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ADVICE

Gift ideas for pet lovers, their pals

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In a quandary about what to give your animal lover friends? I have a few suggestions that may fit the bill.

First of all, "Species Link" is the Journal of Interspecies Telepathic Communication. However, it is not designed for practitioners alone. Anyone can learn more about communication with all species of animals, including whales and dolphins. You can read true stories of the amazing results of communicating with animals plus prose and poetry transcribed directly from our non-human friends.

Editor and author Penelope Smith is a leading animal communicator. In fact, I include her work in the reading list for my pet communication course. Check out some sample articles on www.animaltalk.net. The magazine has been published quarterly since 1990. A subscription costs \$25 per year.

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"Cancer and Your Pet" is another suggestion. The title sounds awful for a holiday gift. And yet I'm putting it on the list because of its value. Illness is an issue pet guardians face and they need good information for making fact-based choices for treatment.

Authors Debra M. Eldredge, DVM and Margaret H. Bonham discuss common and less common cancers in dogs and cats. They describe the kind of care-giving you can provide for a pet with cancer. They outline the standard treatments and some new techniques.

In addition, the authors outline holistic approaches and how to use them. Eldredge and Bonham do not recommend holistic medicine as an alternative to conventional medicine, but rather as a supplement. And just in case the pet does not rally, the authors discuss when one might opt for euthanasia and pet loss support.

Even if you don't have to deal with cancer, the other chapters are a goldmine of important information. This is a 2005 book published by Capital Books, Inc. (Save 25 percent when you order any Capital title from their Web site: www.capitalbooks.com).

In this column, I've frequently talked about Tellington Touch and the cat or dog videos that explain how to administer the healing strokes. Well I recently met two women who can teach pet guardians directly.

For those who prefer face-to-face instruction, these two practitioners can show you how to help aging pets, aggressive and fearful pets. Actually, they address a whole gamut of physical and emotional challenges. Talking with the women of Mindful Tails, Inc., I learned about more possibilities for using T-Touch. You can get more information at: www.mitails.com or mitails@mindfultails.com, or (877) MITAILS.

And bearing in mind that charity begins at home, these possible gifts could be items you offer yourself.