

Dr Eric Scott Carnegie

Dr. Carnegie is a 1977 graduate of the University of Guelph. He came to Halifax immediately after graduation and has practiced in the area ever since. Originally, he worked for Dr. Ross Ainslie mainly at Fairview Animal Hospital. Since 1995, he has owned Carnegie Animal Hospital in Clayton Park, accredited by the American Animal Hospital Association since inception. The practice is also certified as a Silver Level Cat Friendly Practice by the American Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP).

Dr. Carnegie has a genuine love of all animals and indeed has a “passion” for his profession. In addition to his practice he has continuously supported registered animal rescue and support groups around the province and generously offers his time and professional services. In addition, he volunteered for over thirty years with the Provincial SPCA. For over 20 years he has been a “regular” on Maritime Noon – the popular CBC radio program and has also been a popular guest on “Live At 5” and Global TV and is often the “go to” veterinarian for the media. Most recently, he sits on the Board of Directors for the newly formed CIAD (Canadian Intervention and Assistance Dogs Society).

Dr. C spent his early years in Saskatchewan and later as a teenager in Ontario. His family bred dogs and horses. An avid equestrian competitor, his experience and successes training and showing jumpers and hunters as well as competing in combined eventing gave him invaluable insight into equines. In his early years as a vet in Halifax, this experience proved useful in the Standardbred industry detecting lameness both at the former Sackville Downs and also to the Cape Breton raceway.

He rapidly became experienced in dealing with all types of animals from bovine to small animal. Exotics (snakes and reptiles) were also quite common throughout the years and he gained a reputation for successful treatment options in a field that was largely undocumented at that time. Dr. Carnegie was often called upon to oversee animals brought in for circuses or other acts. Wild animals were always welcomed for treatment at the practice and still are today. Dr. Carnegie has been given credit for naming a cross breed dog particularly popular through the 1980's and 90's known as the Valley Bull Dog. A local pet store known as Animal House was bringing them in, Dr. Carnegie provided veterinary care to them and a name was needed. As they originated from the Annapolis Valley, thence the name.

Today, the pace of a busy small animal practice leaves no time to continue large animal work. Although the types of exotic animals have changed in the region, Dr. Carnegie still sees a fair number of interesting patients – mini-pigs, parrots, rabbits and recently sugar gliders! Carnegie Animal Hospital today has a veterinarian staff of four associates working with Dr. Carnegie and a support staff of approximately 20.

Dr. Carnegie is Pennhip certified. He was one of the first veterinarians in the Atlantic area to embrace laser technology for both surgery and therapeutic use, and staff are trained as well. It is to be noted that he also was one of the first veterinarians in the area to endorse and implement the AAHA Guidelines for Vaccinations when it first came out.

With over 40 years of practical veterinary medicine to his credit, Dr. Carnegie draws on years of experience and exposure to a variety of cases to give him a solid background in

most areas of veterinary medicine including surgical procedures.. He has provided his services to many breeders over the years and is well versed in most dog breeds, including breeds often regarded as rare in the area. Dr. Carnegy works closely with breeders and their breeding programs and offers reproduction services through his hospital. With a good eye to conformation and movement, he is knowledgeable about performance as related to physical abilities. He is well versed in obedience and behavioral topics.

Dr. Carnegy is often invited to lecture at various kennel club meetings, usually focusing on Reproduction. With his knowledge of breeds, he has also served as a specialty judge at CKC events from time to time. In recent years, he and his wife have become involved as exhibitors at CKC sanctioned competition with two breeds.

Dr. Carnegy avails himself of the best educational conferences available on a consistent basis and is constantly reading the latest research on a wide variety of topics. For the last number of years, he has attended European Conferences in canine and feline reproduction. In addition, he has built an extensive list of consultant resources. Dr. Carnegy is supportive of alternative medicine under the appropriate circumstances often incorporating some into his treatment regime.

Dr. Carnegy maintains membership in the Nova Scotia Veterinary Association, the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, the American Animal Hospital Association, Society for Theriology, The Canadian Kennel Club as well as various other professional memberships.

Dr. Carnegy will often mention to newcomers to the profession that in the early days, diagnostics were used to confirm diagnosis and that now it seems diagnostics are being used to make a diagnosis.

Dr. Carnegy is committed to his profession and encourages staff to continue to pursue their interests in the profession. One very successful program that is run at the practice is know as “Journal Club” where technicians monthly will take a topic, research and present. Not only do everyone benefit from reviewing or learning the newest protocols but they become empowered as speakers and presenters. Many of the staff are long term employees and bring a variety of animal related backgrounds to the team. Staff are encouraged to be involved. The practice through Dr. Carnegy has had many employees who worked throughout their undergraduate years, many whom have gone onto become successful veterinarians. We have several technicians who have become specialists in their field, or who are active as instructors, book reviewers, or authors with the veterinary community.

Although Dr. Carnegy has not published, nor lectured within the profession, he is a mentor to many and will always be happy to talk to anyone and share his knowledge.

Dr. Carnegy pursues his joy of gardening at his lovely lakefront home as well as skiing, kayaking and spending time with the family dogs on long treks through the woodlands. After years of practicing veterinary medicine, he now takes the time for “real” vacations – vacations that don’t involve continuing education and meetings! One should note though, that for several years he journeyed to Scotland to help with lambing! This was vacation!

For this reason, I feel he is indeed worthy of the Atlantic Award of Excellence.

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Veterinarians who volunteered or worked with Dr. Carnegie and went onto veterinary school (just a few that come to mind)
Dr. Jeff Goodall, Dr. Jennifer Marriat, Dr. Lisa Gillis, Dr. Amy Bullerwell, Dr. Stephanie McNeill, Dr. Laura Wilson. Another employee Cortny Jones is presently completing her DVM studies at AVC.

In addition, several veterinary assistants successfully went on to become RVTs while employed at the practice – Jennifer Hurlbert, Branden Stinson, Jenna Forsgren.