

Canine Distemper Diagnosed in DuPage County

A three-month old Golden Retriever that was purchased at a DuPage County pet store on June 9, 2006 was brought into a veterinary hospital on June 11, 2006 with coughing and was treated for presumed kennel cough. On June 14, 2006 the dog showed no improvement and a chest radiograph revealed pneumonia. He was treated with broad spectrum antibiotic therapy and was hospitalized for a few days with IV fluids.

When discharged, the dog appeared to be improving. However, he was brought back to the veterinary hospital on June 28, 2006 with neurologic signs, convulsions and tremors. A distemper profile was sent to IDEXX Laboratories and the inclusion body test came back positive for Canine Distemper Virus.

ISVMA Membership Renewals Due June 30

ISVMA membership renewals are due in the office on June 30, 2006. Dues renewal packets were mailed to all current ISVMA members during the first week in May. If you have not received yours in the mail, you can renew your membership by using the [online application form](#) or call the ISVMA to request verification that your packet was sent to the right address. Members can pay by check or credit card. Call our office at (217) 523-8387 if you need assistance or wish to renew by phone.

Current memberships expire on June 30, 2006. If members are more than 30 days delinquent in paying their dues, their memberships will be put into suspended status. While in suspended status, members will receive no benefits of membership (including all publications, emails, member access to the website, member assistance from staff, and member discounts).

Do not have an interruption of member benefits and services. Renew today!

Make Sure Your New Hires Join ISVMA!

If you have hired a new veterinarian in the past year, please make sure that they have joined ISVMA. We lose dozens of veterinarian memberships every year because they are lost in transition from one practice to another. You can look up a colleague's membership status by typing their name into the [ISVMA Find A Veterinarian](#) page.

Please remember, all 2006 graduates receive **FREE MEMBERSHIP!** Additionally, there is a 50% discount for 2005 graduates and interns/residents.

Becoming a member is easy. Use the ISVMA [online membership application form](#) to join today!

About the Photo in This Issue...

The Elf Owl is the smallest owl in the world and perhaps the most abundant raptor in upland deserts of Arizona and Sonora, Mexico. Although popularly associated with saguaro cacti (*Cereus giganteus*) and desert vegetation, denser and more stable populations of this species inhabit subtropical thorn woodland, montane evergreen woodland, and riparian forest. Elf Owls also live in partly urbanized habitats. The species nests in old woodpecker holes in trees, columnar cacti, agave and yucca flowering stalks, fence posts, utility poles, and bird boxes, from river valleys and desert washes to nearly 2,000 meters in mountain canyons. It is strictly nocturnal and mostly insectivorous, but occasionally eats small reptiles and mammals.

Most Elf Owls breed in three populations in the U.S.-Mexican borderlands and winter in southern Mexico. Three other disjunct populations in southern Baja California and Puebla, Mexico, are nonmigratory. Nesting pairs are especially vocal during April-June. Males give high-pitched, puppy (dog)-like yips, unique among North American owls. In the cavity-rich

riparian forests of mountain canyons, pairs are often interspersed among screech-owls (*Otus* spp.) and pygmy-owls (*Glaucidium* spp.) in avian cavity-nesting guilds of up to 16 species. Elf Owls may nest coincidentally in the same trees and cacti as other avian cavity users. They vigorously defend nests and cooperatively mob intruders and predators such as snakes, larger owls, and ringtails (*Bassariscus astutus*).

I photographed this Elf Owl at the Santa Rita Lodge in Madera Canyon, AZ in July 1999.

Contact Us

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