

ODYSSEY PETS

14999 Preston Rd. Ste. 400A Dallas, Tx. 75254 972-407-1166

Hours: Monday-Saturday 9-8pm, Sunday 12-6pm
Early drop off for grooming, boarding, & daycare
as early as 7:30am.

Pet Service Experts in:
Grooming, Boarding,
Daycare, Aquarium Service

EVENTS:

- Feral Friends Cat Adoptions: 3rd Sunday of every month
- Low Cost Vaccine Clinic is usually the last Saturday of the month from 1-4pm. Check our website for up-to-date details.
- Dog Adoptions: check our website for updated schedules

WWW.ODYSSEYPETS.COM



If we wouldn't use it for our pets, we
wouldn't sell it for yours.

Always natural.
Always healthy.



Vol. 10
Spring/
Summer
2017

THE ODYSSEY BARKER

making some noise about pets & toys

*Our
Impression
of Expression*
*What's up with
anal sacs?*

**Sunny
Days
Ahead!**

**DR. AXELROD,
I PRESUME**
**The Search for the Indiana
Jones of Tropical Fish**

***Get Control
with Training
Classes***

**A Letter from
Sherry**
**Purified Water
for Pets**

Hot Stuff



Get Control with Training Classes

Odyssey Pets now offers basic training classes as well as conformation classes. Conformation class is for the show dog and handler who need to practice ring etiquette. Learn with your dog in a relaxed environment with Verjean Lunenschloss. Odyssey is so excited and humbled to be able to host Verjean's classes. Verjean has a varied background in dogs, having trained in Obedience, Schutzhund, Therapy, Field, Conformation, and most recently, Freestyle Obedience (doggie dancing). She has experience with most breeds, and has owned German Shepherd Dogs, Shar-Pei, Bearded Collies, Old English Sheepdogs, Weimaraners, Rottweilers, Dobermans, Great Danes, and Chinese Pugs.



Training classes are a 6-week course usually meeting Mondays from 6:30-7:30pm. Upcoming class schedules will be announced through our email newsletter as well as our Facebook page. Conformation classes are \$15 drop in on most Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30pm.

Training Supply Checklist



DOOG Running Belt
So handy! Keep your phone, keys, poop bags, & treats secure.

Mendota Slip Leads An Odyssey favorite! Combo leash & collar allows for easy correction while training. Brass hardware and leather slide to prevent lead from slipping off. Soft on the hands. Made in USA.



Bixbi Pocket Trainers
Small. Soft. Grain-free & low cal. Made in USA.



Kitty Korner

Trend Alert! Food Pouches

You may see a proliferation of pouches in your usual canned food cat section at the store. They are totally trending right now. But why? Besides the new novelty of it, there's several reasons why pouches are pawtastic.

- 1) Space saver. Cans are heavy and take up a lot of space. If you're traveling or have limited storage, pouches are your friend.
- 2) Easier to open. Sometimes cans can be sharp and hard to open. Not with pouches!
- 3) Less waste = more eco-friendly.
- 4) Some cans still have BPA lining. But pouches are BPA free!

Odyssey Pets only carries the best brands available. Whatever your preference, canned or pouch, it looks like this trend may be here to stay.



Clevercat Top Entry Litter Box

Prevents litter tracking and keeps small dogs out of the box.



Stella & Chewy's Dinner Morsels

Freeze-dried raw food. Great as a topper too!

Kitty Kaviar Bonito Flakes

Amazing as a food topper or treat.



Wool Cat Caves

Sleeping pod and play burrow. Washable. Warm. Eco-friendly.



Our Impression of Expression

What's up with anal sacs?

Anal sacs, often called anal glands, even though they are not truly glandular, are two small pouches located at the 4 o'clock and 8 o'clock positions on either side of the anus. These sacs secrete an oily, often tar-like substance with a smell that will knock your socks off! The purpose of these glands is unclear but may serve as a way for dogs to mark their territory with scent.



Healthy, properly functioning anal sacs will secrete on their own when the dog goes poo. When you see a dog scoot on the ground, they may have issues naturally secreting it and are trying to help it discharge on their own.

So, what's the big deal? Unfortunately, anal sacs can become impacted and abscessed due to the sac's inability to pass this sometimes thick substance. When this happens, you must see a vet where they will flush and drain the area and provide antibiotics.



What can you do if your dog has anal sac problems? Many believe that an improved diet will help your dog's ability to secrete the sacs on their own. A firm stool is ideal because as it is expelled through the rectum and anus, it rubs against the sacs to naturally express them. Also, stop feeding any foods that contain corn, potato, oatmeal, wheat, rice, or soy. A raw diet often elimi-

nates many health problems including anal gland issues, but if you are unable to feed such a diet, try a high quality grain-free, potato-free kibble with the addition of pumpkin and probiotics. We love Diggin' Your Dog's Firm Up! freeze-dried pumpkin supplement and Herbsmith's Microflora+ probiotic supplements.



At Odyssey Pets, our grooming salon does a superficial, external squeeze on the sacs to accomplish two things: excrete any anal sac juices that are near the surface and ready to come out, and to check for any issues like impaction. If our groomers find any tenderness or potential problems in that area, we report it to the owner so that they may see their veterinarian. Vets will express the glands internally and assess any troubles that may be going on.

A Letter from Sherry

Purified Water for Pets



Recently, I've been asked by a few people if they should be giving their dog or cat filtered drinking water rather than tap water. In the past, I have had people make fun that I only give my pets purified water. If that has happened to you, it's okay! Being healthy comes with its territory. There will always be naysayers. About a year ago, one of my dogs developed struvite crystals in his urine. After consulting with my veterinarian and doing my own research, I concluded that I needed to stop using tap water and up the intake of fluid in my dog. If you're feeding a dry kibble diet, it is likely that your dog does not consume enough water. In the wild, they receive a lot of

moisture from fresh meat. Of course, a raw diet is the absolute best when it comes to feeding your dog or cat. We offer many varieties that are frozen, convenient, and balanced. But, if raw is not on your radar, adding warm water, bone broth, goat's milk, or canned food to your pet's diet will help increase moisture consumption. But back to tap water. There are so many chemicals added to our water sources that I personally do not consume



it. I use filtered or bottled water for myself so why wouldn't I use it for my dog? Tap water contains heavy metals, chlorine, and fluoride which can potentially cause health problems in the long run. I especially recommend that if your dog is undergoing chemotherapy or fighting a serious infection or virus, provide filtered water. You want their immune system to recover and help fight the infection or virus, and not waste time fighting heavy metals. Also, don't forget to clean out your dog's water bowl regularly as bacteria can build up easily, especially when using a purified water source. Pet water fountains help with filtering out debris and keeping it fresh. Cats are especially attracted to water movement. So, if you don't like filling up the water bowl multiple times a day, consider a large capacity water fountain. Whatever you decide, always provide a water source at all times for your pet.



Happy and healthy drinking!

—Sherry Redwine, Odyssey Pets co-owner

DR. AXELROD, I PRESUME

In search of the Indiana Jones of Tropical Fish

As a young, budding tropical fish hobbyist, the first order of business was to learn how to identify tropical fish. There was only one way to do that back then, and that was with *Dr. Herbert R. Axelrod's Tropical Fish Atlas*. Little did I know that the man who discovered and named most of those fish was literally like the Indiana Jones of Ichthyology.

Dr. Axelrod is truly a man of mystery. Being a private man, not much information exists about him personally but the stories that I did find were what Hollywood movies are made of. Born in 1927, Axelrod excelled in academics earning a masters in mathematics and a PhD in epidemiology and eventually taught classes at NYU (parallel Indiana Jones' day job). At this time another professor asked him to make some notes for a class he was to teach. A McGraw Hill publisher saw the notes and immediately wanted to make a book of it. And so, his first book, *Tropical Fish as a Hobby* was published in 1952. He is also fluent in French, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Hebrew, & Japanese as well as a bit of Russian, Polish, Hungarian, and Swedish. His genius IQ didn't help him socially as he found most people to be a bore, including Jacques Cousteau.

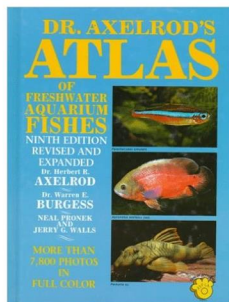
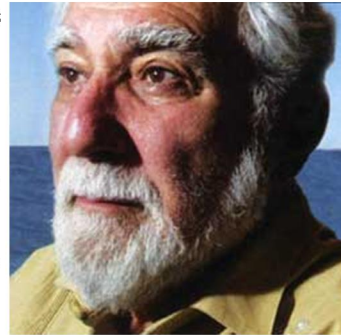
During the Korean War, he served as a lieutenant in a field medical laboratory. He smuggled whiskey in empty blood containers between Korea and Japan. While in Japan he, by chance, met an ichthyologist who was so impressed by him it led to Axelrod being invited by Emperor Hirohito to his palace. He spent the week at the summer palace collecting marine invertebrates with the Emperor.

In 1958, the revolutionary *Encyclopedia of Tropical Fishes* was published. Editors said he did everything he shouldn't do like use big pictures and big type. Ultimately, this book became the "Bible" of the fish industry. Axelrod is responsible for changing tastes in the aquarium hobby. Goldfish were all the rage, but thanks to Axelrod's expeditions, discoveries, and writings, tropical fish are in millions of households today. Several fishes are named after him, including the cardinal tetra (*Cheirodon Axelrodi*) which he discovered in a tributary of the Amazon in 1954.

On one adventure, with the help of an eccentric friend, he allegedly helped gather creatures for Walt Disney productions. One time, Disney needed two rare black jaguars. They caught one but were unable to get a second. They decided to catch a run-of-the-mill jaguar and took it to a hairdresser, had it dyed, and sent it on its way to Hollywood. While on another adventure in the Amazon, he ran into Leopold III, former king of the Belgians. They spent the week spearing game fish together. On their departure, Axelrod presented him with a pet jaguar. I mean, really? This guy has to be the most interesting man in the world.

Dr. Axelrod was also a ruthless businessman and had grandiose dreams of cornering the tropical fish market and taking over the pet industry with Mongolian gerbils. He owned several fisheries in Florida. He discovered previously unknown salt lakes in Canada laden with brine shrimp eggs. He proceeded to lease the

lakes from Canada, then sold the lease to Wardley's for a pretty penny. Unfortunately, his power hungry nature made for him many legal troubles. In 2004, he was indicted for tax evasion. He escaped to Cuba, then traveled to Switzerland, and finally to Germany where he was arrested & extradited back to the U.S. where he was sentenced to 18 months in prison. As far as I can tell, the whereabouts of the 90 year old Axelrod today is a mystery. But, he's probably somewhere in New Jersey participating in one of his favorite past times, racing pigeons and playing his Stradivarius violins. Thank you, Dr. Axelrod for all of your contributions to the industry I love.



—Mike Doan, Odyssey Pets co-owner

Hot Stuff

What we're loving right now.

FRUITABLES BROTH BOWLS

Adds flavor & hydration to food. All-natural, low cal, made in the USA. Pet safe broth: no onion, garlic, leek, or MSG. Just heat & serve.



SMALL BATCH FREEZE-DRIED FOOD

This amazing company only sources meat that is free-range, pasture raised and free of hormones & antibiotics. Produce is 100% certified organic.



NATURE'S LOGIC PET FOOD

A unique line of pet food that is made without chemically synthesized vitamins, minerals, or amino acids. All nutrients come from whole foods.

NEW DENTAL TREATS

Move over greenies. At a great price, Paws IQ is all natural, made in the USA.



Sunny Days Ahead!

COLLAPSIBLE BOWLS

The ultimate travel gear necessity. Easy to pack. Great for food or water.



DOOG WALKIE BELT

More stylish & functional than a fanny pack! Free up your hands and pockets when you take your dog on a walk or run. Carry your treats, phone, keys, tennis ball, poop bags, and even your water bottle. Genius!

CEDARCIDE

Ditch the nasty chemicals.

Cedarcide is an effective, all-natural alternative to flea & tick medication. Kills & repels eggs, larvae, & adult insects on contact. Organic. Environmentally friendly. Made local with Texas ingredients.

