogs, raccoons, squirrels and opossums.

**Predatory nematodes:** If you are interested in an outdoor-use organic method, consider predatory nematodes. These are microscopic “worms” that prey on numerous insect pests that have a larval stage in the soil. They are safe for humans and animals, so they are an especially good option for outdoor areas frequented by you and your pet.

**Insecticides:** This group includes pyrethrins, and synthetic pyrethroids. They are available through professional exterminators as well as at hardware stores for self application. Be sure to follow all cautionary guidelines when applying these products. Finally, insect growth regulators (pyriproxyfen) are another option. It does not kill adult fleas, but prevents eggs from hatching, breaking the infestation cycle.

The science and formulations of topical and oral anti-flea medications continue to evolve, so consult with your veterinarian for the best product for your pet.

## New Derm Satellite Location for California Central Coast

### *Arroyo Grande now 15th satellite*

Arroyo Grande is the newest satellite location for Animal Dermatology Clinic. Starting in March, Dr. John Angus will travel to the picturesque area of the California central coast which is located 170 miles northwest of Los Angeles.

March 24 was the first day of seeing patients with initial expectations of monthly visits, possibly more, depending upon demand.

“I am very excited to be working in Arroyo Grande, because it is located in one of my favorite areas of California” says Dr. Angus.

He will be working out of the Central Coast Emergency Pet Clinic, 1558 West Branch Ave, Arroyo Grande, CA 93420. To make an appointment for this satellite, please call 626-577-8181.

## Animal Derm Clinic Doctor Diverted by Japan Earthquake

Dr. Wayne Rosenkrantz (Tustin, CA) was en route to Tokyo, Japan on March 11 when his flight was diverted fifteen minutes before landing due to an earthquake.

The event, of course, was the massive 8.9-magnitude earthquake and deadly tsunami that struck the coastal town of Sendai 165 miles away. Although Tokyo was spared from the disaster, it was unknown at the time if the runways were affected and the plane landed 500 miles north in the city of Sapporo. It resulted in a 22- hour trip.

Dr. Rosenkrantz, an international speaker, was invited to lecture to a group of veterinarians in two cities that weekend. On Saturday, he made his way back to Tokyo arriving as the conference was ending. He was able to speak on Sunday in Osaka.

Japan offers world-class public transportation, both in comfort and efficiency, yet the earthquake disrupted travel plans for many. Dr. Rosenkrantz says he was fortunate to find trains running when he needed them but he learned later that many had cancelled service immediately afterwards.

While in Japan, Dr. Rosenkrantz says he did experience aftershocks, including some measuring greater than magnitude of 6.0 which even for this California native, it was quite a jolt.

He returned home safely on March 14.

**Employee Spotlight:  
Heather Philpott**



Heather is our receptionist in the Pasadena, CA clinic and has been with us since that location was established two years ago.

“I have a long commute to work but I love my job and the

people I work with. We have become a very close team and work extremely well together and that makes the drive worth it” she says.

Her quiet voice belies her adventurous spirit having recently completed her first sky diving experience. Bungee jumping and shark diving are next on the list!

Heather’s pets are limited to goldfish for now, although she would love to get a cat. “Until then, I get to meet and greet all the pets that come to the clinic and that’s almost as nice as having a pet.”

*“In order to keep a true perspective of one's importance, everyone should have a dog that will worship him and a cat that will ignore him.”*

~Dereke Bruce

**Wacky Pet Names**

Veterinary Pet Insurance (VPI) culled its list of 470,000 insured pets and VPI employees voted on their favorite unusual pet names. Here is the partial list. Enjoy!



**Dogs**

1. Pickle von Corndog
2. Lord Chubby Pruneface
3. Badonkadonnk
4. Ninjastar Dangerrock
5. Molly McBoozehound
6. Dog Vader
7. Flopsy Squeakrton
8. Bettie Poops
9. Geez Louise
10. Barnaby Bones
11. Baba Ganoush
12. Virginia Wolf
13. Iggy Pup
14. Atilla the Honey
15. Chunk of Love
16. Doogie Bowser
17. Hunkapapa Honk

**Cats**

1. Purr Diem
2. Bing Clawsby
3. Cleocatra
4. Admiral Pancake
5. Optimus Pants
6. Chairman Meow
7. Boo Manchu
8. Watts in a Name
9. Chenoa Azure Marshmallow-Puff
10. Senor Nachos
11. Tasselhoff
12. Dingleberry
13. Phebe Picklespam
14. Tater Bean
15. Meepmeep
16. Eskimo Ebony Heather Feather

## Pet Events in Your Area

The following events are listed for informational purposes only. Please contact the organization prior to attending as schedules may change without notice. Animal Dermatology Clinic has no affiliation with these events.

### Louisville, KY

#### Saturday April 23

The Bluegrass Pugfest at The Thoroughbred Center 10am – 4pm

Pug parade, raffles, vendors, contests and more! This is a fundraising event for the Kentuckiana Pug Rescue. For the entire list of events and more information please see their website at [www.kentucianapugs.com](http://www.kentucianapugs.com) or call 877-784-7988

### San Diego

#### Saturday April 9

Cesar Millan, the Dog Whisperer  
Hilton San Diego Mission Valley \$95.00 per ticket. Cesar will lecture and then take questions from the audience. Sponsored by the International Association of Canine Professionals. Please see their website at [www.canineprofessionals.com](http://www.canineprofessionals.com) for more information.

### Pasadena, CA

#### Monday April 18

Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA 12<sup>th</sup> annual Doglegs, Birdies and Eagles Gold Benefit at San Gabriel Country Club.

If you enjoy a bit of golf and have proceeds to help homeless pets, this might be the event for you! Putting contest, a shotgun start, silent auction, helicopter ball drop raffle, dinner and live auction for the benefit of the Pasadena Humane Society.

\$75 per person, registration starts at 9am. Call 626-792-7151, ext 167 to purchase dinner tickets or sign up for a foursome.

### Alpharetta, GA

#### Saturday April 23

Walk4paws Dog Walk and Jog

Wills Park Equestrian Center 9am-5pm

To support and fund research efforts by the UGA College of Veterinary Medicine's Pathology Dept and the UGA Veterinary Teaching Hospital's Oncology Service to find more effective treatments for various forms of canine cancer.

Info: 404-838-7010 or email [lizbeth@walk4paws.net](mailto:lizabeth@walk4paws.net)

### Orange County, CA

#### Fri-Sun, April 15-17

Orange County Pet Expo at the O.C. Fairgrounds in Costa Mesa, CA

The World's Largest Pet & Pet Product Expo!

Exhibitors include manufacturers, retailers, groomers, veterinarians, rescues and more!

Parking is free. General admission \$12, children under 5 yrs are free.

Sorry, pets not allowed due to the large number of animals on exhibit.

### Indianapolis, IN

#### Sunday, May 1

8<sup>th</sup> Annual Mutt Strut at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, 11am – 3pm.

Join in on Indiana's largest pet walk fund raising event sponsored by the Humane Society of Indianapolis. Walk the famous oval with or without a dog!

See [indymuttstrut.org](http://indymuttstrut.org) for list of events and donation entry fees.