

# BigCreek PetHospital Beagle

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## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Happy Holidays from your friends at Big Creek Pet Hospital. It's hard to believe that 2008 is coming to an end!

The year 2008 will be known as the year of nutrition at BCPH. In response to Dr. Fegan's search for a more nutritious, healthier alternative to store bought foods, we began carrying Evo, Innova and California Natural foods from Natura Pet Products, Inc ([naturapet.com](http://naturapet.com)). We are also making more recommendations around diet and exercise needs to combat pet obesity.

During 2008 we also started a Pet Loss Support Group, which meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month at 7PM. Call us if you would like more information.

Thanks for supporting us; we exist only because of your loyalty. May you and yours have a Blessed Holiday Season and very Happy New Year.

The Big Creek Pet Hospital Team

P.S. Animal Idol is returning June 28<sup>th</sup> at the Middleburg Heights Summer in the City Celebration.

## BCPH Staff News:

**Dr. Deborah Fegan** and her husband, **Ed**, welcomed their daughter and son-in-law, Jennifer and Steve Birkett home from England, where they have resided for several years. Steve and Jen, who arrived just in time for the holidays, are helping out at BCPH during their transition back to life in the States.

**Gill Ross**, Registered Veterinary Technician, celebrated 20 years with Big Creek Pet Hospital this year. She must have been a child when she started working here! In April, Dr. Fegan sent the Ross family on a super awesome vacation to Disney World where they had a great time. Gill is so thankful to Dr. Fegan and the BCPH clients who celebrated with her.

**Kim Fegan** and her family have undertaken a project to train Biscuit, a yellow Lab, for WAGs 4 Kids, an organization which provides dogs to assist disabled children.

**Susan Reid** continues to show her Cavalier King Charles Spaniels at area dog shows. She is also showing an Afghan Hound, Tiki, for one of our clients. This summer she took Best of Breed honors for both Tiki and Cosmo, her Swedish-born Cavalier. Her Cavalier stud, Rock, is well-known internationally! Rock's kids have been successful in the ring, including winning a championship in Canada. Most recently, one of Susan's puppies starred in Dogs 101 on Animal Planet.

**Megan Mosberger** graduated from Tri-C at the top of her class and was certified this past summer as a Registered Veterinary Technician. Congratulations to Megan!

**Tracy West** has 12 years of experience in the veterinary field and is now pursuing Registered Veterinary Technician studies at Stautzenberger College while she continues with her responsibilities at BCPH as a Patient Advocate.

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## Would you like to receive **FREE** Veterinary Services & Products? Join our VIP Club

We realize that with the economy in shambles, you need to watch your spending. So, how would you like to get **free** veterinary services? Well, during the past year, 47 clients have joined the Big Creek Pet Hospital VIP (Very Important Pet) Club and have received up to \$500 in **free** gift certificates to spend on any of our veterinary services and products.

### WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN?

- Gives you **FREE** veterinary services. You get a 20% return on your investment (Can you get this kind of return from your bank?);
- Is great for families who have the additional cost of multiple pets;
- Is especially good if you get recurring food or medications from us;
- Gives you an alternative to pet insurance, except with the VIP Club 100% of your money goes towards your pet's health;
- With 4 different levels to fit your needs, you need only to choose the amount of **FREE** gift certificates you would like to receive each month;
- The bottom line is you can spread the cost and budget for your pet care, while you receive an extra 20% **FREE**.

To learn more about the VIP Club and take advantage of this amazing opportunity call us today at 440-234-5831.

**Julie Kish** has been with BCPH since June 2007 as a Patient Advocate, gaining experience in preparation to attend Veterinary School. She graduates in May 2009 from Baldwin-Wallace with a B.S. in Biology and Chemistry, and has applied to the O.S.U. School of Veterinary Medicine. She is awaiting word regarding her application status following her interview in December. Good luck, Julie!

**Michelle Emigh**, Registered Veterinary Technician, recently took a few days off to celebrate her mother's birthday in sunny Phoenix, Arizona. She sure didn't miss the icy cold of Northeast Ohio while she was away!

**Kristen Dickinson**, Patient Advocate, has transitioned over the summer from Kennel Staff to Medical Staff. Her dog, Tucker James, is undergoing heartworm treatment and is scheduled to be re-tested in February by Dr. Fegan.

**Shelly Blaha** is engaged to Kyle and deep into planning for an August 2009 wedding.

**Rebecca Reid** supports front desk staff with many clerical tasks. She is a Junior at Magnificat and is very involved with a number of extra-curricular activities.

**New Faces at BCPH during 2008:**

**Eliza Fitch**, Patient Advocate, has finished her coursework at Stautzenberger College and began her internship at BCPH in July. She will become fully certified as a Registered Veterinary Technician upon passing the State Board Exam in January 2009.

**Jackie Kishel**, started as a Client Relations Specialist in July, with 9 years experience in veterinary office work. Jackie lives with 6 cats and 1 dog, and her grandson calls her "Hey Dude"!

**Charlotte Tuttle**, Administrative Assistant to Ed Fegan, joined BCPH in a staff position in July after 1-1/2 years of supporting the clinic's operations as an Independent Contractor. Her grandchildren just call her "Grandma"!

**Brent Fahrmeier** is a Senior at Valley Forge High who recently returned to BCPH. He divides his time between his Kennel Staff and Medical Staff duties and is planning a career in Veterinary Medicine.

**Coty Connor**, one of BCPH's new Kennel Staff members, is a Senior at Midpark High. She enjoys Chinese food, classical polka music and a nice pair of slacks. Whoa! Dream Big!

**Jeremy Novak** is a Junior at Midpark High and when he's not performing his duties in BCPH's Kennel, he performs with the Magic Show Choir.

**Ryan Neldon** is a Freshman at Midpark High and holds down the fort in the BCPH Kennel on Sundays with his big sister, Lynette, making sure our clients' precious pets are well cared for.

## Is Your Pet in Pain?

Your pet may be suffering from painful gums, reluctance to eat, and lethargy all due to the most common disease effecting pets 3 years and older: **Dental Disease**. The American Veterinary Dental Society reports that 80 percent of dogs and 70 percent of cats show signs of oral disease by age three.

## Warning Signs

Here are five signs of possible dental problems:

1. Not Eating/Poor Eating – Has your pet lost her appetite? This may be a sign she is in pain while eating.
2. Bad Breath – Unless he has just eaten a smelly food, such as tuna, your pet should **not** have bad breath.
3. Discolored Teeth – Healthy teeth in both cats and dogs are white. Discolored teeth, especially around the gum line, are a sign of a dental problem.
4. Red, Swollen, or Bleeding Gums – If your pet's gums are red, swollen, or bleeding they need attention. (Healthy gums are pink.)
5. Loose Teeth – If your pet's teeth are loose, this is a sign of bone loss in the jaw (i.e. periodontal disease).

## The Solution

Daily Home Health Care, preferably brushing, and periodic professional dental cleanings (at least once a year) will help protect your pet. Don't wait for dental problems to occur, requiring expensive dental procedures and teeth to be pulled.

**10% off  
Dental Services  
and Related Products**

**January 12th – March 13th**

Call today to schedule an appointment as space for dental treatment is limited: 440-234-5831



**Remember!**  
**BCPH Gift Certificates**  
**Make Great Stocking Stuffers**

Available in any amount, BCPH gift certificates are appreciated by the pet lovers you know!  
Ask our Client Relations Specialists: 440-234-5831



**Big Creek Pet Hospital's Gift to YOU!**  
**\$10 Holiday Gift Certificate**

Thanks for supporting us this year.  
You can use this gift certificate for any service or product we provide at Big Creek Pet Hospital  
Please redeem by March 31, 2009