



Blue Springs Animal Hospital & Pet Resort
1201 W. 40 Highway
Blue Springs, MO 64015

For The BEST in Pet Care: (816) 229-1544 www.bluespringsanimalhospital.com



The Standard of
Veterinary Excellence

The American Animal Hospital Association has named Blue Springs Animal Hospital and Pet Resort as one of eight national finalists for their first ever Practice of the Year Award.

The American Animal Hospital Association is the only accrediting body for veterinary medicine in the United States and Canada, and only 15% of veterinary practices in the United States achieve accreditation. 2010 will mark the first time AAHA has awarded a Practice of the Year from among their accredited hospitals.

Blue Springs Animal Hospital has been accredited with AAHA since 1991 and was nominated for the award by their AAHA inspector based upon their last inspection. Accredited hospitals pass stringent periodic evaluations and inspections based upon over 900 standards covering such areas as patient care, medical and surgical protocols, continuing education, and facility amenities and cleanliness.

Dr. Carey and Dr. Ryder will attend the AAHA National Convention March 18-21st in Long Beach, California where the final award placements will be announced.

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From the desk of Dr Carey...

I have been asked a lot in recent years, "When are you going to retire?" My answer has been, and still is, "I don't have any plans to retire." However, my schedule at the Blue Springs Animal Hospital & Pet Resort has changed to part time for 2010. I will be working on Tuesdays and Wednesdays every week with surgery on Wednesdays. I will also work the second Friday and Saturday of each month, and will periodically pick up additional days to allow my associates time off for continuing education and personal needs.

Instead of retiring, I am redirecting, and I am as enthusiastic and optimistic as ever as I transition to my new role. Most of my management duties will be delegated to others on our staff. While they carry forward those essential business activities which make Blue Springs Animal Hospital the best place to bring your pet, I will be able to devote my professional time to the things I enjoy the most. At the top of that list is continuing to care for your pets and see those of you who have allowed me to spend my working life in such a rewarding profession. I enjoy working with you to have the best possible relationship with your pets. I like listening and problem solving issues with your pets and I enjoy sharing the latest wellness recommendations to keep your pets healthy and happy. I also enjoy mentoring and sharing my practice experience with the associates in our hospital.

Another thing that has always been important to me is being on the cutting edge of current knowledge and converting this to the best care possible for your pet. I have always logged many more hours of continuing education than is required and plan to continue that, along with being able to devote all of my professional reading time to medical and pet care topics. In March I will attend the American Animal Hospital Association's annual conference where I will participate in 4 days of continuing education classes. In addition, I will represent our practice at the awards presentation for the AAHA Hospital of the Year Award, for which our hospital has been named one of eight national finalists.

The changes in my schedule come at a good time for our Hospital because we have such a great group of veterinarians and support staff. Dr Joe Rodier, whom I've worked with for 24 years, will continue full time. Our other associates; Drs Gina Bradley, Stuart Ryder, Elise Lesko and Susan Steiner, have a combined 22 years working in our Practice. Last June we also added an outstanding graduate from last year's class, Dr Antonio DeMarco. Having worked side by side with these doctors, I know they are excellent veterinarians who will provide the best care for your pet anytime I am not available.

My changes at the hospital will allow more time for a personal life. Some of my plans include:

- Spending more time with my wife of 43 years, Donna
- Playing a bigger part in the lives of our four children, 3 who live in the KC area. All are married, have advanced college degrees, and own their own homes. Now I can enjoy just being an adult friend.
- Trying to be the grandpa every child should have. I have 3 grandchildren with a fourth due this month. My other two children also plan to start families soon.
- Getting more rest – yes, getting older requires this!!!!
- Working in my yard – I love flowers and will start mowing my yard again, something I love, but haven't had time to do in recent years.
- Being more consistent with activities that promote physical fitness. I enjoy hiking, backpacking and bicycling and plan to do more.
- Reading more
- Spending more time volunteering to help others and again becoming active in the life of my Church. This part of my life has suffered in recent years because of the demands of the Hospital and I look forward to the opportunity of doing more as I have in the past.

I'd like to close with a big THANK YOU. Thank you for choosing Blue Springs Animal Hospital & Pet Resort for your pet's care. Thank you for helping us to become the best Animal Hospital in our area. Thank you for being such nice people to work with and for allowing me the privilege of caring for your pets over the years.

I look forward to many more years providing the best possible care for you and your pet.
Sincerely, Dr Carey

