## Suffield Veterinary Hospital December 2015 Patient of the Month

eet Teddi, an 8-week-old Finnish Lapphund puppy owned by Linda and Gary Pelletier of South Windsor. This incredibly adorable photo was taken by Lorilee Photography of Enfield.

The Pelletier's say: "What a wonderful journey our family has had with our Finnish Lapphunds. After losing our little American Eskimo 15 years ago, the children wanted get another spitz, but we decided to get a bigger dog to better fit our farming lifestyle. Our daughter found Finnish Lapphunds in a book of dog breeds from around the world. We learned that they come in all colors, love all animals, are easy to train, and are very obedient to their owners.



Since this breed was rare in the U.S. at that time, we contacted a breeder in Finland, where they are the natural dogs of the land. We got our first "Lappies," Mikalee and Guinness, and began to breed these wonderful dogs. Over his 13-year lifetime, Guinness sired about 24 beautiful Lappie puppies.

After the heartbreak of losing Guinness, we were blessed to meet breeders (now lifelong friends) from the U.S. and Finland who helped us acquire Teddi. Everything about Teddi has reminded us why we have fallen in love with this breed – his sweet, intelligent personality, his gorgeous markings, his big beautiful paws (almost like hands to hold), and his gorgeous coat (that is very easy to care for and sheds very little!). Teddi is very playful yet gentle with our kids' dogs and with our grandchildren. We are looking forward to continuing our Lapphund journey!"

Nobody at Suffield Veterinary Hospital had ever seen Finnish Lapphunds before the Pelletiers became our clients, and they're now one of our favorite breeds!

In honor of finding new and wonderful dog breeds from around the world, and in gratitude for the wonderful lifelong friendships that develop around our love of our companion animals, we are proud to name Teddi our December Patient of the Month.

## Suffield Veterinary Hospital

Dr. Ann Huntington & Dr. Anita Sabellico & Dr. Dawn Burke
Dr. Griffin O'Connor & Dr. Daniel Rothbart

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