



HEALTH NEWSLETTER OF  
THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST  
BOXER CLUB



## UPCOMING HEALTH CLINICS in 2022



### WESTERN WASHINGTON CLUSTER

Location: Puyallup WA 98371

JULY 9 AND 10, 2022

Western WA Cluster at the Western WA

Fairgrounds ShowPlex Building

Times: TO BE ANNOUNCED

### All Breed Clinic

Costs at January cluster were:

#### CARDIAC SCREENING:

Auscultation: Dr. J.A. Woodfield, \$53;

Echocardiogram: Dr. J.A. Woodfield,  
\$215;

#### CERF CLINIC:

Genetic Eye Screen: Dr. Paul Scherlie,  
\$40. The register and pay system  
should be the same.

For January the contact was:

<https://pvd.org/> to register and pay.

### LINN COUNTY KENNEL CLUB

LOCATION: ALBANY OR 97322

LINN COUNTY EXPO CENTER

SAT FEB 26 AND SUN FEB 27, 2022

TIMES: 11:00 - 4:30

#### CAER EYE EXAMINATIONS

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

10:00 - 4:30

#### CARDIAC AUSCULTATIONS

SUNDAY ONLY

#### ALL BREED CLINIC

**CAER EYE**, SARAH MAXWELL, DVM,  
\$35.00 SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

**CARDIAC AUSCULTATION**, WILLIAM  
RAUSCH, DVM, \$55.00 SUNDAY ONLY

CONTACT: PREREGISTRATION  
PREFERRED, PAYMENT IN ADVANCE.  
CONTACT GAIL HILL, 503-302-6024.  
HRAFN\_1@YAHOO.COM

## UPCOMING HEALTH CLINICS

(continued)

Quail Run Cavalier King Charles Spaniels  
and Cavaliers of the West

Location: Pleasant Hill OR 97455

35561 Westminster Street

Times: 9:00 am until finished

### All Breed Clinic

**Heart Auscultation**, Gabrielle Wallace,  
DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology), \$45.00

**Heart Echo**, Gabrielle Wallace, DVM,  
DACVIM (Cardiology), \$250.00

**Eye Exam**, Sarah Maxwell, DVM, DACVO,  
\$40.00

Contact: [cavladym@mindspring.com](mailto:cavladym@mindspring.com) or  
541.726.3850

## DEGENERATIVE MYELOPATHY

Of recent years, incidences of Degenerative Myelopathy have been widely reported in Boxers of middle and advanced age. DM is a neurological disease affecting the spinal cord and nerves coordinating the rear quarters. Over time, dogs lose the ability to walk, become incontinent, and are most often euthanized at this point. DM is a sad disease in that the patient remains mentally alert; there is no pain; and yet, keeping such an animal happy poses special challenges.

## LINKS TO HEALTH ARTICLES OF INTEREST

### SPAY AND NEUTER

<https://www.avma.org/javma-news/2021-03-01/when-should-we-neuter-dogs>

### AMERICAN BOXER CLUB HEALTH PAGE

<https://americanboxerclub.org/health.html>

### AMERICAN BOXER CLUB HEALTH SCREENING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BOXERS IN A BREEDING PROGRAM

<https://americanboxerclub.org/health-screening.html>

### OFA -CHIC HEALTH TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR BOXERS

<https://www.ofa.org/recommended-tests?breed=BX>

## DEGENERATIVE MYELOPATHY (cont.)

There are custom carts designed to allow some patients to regain a degree of mobility. Thankfully, a DNA test has been developed to predict the likelihood of your Boxer developing this condition. Breeders should be making every effort to ensure their breeding stock is screened and more careful breedings made so the occurrence of DM can be reduced and hopefully eliminated in future generations.

**Please see the health page on ABC for more information.**

<https://americanboxerclub.org/health.html>



## BOXER THYROID DEFICIENCY

This condition may be caused by an auto immune condition or tumors, among other causes. The deficient thyroid may have an effect on many organ systems, including the heart. Symptoms may include excessive hair thinning, obesity, anemia, infertility, and lethargy.

Diagnosis is confirmed by a complete thyroid panel blood test. Oral doses of thyroid hormones will alleviate most symptoms and will probably need to be given for the duration of the dog's life. Luckily, thyroid therapy is relatively inexpensive and effective.

For more information please visit:

<https://www.abcfoundation.org/health.html>



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION GO TO:

<https://americanboxerclub.org/health.html>



## BOXER ARVC aka Boxer Cardiomyopathy

Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy (ARVC), often referred to as Boxer Cardiomyopathy, is a genetic disease in Boxers that causes arrhythmias (disruptions to the heart's normal rhythm) that can result in episodes of collapse or fainting and even sudden death.

It should be noted that cardiomyopathy can also include other types of heart muscle diseases (e.g., dilated cardiomyopathy, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy) and that arrhythmias can also be brought on by certain poisons, infections (e.g., parvovirus, kidney disease, diabetes, and heatstroke). Diagnosis of ARVC is accomplished via electrocardiogram (ECG), 24-hour holter monitoring (portable ECG), and echocardiogram (aka ECHO; ultrasound of the heart that assesses the structure and function of the heart).

Two types of genetic DNA screening for ARVC are now available as tools for breeders in assessing their breeding stock. (ARVC 1 and 2). Please see the following link to the **North Carolina State Veterinary Hospital** for more info about genetic testing for ARVC:~

<https://cvm.ncsu.edu/nc-state-vet-hospital/small-animal/genetics/submit-dna-testing/nc-state-veterinary-hospital-small-animal-veterinary-genetics-cardiac-health/boxer-arrhythmogenic-arvc/>