

# EPITOME

February/March 2007, Vol. XLV, Number 10

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- ▶ ISVMA Welcomes 2000th Member
- ▶ The ABCs Of Veterinary Dentistry
- ▶ A Happy Staff Leads To A Healthy Practice
- ▶ ISVMA Lobby Day Announced
- ▶ Illinois State Legislature Opens For Business

**WE HAVE  
REACHED  
OUR GOAL!**

2011 members  
in February 2007!

## COMING INTO FOCUS

*Craig A. Stevenson, DVM - ISVMA President, Board of Directors*

In early February, the ISVMA Board of Directors held a weekend retreat and strategic planning session. The Board had last approved a strategic plan in May 2004; and it guided the renewal and growth of the Association.

The new plan is designed to focus the activities and priorities of ISVMA to achieve the highest levels of membership service and advocacy for the profession. Three years from now, we plan to look back and celebrate how this plan has led us to new standards of excellence!

The participants produced the following 2007-2010 ISVMA Strategic Plan

### *The Vision of the ISVMA:*

By 2010 the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association will be:

1. The Illinois veterinary medical community's first source of professional information, and;
2. The group that keeps the public and the legislature informed on animal issues.

### *The Mission of the ISVMA:*

Advancing the well-being of the veterinary profession and the health and welfare of animals and the public.

### *The Goals of the Plan (Detail):*

#### I. Membership Development

- a. Recruit and engage more veterinary students
- b. Recruit corporate members
- c. Recruit veterinarians who are not currently members

- i. Owners
- ii. Associates

- d. create membership categories for Certified Veterinary Technicians, Practice Managers, and other staff members.

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## PUBLICATION INFO

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## DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION

Articles, contributions, classifieds, and display ads must be received by the ISVMA on the 1st of the following months: January, March, May, July, September and November.

## MATERIALS FOR SUBMISSION

When mailing material, submit a printed copy of material in Word format accompanied either by computer disk (3.5") or CD. Pictures should be approximate in size for inclusion, formatted as a .pdf or .jpg file, and preferable in black and white glossy print. E-mail submissions may be sent as an attachment to [brenda@isvma.org](mailto:brenda@isvma.org).

The editor reserves the right to accept, reject or modify material as deemed necessary to accommodate the publication format. Authors will be notified if the submission is deemed inappropriate. Material submitted will be filed unless other arrangements are requested. Opinions expressed by the authors will be their own and not necessarily those of the ISVMA.

## REPRINT PERMISSION

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## ONLINE ACCESS

Past issues of the *EPITOME*, beginning with the June/July 2004 issue, are available to ISVMA members online at [www.isvma.org](http://www.isvma.org).

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Submit changes in writing to the ISVMA at 133 South Fourth, Suite 202, Springfield IL 62701. Changes will also be accepted by e-mail at [info@isvma.org](mailto:info@isvma.org).

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Peter S. Weber, MS, CAE, Springfield, IL

## 2006-2007 ISVMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**President:** Craig A. Stevenson, DVM, Sandwich, IL  
**President-Elect:** Ronald E. Gill, DVM, West Salem, IL  
**Vice President:** Sheldon B. Rubin, DVM, Chicago, IL  
**Past President:** J.B. Bruederle, DVM, Chicago, IL  
**Treasurer:** Stephen J. Dullard, DVM, Mendota, IL

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**Region I - Southern Illinois:** Michelle R. Gundlach, DVM, House Springs, MO; Joseph P. Rudolph, DVM, Noble, IL  
**Region II - Central Illinois:** William Johnson, DVM, Griggsville, IL; Dena Nelson, DVM, Springfield, IL  
**Region III - Eastern Illinois:** Mary Crosson Welle, DVM, Urbana, IL; Gregory Mauck, DVM, Sullivan, IL  
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**Region V - Kankakee Valley:** Stephen J. Dullard, DVM, Mendota, IL; John M. Ehrhardt DVM, McNabb, IL  
**Region VI - Northern Illinois:** Lloyd Shaw, DVM, Woodstock, IL; Roger Peterson, DVM, Galena, IL  
**Region VII - Chicago:** Paul W. Arndt, DVM, Lombard IL; Steven Cairo, DVM, Highland Park, IL; Susan L. Ferraro, DVM, Chicago IL; Todd M. Florian, DVM, Lemont IL; Edward McGinniss, DVM, Lake Villa, IL  
**UI-CVM Dean:** Herb E. Whiteley, DVM, Urbana, IL  
**Student Member:** Teresa A. Lehnhardt, Urbana, IL

## DELEGATES

**AVMA Delegate:** George E. Richards, DVM, Danville, IL; Sheldon B. Rubin, DVM (Alternate), Chicago, IL  
**Region VI AVMA Representative:** John Scamahorn, DVM, Greencastle, IN

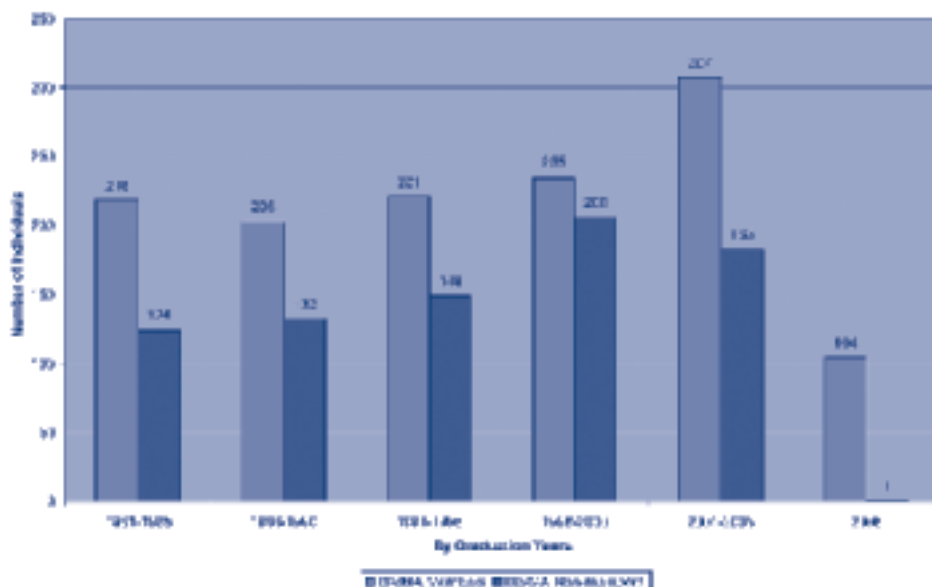
## Executive Director Presents University of Illinois Class Challenge

Peter S. Weber, MS, CAE – Executive Director

Did you graduate from the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine between 1981 and 2006? If you did, you have a chance to play a vital role in an exciting challenge!



Last issue, I reported that just 66% of all veterinarians licensed to practice in Illinois belong to their state association. Additionally, with the exception of the free memberships for 2006 graduates, the breakout of member/non-member by five year increments shows that membership performance has been below this average since 1980. (1981-85 at 64%; 1986-90 at 61%; 1991-95 at 60%; 1996-2000 at 55%; 2001-05 at 63%; 2006 at 99%)



In an effort to reconnect with veterinarians who have graduated since 1980, I am putting forward a challenge to all U of I CVM graduates to help recruit just one quarter (to equal 99 new members) of the graduates who remain non-members of the ISVMA. Do this by placing a call to a classmate who you know isn't an ISVMA member. Tell them why it is important to belong to the only organization in Illinois who will support and represent veterinary medicine legislatively. Tell them what great educational opportunities exist at our annual convention and how their membership supports bringing in a strong line-up of nationally acclaimed speakers. Tell them about the tremendous opportunities that await them in leadership when they become involved. Tell them it's the means to being a voice for their profession in Illinois and, potentially, nationwide.

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## Welcome New Members

ISVMA would like to welcome the following 31 new members (who joined between December 19, 2006 and February 11, 2007). ISVMA continues to strive to grow past the Board-established goal of 2000 members by July 1, 2007. Please help us spread the news about the many benefits of membership in ISVMA — where dues are an investment that pays tremendous dividends!

### DVM Members

Dr. Jeffrey E. Bloomberg  
 Dr. Sarah J. Blose  
 Dr. Stephanie Bonnette  
 Dr. Carrie Breaux  
 Dr. Julie Bunn  
 Dr. Sarah M. Bushmeyer  
 Dr. Kenneth O. Ehlen  
 Dr. Laurel Fritzen  
 Dr. Amy E. Gibbs  
 Dr. LeeAnn Greenwell  
 Dr. Sonja Grimm  
 Dr. Brian Harris  
 Dr. Thomas Hauk  
 Dr. Jill M. Korfist  
 Dr. Candace R. Langdoc  
 Dr. Linda E. Lapin  
 Dr. Ann Lopiccolo-Bishop  
 Dr. Jennifer Marretta  
 Dr. Sara Katrine Mey  
 Dr. Whitney Ostrem  
 Dr. Diana M. Palila Berger  
 Dr. Patrick Schaele  
 Dr. Meghan C. Schirger  
 Dr. Mark W. Sturdy  
 Dr. Valerie A. Tosiou  
 Dr. Ruth M. Wiechmann

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## The ISVMA Welcomes New Director of Membership Services

Kyle Christiansen is the new Director of Membership Services at the ISVMA. Since joining the association, Kyle has worked on recruiting new members, answering member questions, and getting to know the veterinary profession and our association. He has already helped the ISVMA reach our 2000 member goal.



*Kyle Christiansen  
Director, Membership Services*

Kyle grew up in the Chicago suburbs but has spent most of the last eight years in Central Illinois. He has a Bachelors Degree in English from Western Illinois University and a Masters in Political Studies from the University of Illinois, Springfield. Kyle is engaged to Kristen Terhune who works for the Springfield Clinic as well as the Illinois Symphony Orchestra. Kyle and Kristen met at Western Illinois University and they recently married Friday, March 9; meanwhile, they are presently looking to buy their first home and settle down in the Springfield area with their two cats, Oscar and Missy, and their turtle Thelma.

Kyle began his responsibilities as Director of Membership Services on Monday, January 8. Executive Director Peter Weber wrote in an update to the Board of Directors, "I told him that we had a very formal orientation for new staff. I pointed and told him, 'There is the fire ... now jump in!' He got the message and immediately started picking up our processes and contributing to the service of our members."

Kyle Christiansen can be reached at the ISVMA offices at (217) 523-8387 or by email at [kyle@isvma.org](mailto:kyle@isvma.org).

## ISVMA WELCOMES 2000TH MEMBER - DR. AMY GIBBS

Dr. Amy Gibbs is the ISVMA's 2000th member as of January 12, 2007. Gibbs grew up in Iowa and graduated from Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 2003.

In addition to her DVM, Gibbs also has an M.S. in Applied Ethnology and continues to focus on animal behavior as part of her continuing training and education as well as improving her internal medicine skills. Gibbs has been working at the Northgate Pet Clinic since graduation and is very happy there! She says that her desire to remain at the Northgate Pet Clinic speaks volumes about both the clinic's facilities and Dr. Larry Baker, her mentor

and supervisor at the clinic. "Dr. Baker lets you practice quality medicine the way you want to. He gives guidance when you ask for it but he does not force it on you." She credits Dr. Baker as the reason why she has remained at the clinic since graduation; which, she claims, is unusual in the veterinary profession.

In addition to their regular patients, Gibbs and the Northgate Pet Clinic work closely with the Humane Society of Decatur & Macon County in order improve the lives of the pets and animals in the community and to improve the veterinary profession as a whole. When asked what drew her to join the ISVMA, Gibbs said that after living and practicing in Illinois for four years she has no desire to leave, therefore it seemed right to get involved in the state's association for veterinarians and give something back to the profession.

Gibbs sees her future as wide open; while she is quite content in her current position at the Northgate Pet Clinic she has not ruled out the possibility of being a partner in a clinic of her own one day. She continues to focus on improving her internal medicine skills and her practice of applied Ethnology. She spends her time outside of work with her two dogs, which she trains herself.

## New ISVMA Members

*(from page 3)*

Dr. Jared L. Williams  
Dr. Dr. Elizabeth A. Wolf  
Dr. Alison Wolfgram  
Dr. Emily L. Wood

**Student Member**  
Stephanie Bonnette



# The ABCs of Veterinary Dentistry

Submitted by Cindy Charlier, DVM, FAVD, Dip AVDC  
Fox Valley Veterinary Dentistry and Surgery, [www.fvvs.com](http://www.fvvs.com)

Is every month dental health month in your practice? Is your entire healthcare team participating in client education about oral healthcare prevention and treatment for your patients? What tools does your practice need to provide a complete oral healthcare program for your patients?

## Acknowledgement and Awareness

Periodontal disease affects 80% of dogs and 70% of cats over 3 years of age, yet less than 3% of the affected patients receive proper dental care. In addition to halitosis, periodontal disease can cause pain and may be associated with histologic changes to the heart, liver and kidneys. An oral exam should be part of every physical exam. Recognition of oral pathology allows you to make proper recommendations for your patients.



## Believe

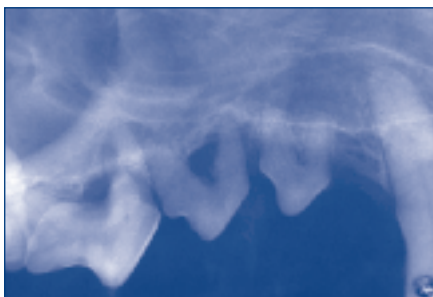
We recommend what we believe in. Conviction and commitment are critical. Periodontal disease is a preventable disease. If you believe that prevention and treatment of periodontal disease will improve the quality of life for your patients, you will discuss it with every owner of a new puppy or kitten and with every owner of a dog or cat with stage 1 periodontal disease. Be excited! Be enthusiastic! You can change the overall health of your patients by providing a complete oral healthcare program in your practice.

## Comprehensive Patient Care

Dental problems are among the top 3 pet owner concerns. Prevention and treatment of periodontal disease must be part of the overall wellness program that you offer your patients. Dental care non compliance often results from the lack of a recommendation by the healthcare team.

## Decision and Dedication

You must make a decision to change the way you view oral healthcare and to incorporate those changes into your practice. And you must dedicate the necessary resources to make it happen.



## Equipment and Education

You are capable of treating 90% of the dental disease that occurs in your patients if you have the proper knowledge and equipment. Adequate equipment and instrumentation are essential in the diagnosis and treatment of periodontal disease. A probe and explorer are utilized during

periodontal therapy as tools to assist in recognition of oral pathology. Intraoral radiology is the cornerstone to the diagnosis, treatment planning, and monitoring of oral disease. Radiology allows us determine that pathology lies where our eyes cannot see and to determine treatment protocols based on factual information. A high speed handpiece is of great value during oral surgery to allow for removal of buccal bone and sectioning of multirooted teeth.

Staff education is necessary to create an oral healthcare plan that involves the entire healthcare team. Client services coordinators, technicians and doctors are involved in client education discussing preventive homecare and the steps involved in periodontal therapy. Technicians perform periodontal therapy, probe, chart, and obtain intraoral radiographs. Doctors diagnose and treat each tooth based on an intraoral examination under general anesthesia in addition to the information gathered by the technicians.

Oral healthcare is rapidly becoming an integral part of every hospital's wellness program for their patients. Dental education courses are readily available to assist you in the development of a team oriented approach to oral healthcare in your hospital. YOU can make a difference in the health of your patients. Simply lift the lips, look for oral disease and remember the ABCs. You will be amazed at what you see!

# AVMA UPDATE

George Richards, DVM - ISVMA House of Delegates Representative

## AVMA ANNUAL MEETING

The 144th AVMA Annual Convention, Washington, D.C., July 14 - 18, 2007 is now open for online registration. Also available online is the entire educational program. Download and plan your CE schedule in advance!

Because there are a number of historical and political places to visit and tour while in our nation's capital, advance planning is a definite necessity. From the AVMA's website, [www.avmaconvention.org](http://www.avmaconvention.org):

### What You Need to Know Before You Go!

Don't be disappointed — plan ahead for your DC visit. Although visitors can tour many well-known museums and landmarks free-of-charge, some sites require advance reservations or tickets that can only be obtained through your Congressman.

Because of security concerns, White House tours need to be arranged months in advance and can only be obtained through your Congressman. Public tours of the Capitol and Washington Monument are free, but do require a timed ticket.

Tours of the Capitol are limited to the Rotunda, Statuary Hall, and gift shop. For more extensive tours, you will need to contact your Congressman.

The White House, Capitol, and Washington Monument have a very strict list of prohibited items including handbags, book bags, and backpacks. No storage facilities are available on or around these landmarks and individuals who arrive with prohibited items will not be permitted to enter. Be sure to check the lists of prohibited items on these facility's Web sites.

For more information visit online at [www.avmaconvention.org](http://www.avmaconvention.org).

The weekend opened for all attendees with a presentation by James Flanigan, AVMA director of marketing. Flanigan discussed three issues: how the attitudes of veterinarians are likely to change veterinary economics, the attitudes of animal owners toward the provision of veterinary services, and how the public perceives veterinarians and their value to society.

Illinois' own AVMA President, Dr. Roger Mahr, told attendees that he remains committed to his one-medicine vision and will be introducing a recommendation for implementing his plan at the April AVMA Executive Board meeting.

AVMA Treasurer Bret Marsh reported that the 2008 budget development process has started and that the 2007 budget of \$27.5 million was the largest in AVMA history.

What was unique about this Leadership Conference was the House of Delegates Special Session. We discussed many issues including resolution procedures presented to the House for consideration, and whether the House of Delegates should undertake its own

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## LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE IN CHICAGO

### Rubbing Shoulders with the Best

Dr. Shelly Rubin, Alternate Delegate AVMA

The 2007 annual AVMA Veterinary Leadership Conference held January 5-7 at the Intercontinental Hotel in Chicago was the largest attended VLC I had ever attended. The meeting brought together over 420 attendees from every State. These visionary veterinarians, students, and State Association personnel members, worked together for two days exchanging leadership ideas, sharing common organization problems, and learning about new and emerging issues for our profession.

## AVMA REPRESENTATIVES

Dr. George Richards  
Delegate  
(217) 443-0333  
[grichards15@insightbb.com](mailto:grichards15@insightbb.com)

Dr. Shelly Rubin  
Alternate Delegate  
(773) 327-4446  
[srubin3134@aol.com](mailto:srubin3134@aol.com)

## NEWS AND NOTES

### DUES FOR NEW MEMBERS PRORATED AT 50%

As of January 1, 2007 dues for the remainder of this membership year (ending June 30, 2007) are pro-rated at 50%. Any 2006 graduate may still join ISVMA at no cost for the remainder of the membership year. It is a great time to sign up an associate or recommend a colleague or classmate to become a member.

There are still several hundred veterinarians that haven't decided to support the profession through membership in ISVMA. Encourage someone that doesn't belong to join. An application form can be requested by contacting Kyle Christiansen, Director of Membership Services, at the ISVMA office at (217) 523-8387 or an application can be filled out online at [www.isvma.org](http://www.isvma.org).

### SURVEY FROM THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH RE: SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAM

*From the ISVMA E-SOURCE Newsletter Volume IV, Number 17*

Illinois veterinarians have been mailed a letter and survey from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) regarding the fees they charge for spay/neuter surgeries. The information and participation in the statewide spay/neuter program is strictly voluntary. The IDPH is gathering the fee information in order to determine a fair reimbursement for veterinarians that choose to participate in the state spay/neuter program.

ISVMA became aware of the letter when several veterinarians inquired as to its purpose. ISVMA contacted the IDPH and learned that the letter had been sent even though rules for the program still haven't been drafted. We will be very involved in working with IDPH staff as those rules are prepared. When they become available in draft form, we will make them available to all ISVMA members for review and input.

### NEW LIAISON AT THE STATE LICENSING BOARD

The ISVMA would like to welcome Mr. Kim Scott who will serve as the liaison to the Illinois Veterinary Licensing and Disciplinary Board. The liaison is an important resource to ISVMA when we have a need to address questions and concerns regarding veterinary licensure or disciplinary actions.

Kim takes the position previously held by Dan Harden, who has been transitioned within the Department to become a Real Estate Investigator. Dan was an invaluable resource for the ISVMA in the past, and the ISVMA looks forward to continuing this relationship with Kim.

### NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE PUBLIC HEALTH VETERINARIANS NEWLY RELEASED GUIDES

Veterinary personnel are frequently exposed to infectious pathogens daily in the practice environment. Because infection control measures vary greatly from clinic to clinic, the NASPHV Veterinary Infection Control Committee established Veterinary Standard Precautions in their published Compendium of Veterinary Standard Precautions: Zoonotic Disease Prevention in Veterinary Personnel. The goal of the compendium is to prevent transmission

of zoonotic pathogens from animal patients to veterinary personnel in private practice.

Additionally, a Model Infection Control Plan For Veterinary Practices was created for use by the NASPHV Veterinary Infection Control Committee. These valuable resources have been added to the online ISVMA Library for easy reference.

### DVM LICENSURE RENEWAL

Have you lost or misplaced your DVM license renewal? Did your renewal application never make it to you? All State of Illinois issued DVM licenses expired on January 31, 2007. Do not get caught being unlicensed if you've not already renewed.

For a quicker renewal turn-around than using postage mail, renew online at the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation's website at [www.idfpr.com/dpr/RENEWAL/default.asp](http://www.idfpr.com/dpr/RENEWAL/default.asp).

A list of Professions in Renewal appears on this page. Click on the "Veterinarian" tile. Follow the renewal instructions listed. If your license is active, you may pay online with a credit card OR utilize the Touch Tone/Credit Card renewal.

# SETTING PRIORITIES

Herb Whiteley, DVM - Dean, University of Illinois - College of Veterinary Medicine



What are you going to do?

Imagine you are in my shoes. You have a faculty that includes some of the best minds in the world, an outstanding cadre of professional and graduate students, and an array of services that meet real needs in society.

But resources - time, money, space - are limited. Faculty specialists are difficult to recruit. Every year a portion of your state funding must be returned to fund campus initiatives and salary increases.

Yet every year University administration asks you to identify your priorities: What are you going to do? And this critical corollary: What are you not going to do?

Fortunately, a planning team of College leaders confers to set priorities, and there is no lack of exciting initiatives we would like to pursue.

Following are the Top Five priorities for the College:

## 1. Ensure the integrity and viability of the DVM program.

This includes seeing that the veterinary curriculum undergoes a thorough review and revision as well as securing new funding sources for programs and faculty.

## 2. Translational biomedical research.

Our research forte lies in health advances that benefit people, animals, and the environment. To promote this goal we must hire faculty engaged in basic and applied (clinical) research activities - and recruit top graduate students - to our programs in infectious disease, reproductive biology, environmental toxicology, conservation medicine, oncology, orthopedic biology, and endocrinology. Our teaching hospital and diagnostic laboratory play crucial roles in advancing this work.

## 3. Chicago Center for Veterinary Medicine.

Chicago is the population center of our state, where most of our alumni are, where leading biomedical research centers are, and where a large number of animal owners, potential donors, and prospective students are. Our long-term growth depends on tapping into these resources.

## 4. Facilities.

We have mapped out our facilities needs to support our growth over the next 20 years. New clinical and teaching facilities are vital to helping us achieve our vision of excellence.

## 5. Center for One Medicine.

We are proposing a new University-wide program that would help prepare society to address the animal and human dimensions of emerging public health issues, such as avian influenza and anti-microbial resistance.

To focus available resources on these priorities, there are other activities we must stop doing. After much deliberation, we have decided to accept the recommendation, issued recently by the Provost's external task force, to consolidate our College's beef operations at the Dixon Springs Agricultural Center with that of the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) and to discontinue the outdoor swine production program.

Our Urbana research farm facilities will become our headquarters for food animal teaching and research, with a particular research focus on infectious diseases such as PRRS, the most significant disease threat plaguing U.S. pork producers.

The University's program at Dixon Springs will continue to operate under the direction of the College of ACES, and veterinary students will continue to have educational opportunities at Dixon Springs and other animal facilities throughout the state.

Although we must make some difficult trade-offs, I hope you share my enthusiasm for the initiatives we have identified as our optimal course to promote excellence and attain national and international prominence. We need your involvement to succeed.

I welcome your feedback at dean@cvm.uicu.edu.



## OPEN HOUSE SLATED FOR MARCH 31

Are there students in your neighborhood and community who are interested in a career in veterinary medicine? Take advantage of a valuable resource to educate aspiring veterinary medical professionals and visit the annual Open House scheduled for March 31 at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. For information contact the College Public Service office at (217) 333-2907, visit online at [www.cvm.uiuc.edu/openhouse/](http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/openhouse/) or email Chris Beuoy at [beuoy@uiuc.edu](mailto:beuoy@uiuc.edu).

## EVENT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM AVAILABLE

Every year, the College of Veterinary Medicine hosts a number of events. These events benefit more than 400 Illinois veterinary students, as well as the faculty, staff, alumni, and thousands of animal owners who attend.

To show your support of these events hosted annually, consider becoming an event sponsor. A variety of sponsorship levels are available and recognize various sizes of contribution.

For information on how your organization can participate in the Event Sponsorship Program, please contact Brenda Betts, Assistant Dean for Advancement, at (217) 333-2762 or visit the Event Sponsorship Package Web page at [www.cvm.uiuc.edu/advancement/EventSponsorshipPackage.htm](http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/advancement/EventSponsorshipPackage.htm).

To ensure your organization's recognition at all events, contact the college prior to the start of the school year in August. Commitments received after that time will be recognized appropriately at all remaining events.

## MAGNETIC RESONANCE: FROM HOUNDS TO HORSES

*From the February 2007 Illinois VetNews*

By the end of February the Veterinary Teaching Hospital expects to have a new Vet-MR Grande™, billed by its maker, Universal Medical Systems, Inc., as "the world's first dedicated dual-purpose magnetic resonance imaging system for all small and large animals." This system operates with a .25T strength permanent magnet. The stainless steel table is capable of holding 2000 pounds. We will be able to perform MRI scans on small animals and equine limbs, head, and neck. The resulting images will be viewable online, as are digital X-ray images, through our Picture Archiving and Communications System (PACS). Referring DVMs, call the imaging section at (217) 244-2031 to arrange a look if you will be visiting the hospital.

## FREE C.E. THROUGH NOON SEMINAR SERIES

*From the January 2007 Illinois VetNews*

Now DVMs can earn one hour of continuing education credit by attending the College's Translational Biomedical Research seminar series. The hour-long seminars are held on Mondays at noon in the auditorium of the Small Animal Clinic. No preregistration is necessary, but you must obtain the C.E. form when you arrive for the seminar. For a list of topics and speakers, see [www.cvm.uiuc.edu/trbioseries.html](http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/trbioseries.html).

## DIAGNOSTIC LAB ANNOUNCES FEE CHANGES

*From the January 2007 Illinois VetNews*

Effective January 1, 2007, the fee schedule at the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory has changed, and the biopsy and necropsy packages have been simplified. Details are available at [www.cvm.uiuc.edu/vdl](http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/vdl). You may also call (217) 333-7259, or email [vdlfes@cvm.uiuc.edu](mailto:vdlfes@cvm.uiuc.edu) to request a copy of the new schedule and packages.

# A Happy Staff Leads To A Healthy Practice

*from the National Commission on Veterinary Economic Issues*

An important component in planning for the future growth of your practice is the owner's ability to recruit, select and hire the appropriate number of quality employees. Once you have hired someone you believe to be qualified for a position, communication with that employee becomes a key factor that affects your bottom line.

Traditionally employers tend to believe that employees' number one focus is their paycheck, when in actuality, according to a study by Kenneth Blanchard, employees list salary as number five on their list of what makes them happy on the job. While a high salary has a limited value as a motivator, it has huge power as a demotivator. When an employee gets a raise, he or she is thrilled for the first month, but then accepts it as standard pay. By contrast, working conditions play an ongoing powerhouse in the retention and performance of employees. Good working conditions act as a catalyst for high performance levels often without a financial cost to the practice.

The culture and climate in a business is largely influenced by the business leader and is strongly linked to increased profits, reduced employee turnover, and a higher degree of employee satisfaction.

The following are tools and resources for you to consider when implementing an ongoing comprehensive employee communication program in your practice:

**Employee orientations** - A step-by-step new employee orientation helps to establish an employee as well as clarify business owner expectations.

**Open Door Policy** - This is a commitment from the owner and others in a supervisory position to listen and respond to employee concerns and suggestions. This does not mean just keeping staff well informed. It is the opportunity for two-way communication between management and staff. Employees should feel free to talk frankly with their supervisor when they have a problem of any kind, with the assurance that it will not be held against them.

**Exit Interviews** - Conducting exit interviews provides surprising insights to issues that need to be addressed and corrected. It is crucial that any problems noted in the exit interview be immediately addressed.

**Performance Reviews** - This communication tool is used to determine how well employees are contributing to the overall goals of the business, teamwork, high work standards and attitude. Performance reviews do not necessarily need to be tied into salary increases.

**Rewards, Recognition and Fun** - Recognizing good performance is a clear-cut way to boost employee morale and encourage more great work performance. Periodic recognition instills teamwork and accomplishment. While salary increases generally occur once per year, other forms of recognition can take place throughout the year - inspiring continued motivation from your employees.

**Consult With Current Employees When Recruiting New Employees** - Your best source of new employees is your current workforce. While employee referrals usually render

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- Resolving disputes through Revenue's Problems Resolutions and Legal areas
- Filing petitions for tax relief with Revenue's Board of Appeals
- Properly registering businesses and providing advice on how to properly comply with state tax law

Our staff has expertise specific to the veterinary business and has worked with Revenue to develop guidelines to clarify your sales and service tax obligations. We have also conducted several educational seminars explaining these changes.

**Contact us so we can help you resolve any outstanding tax issues or avoid future tax problems.**

**217.527.1700**



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Joe Bartletti, Partner  
John Franklin, Partner

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## Taking Nominations For 2007 Outstanding Veterinarians Awards

The Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association is looking for outstanding veterinarians whose dedication to their field deserves special recognition. We're looking for individuals whose fervor to care for and attend to their patients' needs is rivaled only by his or her willingness to serve in organized veterinary medicine.

Each year the ISVMA Awards Committee searches for the most outstanding of candidates. We invite you to submit a candidate or two that you feel is worthy of recognition for one of two awards. If this sounds like someone you know or work with, we'd like to hear from you. Simply contact the ISVMA office at (217) 523-8387 and request a nomination form or visit online at [www.isvma.org/nominations](http://www.isvma.org/nominations). Return the completed form to the ISVMA and we will take it from there!

The qualified nominees will receive their awards at the ISVMA's 2007 Annual Meeting in Peoria during Convention.

## Third Annual ISVMA Lobby Day

The ISVMA Board of Directors and Legislative Committee would like to invite you to participate in the Third Annual ISVMA Lobby Day which will be held in Springfield on Wednesday, April 18, 2007. Every ISVMA member is encouraged to participate. We have set a goal of having at least 100 participants this year - ideally we would have at least one veterinarian from each of the 119 state legislative districts!

No previous lobbying experience is required for you to be an important part of this event. ISVMA will provide training the day of the event. The training session will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will be led by the ISVMA's lobbyists. Afterwards, the veterinarian lobbyists will head over to the State Capitol for meetings with legislators. Lunch will be provided by the ISVMA for all participants.

Lobby Day is an important part of our overall advocacy strategy. Illinois' elected officials need to know that DVMs should be their first source of expert advice when making decisions on issues related to the veterinary profession and the health and welfare of animals and the public. Many legislators are not aware of the critical role veterinarians play in public health and protection.

Last year a group of 30 veterinarians/lobbyists participated in Lobby Day and it was amazing how effective that small group was! It is exciting to imagine how compelling a group of 100 or 200 veterinarians would be. We hope that you will consider participating in this year's Lobby Day. You'll enjoy the experience and you'll feel an overwhelming sense of satisfaction for the contribution you will have made to your profession. If you would like to participate, please contact the ISVMA office at (217) 523-8387 or email Peter Weber at [peter@isvma.org](mailto:peter@isvma.org). A Lobby Day Packet with all necessary information will be forwarded to you.



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# ILLINOIS STATE LEGISLATURE OPENS FOR BUSINESS

Like the annual return of the swallows to San Juan Capistrano, the members of the Illinois General Assembly returned in January to Springfield to serve their constituents. This year's General Assembly, composed of a 59-member Senate and a 118-member House of Representatives, began its 95th Session on January 10th with the Inauguration of Governor Rod Blagojevich. Session officially began with Perfunctory Session for the House of Representatives on the 22nd of January with the Senate beginning their Perfunctory Session on the 24th of January.

The Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association has strengthened its lobbying presence over the past three years at the state level of government. This effort has been accomplished through the leadership of Executive Director Peter Weber, lobbyists Terry Steczo and Maureen Mulhall, and through the extensive efforts of the Board of Directors and Legislative Committee. The grassroots participation of our member veterinarians, however, has been the key to our renewed influence.

A valuable tool used each year by the ISVMA and its Legislative Committee is the in-house list maintained by the ISVMA that indicates relationships DVM members have with elected officials either statewide in Illinois State Government or federally in the Illinois Congressional Delegation. This resource is compiled through responses generated by the ISVMA Legislative Relationships Form. Although not required of all ISVMA members, every member is asked to complete and submit this form filled with valuable information. This can be done online through the ISVMA website found in the Members' Center pages - the Legislative tab. A copy of the form is included in this issue of the EPITOME as well. Simply complete the form, fold on the dotted lines, tape it shut and mail it back to the ISVMA office.

Through the use of these relationships, and through extensive lobbying efforts, the ISVMA has launched a very successful grassroots effort to make the collective voice of veterinarians heard over the past two legislative sessions. Matters of importance include the passing of the Illinois Public Health and Safety Animal Population Control Act (Public Act 94-0639) in August of 2005. Through tremendous response and support by the ISVMA's members in opposition to the bill, amending language was drafted and passed, and the proposed state tax on the rabies vaccine was removed.

During the 2006 Legislative Session, ISVMA supported a General Assembly Task Force to recommend a comprehensive rewriting of the Animal Control Act. Three ISVMA members currently sit on this Task Force.

Also getting tremendous support was the amendment proposed during the 2006 session for changes in retail taxes for veterinarians. The support generated by the legislature on this subject was the final push needed to initiate formal changes to the interpretation of the Tax Code as it applies to veterinarians.

With each effort, legislators have become educated on the necessity to assist the veterinary profession in our state; however, these efforts do not work without the teamwork provided by the ISVMA member. Every contribution, no matter how small it may seem, is important. The ISVMA needs to continue to build its strength and

(continued on page 14)

## Dentistry Continuing Education Seminars for the Veterinary Healthcare Team



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## ILLINOIS STATE LEGISLATURE *(from page 13)*

credibility in the Capitol with a continually growing grassroots network. By building our capacity now, we can achieve the ultimate goal of controlling the Veterinary Surgery and Medical Practice Act the next time it is amended or considered for renewal.

Do not be afraid to be part of our grassroots network! Speak up and work to protect your profession. If being part of the political machine is intimidating, user-friendly instruction is provided by the ISVMA to allow confidence when contacting your elected officials. One voice amongst many does not carry well. Many voices joined together as one will make a great sound. Help the ISVMA make a great noise.

### LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Representing ISVMA Members for the 2006-2007 membership year include the following individuals:

Dr. Steve Dullard, Chair - Region V  
 Dr. John Spence - Region I  
 Dr. Clyde Dunphy - Region II  
 Dr. Gregory Mauck - Region III  
 Dr. Allen Barclay - Region IV  
 Dr. Jared Williams - Region VI  
 Dr. Craig Wardrip - Region VII  
 Mr. Aaron Smiley - Student at UI-CVM  
 Dr. Georgianne Ludwig - IL Veterinary Licensing Board

***To bring forward a suggestion for change,  
 contact any of the three following individuals:***

- ISVMA Board of Directors Regional Representative (If you are unsure who your representative is, turn to page 2 where there is a complete listing for all seven regions. You can also look online at [www.isvma.org](http://www.isvma.org) and open the "About the ISVMA" link).
- ISVMA Legislative Committee Member
- ISVMA Executive Director, Peter S. Weber

## A Happy Staff *(from page 10)*

high quality prospects, it also communicates to current employees that you value their input.

The National Commission on Veterinary Economic Issues (NCVEI) currently offers a free online benchmarking tool that helps veterinarians evaluate their pay and benefits package. The tool, called "How does your pay and benefits

package stack up," gives veterinarians a comprehensive evaluation of the practice's compensation program. By logging onto [www.ncvei.org](http://www.ncvei.org) practice owners, or their representative, can enter information on the salaries and benefits offered to their employees. They will receive immediate information, in the form of charts and graphs, showing how their practice compares to other practices. This comprehensive tool will supply users with information on:

- Hourly and annual salary ranges for all staff positions
- Average number of years of employment
- Average annual hours worked by staff members
- Paid sick days, holidays and vacations
- Continuing Education benefits
- Retirement account options
- Benefits such as hospitalization, life and disability insurance
- Pet care benefits to employees

As a further benefit the program also offers a wide variety of Human Resource information including job description, recruitment basics, a job interview guide, information on employee orientations, employee communications, and staffing turnover. A future program being developed by the NCVEI will give practices the opportunity to evaluate and improve the communication level in a veterinary hospital. All of these services are provided at no charge to members of either the AVMA or AAHA.

## 2007 LEGISLATIVE RELATIONSHIP FORM



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### Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association

133 South Fourth Street  
Suite 202  
Springfield, IL 62701

Phone:  
(217) 523-8387

Fax:  
(217) 523-7981

Email:  
info@isvma.org

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

www.isvma.org

The ISVMA would like to know if you have a relationship with an elected official in Illinois State Government or federally in the Illinois Congressional Delegation. Your feedback allows us to organize effective contacts with legislators who have significant influence on laws, rules and regulations affecting the veterinary profession. This information will be used solely by the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association; your personal information will not be shared with anyone else.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check those that apply.**

I have a personal or professional relationship with:

\_\_\_ **Illinois Governor**

Nature of relationship (i.e. client, friend, family, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **Other Illinois Constitutional Officer**

Nature of relationship (i.e. client, friend, family, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **Illinois State Senator**

Nature of relationship (i.e. client, friend, family, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **Illinois State Representative**

Nature of relationship (i.e. client, friend, family, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **US Senator**

Nature of relationship (i.e. client, friend, family, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **US Congressman**

Nature of relationship (i.e. client, friend, family, etc.)  
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\_\_\_ **Key Staffer**

Nature of relationship (i.e. client, friend, family, etc.)  
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## AAEP Develops Guidelines for Infectious Disease Outbreaks

The Infectious Disease Task Force of the American Association of Equine Practitioners has developed guidelines for use by veterinarians who encounter contagious infectious disease in horses.

*Equine Infectious Disease Outbreak: AAEP Control Guidelines* offer recommendations for the control of suspected cases of infectious respiratory tract, neurologic, diarrheal, and vesicular disease. The sign-based guidelines provide a detailed action plan for veterinarians once a case of infectious disease is suspected. The guidelines offer measures to control the spread of infection, diagnostic testing options, and communication considerations.

Highlights from the guidelines include biosecurity instructions in English and Spanish for horse caretakers, recommendations for the implementation of a management plan before an outbreak occurs, and disease-specific guidelines.

The guidelines are available to AAEP members through the members-only area of the AAEP Web site, [www.aaep.org](http://www.aaep.org).

The above update is courtesy of the American Veterinary Medical Association. *ESource*, Volume IV Number 12 issued on November 7, 2006

## A Gift Like No Other

*A Cat That Won't Make You Sneeze*

Everyone has someone who is impossible to buy for. Although a rather pricey alternative, costing \$3,950 per kitten, this would definitely be a gift never received before. As of June 2006, there is now a scientifically proven hypoallergenic cat.

The hypoallergenic cat was developed by a biotechnology company, headquartered in San Diego, California, that works with leading genetic technologies focusing on animal genetics, research and development. The decision to create a hypoallergenic cat was to allow allergic consumers to enjoy the love and companionship of a pet without the cost, inconvenience, risk and limited effectiveness of current feline allergy treatments.

According to the company's press release, "In recent exposure trials, individuals with known feline allergies were fully exposed to the ALLERCA GD cats, without demonstrating any allergic reactions. When these same individuals were subsequently exposed to non-GD cats, they had immediate allergic reactions that included swollen eyes, difficulty in breathing and hives."

The first owners of these hypoallergenic kittens are expected to take delivery in early 2007. Currently there is a two year waiting list for would-be owners; however, the time may be shortened by paying an additional fee for "Premium Placement." Kittens can be purchased through the ALLERCA web-based reservation system or by contacting ALLERCA's sales department. Visit online at [www.allerca.com](http://www.allerca.com) or call the Sales Office at (310) 734-6029 for more information.

## LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (from page 6)

strategic planning. At the same time the House was meeting, the other attendees were attending five leadership development workshops involving media relations, legislation and regulation, diversity, strategic planning, and ways of invigorating membership.

The keynote presentation was given by Drs. Martin Heesacker and Bonnie Moradi, from the Department of Psychology, University of Florida. They discussed the view of veterinary medicine as part of a broader societal change away from a male-dominated field.

It was not all work as we had some wonderful receptions in which to intermingle with all of the National Veterinary leaders.

If all of this sounds interesting to you, give us a call so we can tell you how easy it is to get involved in ISVMA and be able to attend this wonderful conference.

### How to Login To The Member Center

#### Username Field

Your Last Name (Ex. Smith)

#### Password Field

Your Birthday (the password field is digit sensitive; do not include 0s when entering your birthday month or day if it is a single digit. Ex.: 4/7/1964)

# READERS' FORUM

*Q: A member recently received a piece of mail that stated his Professional Service License had expired. Since he hadn't recalled any previous warning of the upcoming expiration, the ISVMA was contacted to figure out exactly what this license was for and why it was needed.*

A: This question was presented to Kyle K. Christiansen, ISVMA's Director of Membership Services who researched the answer. The information that follows has come from the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, The Professional Service Corporation Act (805 ILCS 10/1 et.seq.) as well as from thorough review of the application for the Professional Service License.

The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation issues Professional Service Licenses to Medical Corporations and Professional Service Corporations. A Professional Service Corporation is a corporation organized solely for the purpose of rendering ONE CATEGORY of professional service or related professional services. All shareholders, directors, officers, agents, and employees (other than ancillary personnel and/or the secretary of the corporation) MUST BE LICENSED under the same professional licensure act. The corporate name must end with the word "Chartered" or "Limited" or the abbreviation "Ltd." or with the words "Professional Corporation" or the abbreviation "Prof. Corp" or the initials "P.C." The Professional Service Corporation Registration will be issued in the same name as appears on the Articles of Incorporation as filed with the Illinois Secretary of State. A separate application must be submitted for each business location in Illinois and for each d/b/a used in Illinois.

All Professional Service Corporation registrations expire on December 31 of each year, regardless of the date on which the registration was issued by the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, Division of Professional Regulation. In order to complete an application you must submit a completed Application for a Professional Service Corporation Registration; make sure the application bears the same name that appears on the Articles of Incorporation as filed with the Illinois Secretary of State. Accompanying the completed application needs to be a copy of the Articles of Incorporation, a registration fee of \$50 made payable to the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (fees are not refundable). Mail the original application, copy of the Articles of Incorporation and/or a copy of the Authority to conduct business in Illinois, Assumed Name document as issued by the Illinois Secretary of State if using a d/b/a/ and fee payment to:

Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation,  
Division of Professional Regulation,  
P.O. Box 7007, Springfield, IL 62791.

If you need assistance in completing your application or have further questions regarding the Professional Service License you may contact the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation at (217) 782-8556. When an operator answers, state the profession for which you are applying and that you need assistance with your application.

## U of I Challenge *(from page 3)*

If you are unsure whether your classmate(s) is a member, the website has a link that will allow ISVMA members the ability to search by graduation year on the special ISVMA - University of Illinois Challenge page on the ISVMA website.([www.isvma.org/isvma\\_library/class\\_challenge/challenge.html](http://www.isvma.org/isvma_library/class_challenge/challenge.html))

If this 25% increase of non-members to members level can be attained, if we can recruit 99 new members that have graduated from the University of Illinois in the last quarter of a century, it will be my distinct honor to present a \$500 donation to the Wildlife Medical Clinic at the University of Illinois in honor of the class that has the highest percentage increase in membership!

Current levels were stated on page three. Each issue through the end of the challenge will list the percentage change. The challenge will run until June 30, 2007.

If you are willing to assist in this challenge as a class coordinator, please contact [peter@isvma.org](mailto:peter@isvma.org) to volunteer!

## SILENT AUCTION CONTINUES FOR SECOND YEAR

Hosted by the Auxiliary to the ISVMA, a silent auction again took place at the ISVMA Annual Convention. Items were on display in exhibit hall at the Auxiliary's booth and were available for final bidding at the Saturday General Session. In total, contributions of \$ 1500.00 were collected.

The Auxiliary received generous donations from corporate/association donors; Diagnostic Imaging Systems, Professional Veterinary Products, Banco Popular, Veterinary Technicians Association and Illinois Student Chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association. A number of individual sponsors - Dr. Ginger Brainard, Dr. Joyce Foote, Cathy Thomas, Patricia Herath, Kay Armbruster, Linda Stevenson, Marilyn Mahr, Alicia McEniry, and the Northern Regional Auxiliary - also donated items.

All proceeds generated from the auction go to support The Auxiliary to the ISVMA Scholarship Endowment Fund at the College of Veterinary Medicine. This fund endows at least two \$1,000 scholarships to University of Illinois students of the College of Veterinary Medicine every year. Since its inception in 1999, this fund has provided vital financial assistance to 21 second- and third-year veterinary students.

## Silent Auction Welcomes Contributions

The beginning of any calendar year always include financial planning. Why not include a contribution to the Silent Auction? The contribution doesn't have to be grandiose, and can be either professional or personal in nature.

Do you have season tickets to watch the Bears? The Cardinals? The Cubs or White Sox? Why not consider donating a game to the auction? How about donating a hot ticket to an Illini basketball game?

Not a sports fan? How about donating a week-end to a favorite get-away? Why not donate Illini or veterinary medicine decor items? Give a favorite print, photo, bottle of wine, or book. Do you have a favorite restaurant and want to share the experience? Why not donate a gift certificate to eat there? The possibilities are endless.

All contributions are fully tax deductible. If interested in making a donation, please contact Cathy Thomas, Scholarships and Projects Committee Chairperson at [doct@telstar-online.net](mailto:doct@telstar-online.net) or leave a message at (309) 925-5588.



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# Veterinary Medical Foundation

The ISVMA encourages its members to honor a loved one's memory by making a memorial contribution to the recently organized Illinois Veterinary Medical Foundation (IVMF). The IVMF, a 501(c)3 foundation, was established for the purpose of supporting projects related to veterinary medicine.

When making such a contribution, please indicate the name and address of the individual who should receive notification of your donation(s). Contributions are tax-deductible.

*Make your donation to:*  
Illinois Veterinary Medical  
Foundation  
c/o ISVMA  
133 South Fourth Street  
Suite 202  
Springfield, IL 62701

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**November 2-4, 2007 is this**  
**year's ISVMA 125th Annual**  
**Convention. See you in**  
**Peoria!**



## COMING INTO FOCUS *(from page 1)*

*Strategies that can be used to support Goal 1:*

- a. align regional and state structures
- b. tell our story: focus on value-added to the member
- c. social events that bond ISVMA members

## II. Member Services Improvement

- a. Make ISVMA resources evident to the members
- b. Study the members' needs and prospects' needs (including corporate medicine and including the desire to "give back")

*Strategies that can be used to support Goal 2:*

- a. take services out to the regions
- b. study the membership through surveys, focus groups, etc.
- c. focus on meeting the needs of newer members (whose needs may differ from long-term members)

## III. Legislative Capacity Building

- a. Utilize the ISVMA Legislative Relations Committee more effectively
- b. Develop a "Protocol" or "How To" book for the use of members who are willing to help in legislative relations but who may lack experience in the field
- c. Include legislative relations programs at the convention
- d. Develop a stable of spokespersons on key legislative issues
- e. Push for a Public Relations effort across all segments of ISVMA; it should be coordinated by the Executive Director and the ISVMA President
- f. Contact each legislator to make sure that he or she understands that ISVMA can provide information and analysis on animal issues before the General Assembly
- g. Grow the Political Action Committee Fund by explaining its advantages to the membership

*Strategies that can be used to support Goal 3.*

- a. Publicize legislative relations successes; tell the stories
- b. Tell stories about what happens when professions go unrepresented in the capital
- c. Remember that legislators are pet owners
- d. Do a "call for papers" for veterinarians to write about key public policy issues and publish one in each issue of the *Epitome*

I hope that you will support our efforts by encouraging full membership in your practices and supporting veterinary professionals who wish to volunteer for committees, task forces and as grassroots advocates for the profession.



## Obituaries

### JOHN T. CREASEY, DVM (ILL 2006)

Dr. John Thomas Creasey, 27, Canton, formerly of Bushnell, passed away suddenly in his home on Sunday, January 28, 2007. The shock of this tragedy is compounded by the fact that it occurred just weeks after the sudden death of Clint Franks (ILL 2007).

He was born Oct. 19, 1979, in Macomb, the son of Robert L. and Mary (Patrick) Creasey. He graduated from Bushnell Prairie City High School in 1998 where he was class president for four years, a member of National Honor Society and played basketball, baseball and football. He was captain of the football team his senior year. Regardless of size, his enthusiasm helped him shine in sports. He was a 10-year 4-H member and active in FFA. He was a member of Bushnell Presbyterian Church where he participated in bell choir and the church choir. He graduated from University of Illinois in 2002 with a bachelor's degree in Animal Science. He was a member of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity. He earned his DVM from the U of I College of Veterinary Medicine in 2006.

John was hired upon graduation by Dr. David Hahn at the Spoon River Animal Clinic in Canton. John was excited about the experience he gained while working with Dr. Hahn. He had recently completed his first cruciate surgery and was very proud and excited about the opportunity Dr. Hahn had given him to roll up his sleeves and learn by doing. He had a passion for his family, friends, travel, animals, cooking, music, the outdoors and the constant pursuit of education. He was a member of ISVMA and AVMA.

He is survived by his mother and stepfather, Mary (Jerry) Brookhart, Macomb, and father and stepmother, Robert (Diane) Creasey; his girlfriend of seven years, Joyce Ashamalla, who will be earning her veterinarian degree in the spring; one brother, Robb (Susan) Creasey, Macomb; two stepbrothers, Brad (Donna) Brookhart, Littleton, Colo., and Brian Brookhart, Lakewood, Colo.; and four nieces, Payton, Alex and Riley Creasey and Rebecca Brookhart. He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents and his maternal grandmother.

Funeral services were held Friday, Feb. 2, 2007, at Bushnell Presbyterian Church, Bushnell, with the Revs. Jesse Pestle and Ken McMillan officiating. Memorials can be made out to: Bushnell Recreation & Cultural Center, 300 Miller, Bushnell IL 61422, (309) 772-3612 or the Bushnell Prairie City Educational Foundation, c/o BPC High School, 845 Walnut, Bushnell IL 61422. There is also a scholarship fund being established in John's name at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. Donations can be forwarded to The Family of John Creasey, 155 Emmy Road, Macomb, IL 61455.

### CLINT L. FRANKS (V4 ILL 2007)

Clint L. Franks, 25, of Port Byron and student at the University of Illinois, College of Veterinary Medicine, Urbana, IL died suddenly Sunday, December 17, 2006 at the Carle Hospital, Urbana, IL.

Clint was born on August 20, 1981 at Illini Hospital in Silvis, IL the son of Clifford and Suzie (Fertig) Franks. He graduated from Riverdale High School where he participated in track and musicals. Clint stayed involved in track and cross country at Augustana College where he earned a bachelors degree

and continued his education at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. He was currently in the Production Medicine Club and the University's Aquatics Club. Clint was on track to graduate as a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Illinois in May of 2007. He was a member of ISVMA.

He loved animals, the outdoors: fishing, hunting, camping, running, landscaping and yard ponds. Clint enjoyed playing basketball with some of his closest friends. He was a gifted drawer and avid aquatic life lover as demonstrated by his beautiful fresh and salt water aquariums. He enjoyed motorcycles and darts as well. Clint was an uncle, brother, son, grandson, friend and blessing to those who knew him. We are thankful for 25 years of laughs Clint brought to our lives and he will continue to live on in our hearts.

Survivors include: his mother Suzie Franks, Port Byron; his father & step mother, Clifford & Diana Blackert Franks, Geneseo; 3 sisters & spouses, Christa Franks, Port Byron; Bobbi & Jim Flaherty, Geneseo; Becky & Mike Asher, Galesburg; grandfather Everett Blackert, Geneseo; 2 nieces Kira Franks & Madison Flaherty; special friends Larry & Kaye Miller, Port Byron; Jennifer Marlatt, Student - University of Illinois. He was preceded in death by a sister Cheryl and his grandparents. Funeral services were Thursday, December 21 at First United Methodist Church, Geneseo. Memorials may be left to the Clint Franks Memorial Fund.

(continued on page 22)

**Obituaries** (from page 21)**JASON E. JAMES, DVM  
(ILL 1957)**

Dr. Jason Elliott James, 77, of Sullivan, IL died on January 21, 2007 in St. Mary's Hospital in Decatur.

Jason was born September 28, 1929 in Good Hope, Illinois, the son of Gale and Lois Elliott James. He received his BS Degree from Carthage College in 1951, a MS Degree in Animal Nutrition in 1953 and a DVM Degree in 1957 from the University of Illinois. He operated his general practice in Sullivan from 1957 until his retirement in 1996. He industriously pursued several special fields of interest, one of which was specific pathogen free laboratory established in 1959. He also aided in establishing the Illinois SPF Association. He was instrumental in exporting United States Laboratory reared piglets to foreign countries. He pioneered embryo transfer as a method of introducing new genetics into swine herds. In 1981 the Sullivan Embryo Transfer Center was established. Jason received the National SPF Award in 1980; 25 year Service Award for the Moultrie County Dairy Farmers Association in 1981; 1983 Swine Practitioner of the Year Award; Moultrie County Hog Producer Recognition Award in 1984; and the 1985 ISVMA Special Recognition Award. He had numerous articles published in periodicals concerning embryo transfer 1974-1986 and served as a Adjunct Assistant Professor of Veterinary Clinical Medicine, College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Illinois in 1984.

Jason's most treasured possession was his family. He married Mary E. White on July 3, 1955 in Augusta, Illinois and she survives in Sullivan. He is also survived by his sons; David M. James and his wife Jackie of Lovington, Robert W. James and his wife Sarah of Shelbyville and his special treasure was his granddaughter, Kaya Sue James of Lovington. He also had several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother.

He was a devoted husband, father and grandfather and will be greatly missed by his family and host of friends. Funeral services were at the Reed Funeral Home, Sullivan with Dr. Garry Gromley officiating. Memorials are suggested to the Sullivan Fire and Ambulance Service, American Heart Association or the American Diabetes Association. Condolences may be sent to the family at reedfuneralhome.net.

**ROSS D. (DEAN) SCOGGINS, DVM (MSU 1960)**

Dr. Dean Scoggins, 71, died December 29, 2006, of a stroke suffered a week earlier, following a lengthy battle with cancer.

Earning his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Michigan State University in 1960, Scoggins practiced in Michigan, Maryland and Pennsylvania until 1977 when he became Equine Extension Veterinarian at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine and College of ACES until retirement in 2004. He was involved with his own Arabian, Morgan and Quarter horses for more than 50 years while giving seminars and clinics on health, training, care and welfare of the horse throughout Illinois, the United States and Canada. Many will recall Dr. Scoggins' special interest in equine dentistry and his vast personal collection of bits and antique tack.

His death came three weeks to the day after his induction into the Land of Lincoln Purebred Livestock Breeders Association's Hall of Fame. A portrait of Dr. Scoggins will be on display at the Illinois Department of Agriculture Building in Springfield in honor of his Land of Lincoln Hall of Fame designation.

"Dean was an invaluable aide in helping evaluate potential clinicians and educators to present programming at Illinois Horse Fair," said Joy Meierhans, Horse Fair manager. "His counsel was especially valuable because it was based on his many years of personal experience as a horse owner, trainer, exhibitor and breeder combined with his understanding of veterinary practices," Meierhans said.

"Dean Scoggins was an example for us all in his life-long dedication to educating, promoting and supporting the equine industry," said Paul Briney, Land of Lincoln Purebred Livestock Breeders Association first vice president and Horsemen's Council of Illinois past president.

He is survived by his second wife Connie; first wife Virginia Scoggins; son Brian (Pamela) of Tuscola; daughter, Laurie (Dick Shearer) Scoggins of Villa Grove; son, Gregg (Krista) Scoggins of Ashland, VA; five grandchildren; a sister, Darlene (Nick) Corey of Albion, MI; and a brother, David (Faye Beth) Scoggins of Gilbert, AZ.

## Continuing Education

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### April 2007

#### APRIL 5:

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS VMA SPRING MEETING; RAMADA INN FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS; Fairview Heights, IL. Speakers for the day will be Drs. Julie K. Byron and Dr. Dominique J. Griffon. Julie K. Byron, DVM, MS, DACVIM (Internal Medicine) will be presenting Topics on Urinary Tract Disease and Disorders. Dominique J. Griffon, DVM, MS, PhD, DACVS, DECVS will be presenting Topics on Orthopaedics. The day will begin at 9:00am and finish at 4:00pm. Attendance qualifies for 5.5 hours CE. For information contact John Spence, DVM at (618) 625.5641

#### APRIL 11:

KANKAKEE VALLEY VMA SPRING MEETING; JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE, WEITENDORF AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE CENTER; Joliet, IL. Featured speaker is John Ciribassi, DVM, Diplomate ACVB who will be presenting topics in Animal Behavior - including Puppy/Kitten Training and Feline Housesoiling. The day will begin at 4:00pm and finish at 7:30pm. Attendance qualifies for 3.0 hours CE. For information contact John M. Eharhardt, DVM at (815) 882-2000.

#### APRIL 27:

NORTHERN ILLINOIS VMA SPRING MEETING. One-day seminar including a short business meeting. Meetings typically earn six Continuing Education hours. Contact Gene Gambrel DVM for more information at (815) 335-2413.

Due to the unfortunate number of obituaries we are reporting this issue of the *Epitome*, there will be limited continuing education information available. Please visit our CE listing online at [www.isvma.org](http://www.isvma.org) for more details and additional listings.

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Any classified ad purchased, after confirmation of payment, will be posted both on the ISVMA website at [www.isvma.org](http://www.isvma.org) and the next available edition of the "Epitome". Webpage ad will run through the end of the "Epitome" publication date in which it will appear. All ads and cancellations must be submitted in writing or email by March 15, 2007 for inclusion in the April/May 2007 "Epitome." Please read your ad the first time it runs. If there are errors, notify us immediately. ISVMA liability is limited to the first issue of publication.

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Submit online at [www.isvma.org](http://www.isvma.org), by email [brenda@isvma.org](mailto:brenda@isvma.org), fax (217) 523-7981, or mail to Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association, 133 South Fourth Street, Suite 202, Springfield, IL 62701. ATTN: Brenda Weber. We will confirm by sending you a faxed contract for your signature.

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1995 Illinois graduate will provide relief services to small animal clinics in Macon and surrounding counties. Saturdays work well for me. References available on request. Contact Donna Maxwell DVM at (217) 864-9697 or [drdonnamaxwell@msn.com](mailto:drdonnamaxwell@msn.com).

Locum tenens Dr. has been helping fellow veterinarians by doing relief work full time since 1989. I can help with short term or long term commitment. I live in Central Illinois, but I am willing to travel throughout the state. Contact Ray Ramirez at (217) 794-3743 or [ray@ramirezdvm.com](mailto:ray@ramirezdvm.com).

## IN-STATE OPPORTUNITIES SEEKING VETERINARIANS

Experienced part-time veterinarian needed for high quality practice in western Chicago suburbs. Our friendly, dedicated staff, great clientele, excellent work schedule combined with competitive salary and benefits make this a great place to work. Send resume or contact DeVries Animal Hospital, 528 Spring Road, Elmhurst, IL 60126, (630) 833-7387 or FAX (630) 833 5227.

VCA Aurora Animal Hospital is looking for a full time emergency doctor for their busy specialty, general, and emergency practice. The doctor will work 3 fourteen-hour shifts each week. Our emergency/critical care unit is well equipped, with multiple fluid and syringe pumps, Bair Huggers, defibrillator, ventilator, in-house laboratory, blood pressure, and pulse oximetry. Please contact Dr. Jack Schafer at (630) 896-8541.

The ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center located in Urbana, Illinois, is seeking full-time, licensed veterinarians to join our outstanding staff, including 25 veterinarians (7 ABVT Diplomates). We provide premier 24-hour poison treatment advice to veterinarians and clients. The candidate should have a minimum of one-year clinical experience, possess solid problem-solving and excellent people skills, and have a strong desire to contribute to a team effort. Basic computer skills and proficient typing ability are a must. Combine your qualifications with our specialized training program and state of the art technical and information systems to prepare you for an exciting, new direction for your career. Send resume, cover letter and three references to ASPCA-APCC, 1717 South Philo Road, Suite 36, Attn. Human Resources, Urbana, IL 61802, fax (217) 337-0599, or email [hr@apcc.aspc.org](mailto:hr@apcc.aspc.org). EEOE

Full time associate needed for a two doctor small animal clinic in a north suburb of Chicago. Enjoyable work environment. Contact (847) 492-9342 or email [Jorie@hotmail.com](mailto:Jorie@hotmail.com).

## STATELINE HILLCREST SMALL ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Stateline Hillcrest Small Animal Hospital in Danville, IL is a 5-DVM full service companion animal hospital. We offer diagnostic and surgical services as well as in-house radiology and laboratory services. We have X-Ray and ECG capabilities. We are searching for an Associate DVM (either a new grad or an experienced veterinarian) for our facility. This would be a great multi-doctor facility to gain experience and mentorship, if this is what you are seeking. Please contact Marcie Noel at 217-443-8387 to inquire.

St. Charles Veterinary Clinic is looking for a full time veterinarian to join our dedicated, diverse, progressive team of doctors. We are a well equipped, well staffed, AAHA accredited hospital that provides a positive, enriching, work environment. Competitive salary, benefits including health insurance and Simple IRA with match. Send/Fax/Email resume: 530 Dunham Road, St. Charles, Illinois, (630) 584-0416. [stcvetclinic@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stcvetclinic@sbcglobal.net). Attn: Dr. James Miles.

Fox Valley Veterinary Hospital P.C., Ottawa IL has an opening for a full-time associate to join our AAHA certified hospital/companion pets. Enjoy a progressive practice in a relaxed atmosphere. One to two years experience preferred. Competitive salary and benefits. Please contact Dr. David Clayton at (815) 434-0363.

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Full-time associate needed for full service 15 year old animal hospital located in North Suburbs of Chicago. We have color flow doppler as well as other equipment to make an accurate diagnosis. Please call for an interview and a look at what we have to offer. Salary commensurate with hours worked and experience. No after hours emergency. Contact Dr. Michael Passarella at (847) 395-0636.

Associate wanted for small animal clinic in Lemont, a far southwest Chicago suburb. Clinic has a full lab with Lasercyte hematology and Idexx chemistries; BP, ECG, pulse Ox machines. We see a diverse medical and surgical caseload and perform many advanced surgeries. No non-medical merchandising or boarding. Great staff and a family feel. We desire a person with a positive attitude, a desire to continue to learn and a joy of interacting with animals and their owners. Looking for a long-term association with definite potential for buy-in. Salary dependent on experience, health insurance, sick days. Work week is 4 days with flexible scheduling. Contact Christopher Johnson DVM; 13731 Archer Avenue, Lemont, IL 60439; phone (630) 257-8924; email jfam15@aol.com; fax (630) 257-5784.

Associate Veterinarian needed for busy 2-doctor small animal practice in the near west suburbs of Chicago. Management and potential buy-in/buy-out possible in near future. We practice very high quality medicine, in a family-friendly environment. Flexible schedule, competitive salary and benefits. Interested in meeting you, and seeing how your vision, talent, and special interests will fit with ours. Fax resume to (630) 595-4971 or call Cindy at (630) 833-9717.

Morton Grove Animal Hospital: Seeking full- or part-time associate for high quality small animal practice. Good locale just North of Chicago. Excellent long-term support staff. No emergencies or evenings. One long weekend off monthly. Loyal clientele, competitive compensation and

excellent benefits. Contact Linda Ferrard at (847) 965-2010 or e-mail mganimalhosp@aol.com.

Collinsville, IL Northgate Small Animal Hospital is a thriving, multi-doctor (5 DVM) practice approximately 20 minutes east of St. Louis, MO. We are searching for an Associate DVM for this practice. We will consider a new graduate or an experienced veterinarian. The hospital is a large, stand-alone facility which offers surgery, dental, x-ray and laboratory capabilities. The hospital also has a Tono-Pen and an IDEXX: VetTest 8008, VetLyte and LaserCite among its equipment. The hospital will pay a competitive base salary, pay for production, CE, health benefits and relocation assistance (if necessary). The hospital will also consider other creative compensation ideas in order to attract the best doctors to apply. The town of Collinsville, IL is a quaint and prosperous small town of approx. 25,000 people. It provides a small town feel with all of the amenities of the large city of St. Louis within 15 miles. To inquire about this position, please contact Dr. Gary Gass or Colleen Gass (hospital manager) at (618) 344-0083, or send an e-mail to nate@vetrecruiting.com

Full time/Part time Veterinary Associate Wanted: We are a modern, well established small animal hospital in an affluent area of Dupage County. We enjoy a wonderful clientele that appreciates high quality medicine. Our 4 doctor practice sees 90% small animals and 10% exotics. Our veterinary team and friendly long term staff will help to ease the transition into our practice. We offer a very competitive salary, retirement benefits, CE, health insurance, and bonus pay. Please contact Dr. Graham Merkin at Downers Grove Animal Hospital at 630-968-2812 or GMerkinDVM@DGAAnimalhospital.com.

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equipped with the latest technology. Our veterinary team and friendly long term staff will help to ease the transition into our practice. Please contact Dr. Graham Merkin at Downers Grove Animal Hospital at 630-968-2812 or GMerkinDVM@DGAAnimalhospital.com.

Lake Street Animal Hospital Roselle, IL - The staff of Lake Street Animal Hospital, welcomes you to caring and conscientious veterinary services designed to provide complete health care for your pet. The clinic offers not only routine health maintenance procedures such as physical examinations and inoculations, but also spaying and neutering, parasite control, diagnostic laboratory testing, complete dental service, dietetics, radiology, pharmaceuticals as well as emergency and surgical care. Lake Street is located in the NW Chicago suburb of Roselle. Roselle provides the quality of life and sense of community usually only found in a small town, with the convenience of a larger, metropolitan area. Our website is [www.lakestreetanimalhosp.com](http://www.lakestreetanimalhosp.com). Please contact Dr. Jen Styrsky at 630-894-6220 to inquire.

Seeking a client-focused, quality-driven veterinarian for our multi-site, multi-person practice near Peoria, IL. Our goal is to practice effective, compassionate medicine focused on healthy patients, client service, and growth. Send resumes to Chillicothe Veterinary Clinic; 1310 W. Truitt; Chillicothe, IL 61523 or forward by email to Calhoun@chillivet.com.

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Veterinarian to join practice with three full-time and three part-time veterinarians in Rockford, IL. This is a great environment for learning and growing professionally; you will have an opportunity to develop both surgical and medical skills. Current veterinarians have over 100 collective years of experience and will work collaboratively with you. New graduate considered. Family friendly hours: we are open until 6:00 PM, we close at noon on Saturdays, and there is NO night or emergency hours. This practice is located in a rapidly-growing area with exceptional clientele. Rockford's cost-of-living is very low relative to comparably sized communities. Salary commensurate with experience, with generous health insurance, CE, and professional membership stipends. 401K-type retirement also available. Contact Dr. Mark Grove at 815-398-6484 (work), 815-885-2150 (home), or email DrAnn33@earthlink.net

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Certified Technician wanted full-time for busy 9 DVM practice in western suburbs. Must be team player, able to prioritize and multi-task, willing to learn and grow with this progressive practice. Technician's skills are utilized and have variety of responsibilities including but not limited to tech appointments, lab work, in-patient care, client education, anesthesia monitoring, dentals, assisting the veterinarians. Competitive pay, great benefits including medical, vacation, bonuses and Simple IRA along with wonderful work environment. Please fax/email/mail your resume to: St. Charles Veterinary Clinic, 530 Dunham Road, St. Charles, IL 60174, 630-584-0416, stcvetclinic@sbcglobal.net, attn: Heather Arnold.

The ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center is seeking full-time, licensed veterinary technicians to join our team. We are seeking motivated technicians who desire to use their training, experience, and communication skills in a fast-paced and challenging atmosphere. From our Poison Center, we provide animal poison information to all of North America. We offer excellent training and a competitive salary with a great shift premium, no cost health and dental benefits for the employee and dependents, 7 paid holidays, 15 vacation days per year and 10 sick days per year. Send resume and references to ASPCA-APCC, 1717 S. Philo Rd., Suite 36, Urbana, IL 61802; or email resume to hr@apcc.aspc.org . EEOE.

#### **EQUIPMENT FOR SALE**

For Sale: Porta-Vet 4" unit. Fits 8" truck bed. Good condition. \$2000 OBO. Contact Dr. Harold Bristow at (618) 664-0640.

Animal hospital building for sale or lease in Bartlett, IL. Practice was sold. Building available September 2006. Building size 50 x 60, two stories. Built 1988. On busy Main Street. Contacts: Joel or Kathy Bormann (847) 352-0155.

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Practice near Evansville, Indiana. Grossing almost \$300,000. Only \$550,000 includes real estate. Dr. Zydeck, (248) 891-3934 or email: fzydeck@aol.com.

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