

welcome from the editors

BONE APPÉTIT (bōn æpə'tit): the canine-like enthusiasm for taking a bite out of life (or treats!)

No two pets are alike, but one thing unites all of our furry friends: the appreciation for a good meal. From bowls of kibble to morsels pilfered from the humans' plates, there's nothing that makes a pet's eyes light up quite like food! In celebration of the insatiable creatures we love to share our lives with, we're dedicating the "Bone Appétit" issue to the very thing that makes their world go 'round (in addition to our love, of course).

Our pets will happily chow down on whatever's in front of them, but that doesn't mean it's always healthy. In this issue, Dr. Ernie Ward offers his expert take on the strange things some cats and dogs eat ("Dogs Eat the Darndest Things," page 30). And what about when your pet becomes the meal? Read up on the pesky pests that feast on cats and dogs (and pick up some prevention techniques) in "Party Crashers," page 56.

Got a bone to pick? It can be tough choosing the right chew toy for your pet. "Game of Bones" on page 52 breaks the options into bite-sized pieces for pet parents — but if your pet prefers gnawing on less desirable objects, like your furniture, we've dished up some tips for you on page 22 in "Training 123s."

Do you love to treat your pet to home cooking? We've got the stew for you on page 43. Sip on Ernie Ward's bone broth recipe and get to know its many health benefits for our furry friends! And on the subject of bones, we bring you some medical news to chew on, with an update on experimental osteosarcoma treatments from the Morris Animal Foundation ("Fat Cats," page 38).

Pets love food, but food can also be a means of expressing love. We show affection for our pets by giving them treats, providing them healthy and nutritious meals, even occasionally spoiling them with scraps from our own plates. We hope this issue helps feed the love you have for your furry family — and your knowledge for how to give them the very best care. Bone appétit!

'Til next time,

Your friends at Petplan

