

## Gypsum Animal Hospital Holiday Newsletter 2015

I was just informed that I have not written a holiday newsletter since 2012. That was just last week, right?! It's hard to believe we are soon entering our 10<sup>th</sup> year taking care of all of your pets. And I can't stress enough or repeat what a pleasure and honor it is. We like our work and, even though our staff changes, one thing for certain is we will always have a good natured, animal loving, fun loving staff.

Speaking of changes, we've had a few this last year. **Melanie** had her baby, Wyatt, last month and is back home near her family in Alabama. Mel had a rough pregnancy, and, basically, felt like crap the entire time and spent it mostly on bed rest, "I've waited my entire life to be preggers and now I can't wait to get this parasite out of me" she said, "I feel so cheated." **Jessica** has had to go to part time work after taking a few months off to care for her father. He is doing well, and, as most people recovering from an illness, he is driving Jessica crazy so we expect to see more of her back here shortly.

On the good side of change, we stumbled upon 2 excellent nurses/technicians, and it seems we are moving towards an all red headed staff. **Lexie** joined us early in the summer; she is a pre-vet student and will start her pre-vet classes at CSU next fall. She comes with a lot of experience for such a young un and we like to tease her that her old boss said she was shy. I wish she was shy enough not to come into my office while I am out and put on country music on the radio. **Caroline** is our other nurse who has 10 years of experience. She walked into the office during our shortage, saw all my Florida Gator stuff in the office and basically agreed to work here for free. Well not really but it almost went down that way. We talk lots of football, soon we will try politics and religion. We also hired 2 high school students, **Megan** who is red headed and **Jennie** who wishes she were a red head. I really love having students around. Everyone here is so into learning, myself included, it is very cool. We joke that 'work' does not have to be a four lettered word.

On the doctor side, **Dr. Nadine** continues to work most Fridays and cover all of my vacations. She compliments us here by offering acupuncture and laser therapies. Besides doing the fun work of bookkeeping here, mothering our 5 and 7 year olds (and the bigs who are now 18, 21 and 24), and running our household, **Roni** got a very cool gig providing massage therapy to cancer patients at the Shaw Regional Cancer Center. It's very fulfilling work. **Dr. Gentry** continues to provide excellent specialty and orthopedic surgery services to the hospital and **Dr. Radway** regularly visits to provide ultrasound and echocardiogram services. **Dr. Steve** (I just did that so I can see my name in bold) continues to impress us all by being one of the smartest, strongest, handsomest, and humblest people on earth.

As we enter our 10<sup>th</sup> year here we continue to grow physically and mentally. We are always on the lookout for the latest and greatest in pet care and we continue to strive to be here for all your pets' needs. One thing we know is that we need to constantly look inward and work hard to stay on top of our game. These are not mere words but our philosophy. I absolutely love the open minded, interactive approach we have taken with our animal hospital. Just last week I was showing x-rays to a person whose dog was sick and he said, "This is so cool, I have never been in the back part of a hospital before, thanks for letting me see all this." That, in a nutshell is our approach: we are all a team as your pet's healthcare providers and we like having you involved.

To end, we wish you and your pets a great Holiday Season and Happy New Year.

And once again, we all sincerely thank you for placing your trust in us when it comes to your pet's health.

**Dr. Steve, Roni, Dr. Nadine, Jessica, Caroline, Lexie, Megan, Jennie (and Ok, Melanie too)**