



SERVICE DOGS IN THE VETERINARY CLINIC

PRESENTED BY

AMIE CHAPMAN, RVT



for Guide Dogs for the Blind, one for Guide Dogs of the Desert and currently a puppy is being raised for Brigadoon Service Dogs. Amie is a board member for two non-profit organizations, “Growing Up Guide Pup” and “Mobility Service Dogs West Coast Project”.

For the past 19 years, Amie has been working at the **North Peninsula Veterinary Emergency Clinic** in San Mateo. In addition to working with all her many pursuits, Amie enjoys spending time with her current puppy in training, Penny, career-change guide dog Ricki, rescue dog Ozzy and two rescue cats, Autumn and Bagheera. Clearly, Amie has a real passion for neonates and pediatrics so pursues a lot of foster work and care for orphaned puppies and kittens.

“*Growing Up Guide Pup*” was established as a non-profit, 501(c)3, Public Charity Organization founded by Amie and Matthew Chapman in 2014. It is dedicated to educating the public on Service Dog etiquette, law and training via blogs, videos and also in-person presentations. By 2010, the couple had begun producing a web series that followed the process of becoming a service dog titled, “*Growing Up Guide Pup*”. Since then, the series has been screened at web series festivals in the U.S., Canada, South America, Europe and Asia for which it has received multiple awards.

Since 2002, Amie and her husband Matt have been raising puppies to become service dogs. This included 15 puppies



www.PeninsulaVMA.org

Next PVMA Meeting: Tuesday May 15, 2018

This PVMA meeting program offers 1 hour of CE Credit

The meeting will be held at **The Vans Restaurant** in Belmont located at **815 Belmont Avenue**, west off El Camino Real, up the hill. There is parking adjacent and also across the street to the northwest.

6:30 pm for adult beverages - 7:00 pm for dinner and program

PVMA members FREE * Life Members \$25 * Guests \$60

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Newsletter Editor Notes

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We welcome submission of
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All submissions must be received by
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In Memorium



Dr. R.L. Collinson, a CVMA Distinguished Life Member, passed away in February 2018 at the age of 99. He was a 1942 Colorado State graduate and practiced small animal medicine in Santa Clara County for most of his career. Previously, he practiced large animal medicine in Wyoming, Missouri and Turlock, California. In 1963 he was one of the founding directors of the AVMA Foundation. Dr. Collinson was president of CVMA in 1964-65 and received the CVMA's highest honor, the *CVMA Lifetime Achievement Award* in 2000. Dr. Collinson, who was better known to his colleagues and friends as "R L" was active in PVMA for decades.



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BRACHYCEPHALIC SYNDROME - A NEW FIX



A new surgical procedure to address the troublesome symptoms of “Brachycephalic Syndrome” in dogs and cats was performed for the first time in the U.S. at the University of Illinois Veterinary Teaching Hospital at Champaign-Urbana by Drs. Heidi Phillips and Brendan McKiernan. The procedure was developed by a German veterinarian. This new surgical technique was performed on a young French Bulldog and was successful.

Dr. McKiernan is a board certified veterinary internist and an internationally known expert in respiratory diseases of companion animals. In 1978, as an Illinois CVM faculty member, he founded the “Veterinary Comparative Respiratory Society and served as its President for seven years. Dr. Phillips is a board-certified small animal veterinary surgeon with special interest in soft-tissue and microsurgery. She is an Assistant Professor of small animal surgery at the University of Illinois.

In brachycephalic dogs, the nasal cavity is smaller so the turbinates are more crowded and thus often are touching each other which causes snoring, dyspnea, susceptibility to over-heating and clinical difficulties with anesthesia. Turbinates may be too far forward or back which accentuates problems. The new surgical procedure specifically addresses the turbinates problem in order to improve the patient’s breathing.

The story began in 2006 when Dr. McKiernan attended a veterinary convention in Germany where he met Dr. Gerhard Oechtering when both were making presentations on the same topic of relieving obstructions in brachycephalic dogs and also to deliver new anatomical discoveries about canine turbinates. Dr. McKiernan made several additional visits to Germany to exchange knowledge of surgical techniques with Dr. Oechtering. Dr. Heidi Phillips also traveled to Germany to observe the procedure. Together, Drs. McKiernan and Phillips have brought this procedure to the United States.

The surgery is a laser-assisted turbinectomy, also known as “LATE”. A very small, precise laser is used to remove the portion of the turbinates that are obstructing the nasal cavity. It is a safe procedure with very little bleeding. Typically, a dog with Brachycephalic Syndrome has abnormal conditions in other parts of the Upper Respiratory System also, such as narrowed nostrils, strictures in the back of the throat or elongated soft palate. Therefore, multiple surgical procedures are often required. This treatment, helpful as it is, still isn’t a sure cure. Although it definitely improves the patient’s quality of life, it doesn’t completely fix the problem.





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GPS COLLARS FOR DOGS

A leather collar is now much more than something to which a dog-owner can attach a leash or ID tags. Some exciting new models are equipped with an electronic device that serves as a sensor and GPS locator now available for dogs who tend to wander. One such unit, called “Link AKC Smart Collar” connects to an Android or iOS device via Bluetooth and functions via AT&T’s mobile network. A small base station serves as a charger after which the collar should perform for about two days between charges. A phone app provides viewing of the dog’s activity and the option to take pictures. Another brand of Smart Collar, the “Pet-Pace” claims it can sense a dog’s vital signs and alert the owner or veterinarian at the first signs of trouble. In addition to the initial purchase price, most brands also have a monthly fee.



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