Virtual Reproduction Expert Saves Puppies and Pregnant Bitches



Karen Copley, RNC, BSN, owner of Veterinary Perinatal Specialties, Inc., is a life saver many times over. Many of us have used her WhelpWise service as we prepare for our bitches to deliver puppies and find her to be our lifeline to sanity and information during precious, late night moments of panic and the unknown. WhelpWise is a 24hour/7 day per week service!

Karen graduated nursing school in 1981 and spent the majority of her nursing career working with high-risk obstetrical patients in both the inpatient and home care settings. Frustrated with long-term hospitalizations of high-risk pregnancies, Karen opened the first high risk Perinatal Center in Denver that provided uterine monitoring services for women

experiencing premature labor in the home setting. This allowed the expectant Mom to have her labor monitored from home using a uterine contraction monitor with a modem, rather than be hospitalized for long periods of time.

While on the waiting list for a show puppy to pursue one of her long time dreams of competing in the canine world, Karen noticed a need for home obstetrical support in the veterinary world. After successfully obtaining 2 patents for methods of monitoring fetal heart rates and uterine contractions in non-human mammals, she formed her company, Veterinary Perinatal Specialties Inc. (VPS) VPS provides products and services that support animal breeders in the home setting. The WhelpWise service, designed for canine breeders, is offered on an international basis, as well as obstetrical product sales such as ultrasound Dopplers and other hard-to-find items.

Karen is also an avid dog enthusiast and breeder herself. She has, to date, owner-handled 6 of her Airedale Terriers (<u>Airetail Airedales</u>) to Championships, as well as titles in Obedience and Agility.

Just last year Karen and her WhelpWise service helped me successfully navigate through a complicated pregnancy with my maiden Norfolk bitch, Cali. I ordered the WhelpWise monitor early, and thank goodness I did as the first time we checked her with the monitor, she was having contractions. This was three weeks prior to her earliest delivery date, so there was now a need for concern.



Tenterra California Girl Photo J. Gleeson

Karen had me monitor her several times per day, and we began her on a regime of medications designed to halt her contractions, plus put her on strict bed rest. When the oral medications did not work, we went to injections, plus worked in concert with several veterinarians from my area to watch her progesterone and to check her blood work generally as well.

As we neared Cali's due date we suddenly had puppy heart rates that were slowing down, which I knew because WhelpWise supplies a fetal heart monitor my vet as well to be sure that an emergency C-Section was what everyone

recommended. Cali was taken to the successfully delivered September 19, 2008. having to work with two of them to get them happy.

All the puppies are currently in their new one of the girls. I call them my magic WhelpWise puppies. I am certain that

with their of as a reproduct an emerger emergency. According breathing of

Wisdom's Gate Tenterra Carmel Photo Gordon Photography

knew because WhelpWise supplies a fetal heart with their equipment. Karen actually conferred with as a reproduction specialist, Dr. Benita VonDiehn, an emergency C-Section was what everyone emergency clinic and 4 red puppies were According to the vet, other than being a bit early and breathing on their own, the litter was healthy and

homes, and I've kept puppies, or my without knowing that

Cali was having contractions, she most likely would have aborted the whole litter. Karen's company can be reached at www.whelpwise.com, or by telephone at 1-(888) 281-4867. This service is especially important for those breeders who are several hours away from any emergency help.





Photo by Gordon Pet Photography