

News From OurDogHouse

Version 3.1

October 23, 2006

Featured Product



[Happy Holidays \(Boxer\)
Ornament \(Round\)](#)

\$9.99

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1. New Things Are Happening At OurDogHouse!

Santa Paws

Santa Paws and his little helpers are already working hard this year and gearing up for the 2006 Christmas season. They are coming out with a line of breed specific products for your pet to give out to grandparents, friends, the pet sitter or the vet. Be sure to check out all of the great new holiday products! We have ornaments, Christmas cards, t-shirts, mugs and more! You are sure to find something for all the dog lovers on your list.

[Click here for our holiday section](#)

White Sweatshirts and Hoodies

Many of you have requested white sweatshirts and hoodies in addition to the ash gray color. You will now have a choice of white or gray when ordering your favorite design on our sweatshirts and hoodies.

[Click here for OurDogHouse](#)

The Cats Meow!

We know that many of you have cats as well as dogs by the number of custom designs that have been requested. If you need a unique gift with a cat theme or know someone who is a cat lover, check out our other store [Cat Cabaret](#)

2. ALD

ALD

Acral lick dermatitis (ALD), also known as lick granuloma is a condition whereby the pet licks excessively. Usually this is around or on the front paws or legs. At first this might seem like the pet is simply grooming himself or herself. However, the precipitant licking can result in skin irritation, inflammation, itchy, red and even ulcerated areas. To add to this no win equation, the more licking they do, the

more likely the area will not heal. Moisture produced by the excessive licking can cause bacteria, which in turn causes the skin to itch making the pet want to lick all the more. This becomes a vicious cycle for your pet.

Your vet will need to run tests to make sure another condition is not masquerading as ALD. X-rays, blood tests, cultures and even biopsies may be needed to rule out such things as: allergies, fungal infections, arthritis, tumors, skin mites or low levels of thyroid just to name a few.

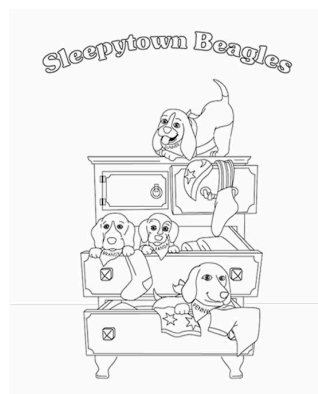
While any breed or size of dog can develop ALD, it is more commonly found in larger breeds. Some prescribe to the theory that the dog's excessive licking can help release endorphins, which in turn gives the dog a sense of well-being. ALD, is thought to be more of a psychological condition rather than a physical one.

If your pet is diagnosed with ALD, your vet can help you plan some lifestyle changes for your pet. Below are just a few things that may need to be looked into and adjusted to help your pet.

- Healthy diet
- Exercise
- Entertainment
- Scheduled feedings
- Conflict management, this can be anything from separation anxiety, problems with another pet in your household, long periods confinement or boredom.

Along with the above your veterinarian will more then likely treat the area to help in healing process. Some may need to be fitted with what is called an Elizabethan collar to stop the licking cycle and/or medications.

3. Follow-up on Sleepytown Beagles Books



On sale now! [Click here.](#)

Sleepytown Beagles

We announced in our last issue that our designer, Tim Glass, had released the first book in his Sleepytown Beagles Book series.

Many of you wrote us that you were unable to get your paws on a copy. We can tell you now Tim's book is available! There were some

issues in the early stages of the release. However, drop by his site and the book ships within 24 hours. The book will make a wonderful gift for the holidays.

4. Dogs Don't Drive!

Don't Teach Fido This Trick!

A woman in China recently crashed her car while giving her dog a driving lesson. The woman, identified only as Li, said her dog liked to crouch with his paws on the steering wheel. She decided to let the dog "try" to steer while she controlled the accelerator and brake.

They did not go very far before hitting an oncoming car. Luckily, no injuries were reported. Both vehicles were slightly damaged but Li agreed to pay for repairs.

We hope you enjoyed visiting with us this month. We welcome you to forward this issue of our newsletter to anyone else who might also enjoy it. Please feel free to email your comments and suggestions to [OurDogHouse](#)

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