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EPITOME



THE ILLINOIS STATE VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

October/November 2005

Vol. XLV, Number 2

CHANGES WITH PRESIDENCY

Dr. Wesley G. Bieritz, President, ISVMA



I have had the privilege of being your president for nearly two years. If you'll recall, we changed our annual convention from the winter to the fall and thus extended the term of all of the officers and the board of directors. This long stretch of time has given us an opportunity to take advantage of leadership continuity and make many improvements in your association. Please indulge me as I mention a few of the more important changes.

First and foremost, we have hired a new Chief Executive Officer, Peter Weber. After an extended search in late 2003, it appears that we have hired a gem. Peter has turned out to be an association expert with talent, knowledge and dynamism that is seldom found in one individual. I'm sure by now that most of you have talked to him personally or by phone and have come to appreciate him as much as your officers do.

We have moved our offices to the Capitol City of Springfield. We not only reduced our occupation costs, but are now located in the hot-bed of politics and regulations. The ISVMA is the only association that you belong to that protects your right to practice, and we are in the mix full-time.

After a long range planning session, the ISVMA Board established three goals:

1. ISVMA will expand real and perceived member services (strengthening our advocacy efforts, developing a website and objectifying the value of membership);
2. ISVMA will update its governing documents (most are outdated);
3. ISVMA will be a healthy association (we were running deficits for the past three years and membership participation was declining); and

We are well on our way to fulfilling all three.

With additional dues money, increased membership and other sources of income, we have turned the budget completely around so that now we are slowly building back our reserves that will allow us to add new services in the years to come.

Peter and his staff are passionate about membership. They have increased our membership rolls by almost 600 - so that our veterinarian membership now stands at approximately 1800. The Board of Directors set a goal of 2000 veterinarian members by July 1st of 2007

(continued on page 3)

We're setting the goal for new members!

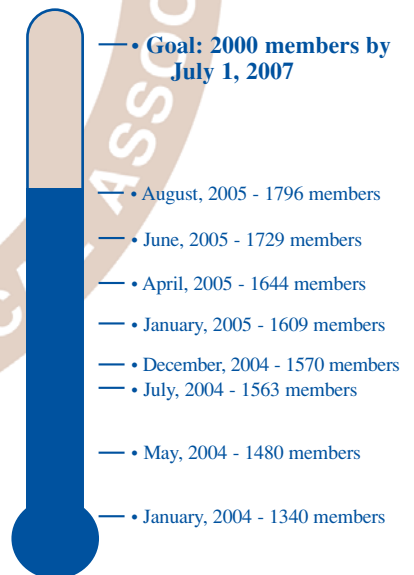


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The *EPITOME* is published every two months by the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association (ISVMA) 133 South Fourth, Suite 202, Springfield, Illinois 62701; 217/523-8387; 217/523-7981 (fax); www.ISVMA.org. Its purpose is to communicate the business of the association, legislative as well as regulatory issues at state and national levels and other issues of interest to the membership of the ISVMA.

DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION

All articles, contributions, classifieds, and display ads must be received in the ISVMA office by 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. Any e-mail submissions may be sent as an attachment to 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.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

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

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Bieritz (from page 1)

and we're well on our way to achieving the standard. Most of this increase is the result of a one-on-one effort by a dedicated staff. WELL DONE FOLKS.

The ISVMA is proposing a new modern constitution that will be presented for adoption at the convention in November. It embodies many changes and updates that the ISVMA Constitution & Bylaws Task Force felt were needed. A copy of the draft constitution was included in your August/September Epitome. Please peruse it carefully and be prepared to comment and vote in November.

Our legislative team, along with the critical help of many practitioners, had a successful legislative season in defeating the "\$3.00 rabies tax bill" that had been offered each of the last 2 years. Had it passed, this would have been the first state tax on medical services. Legislative challenges are constant and next year will be no different. Hopefully next year we can have veterinary legislative input instead of reactivity. Your association remains vigilant.

Membership services have been enhanced to include a number of sponsored benefit programs. Each of these programs has been selected to make it easier for your practice to make your practice more profitable.

Peter has established a modern new web site at www.isvma.org with dozens of links for practitioners and for the public. This dynamic website is another way in which your association can serve you.

The staff in Springfield now has new computer equipment and a new phone system - amenities that were long-overdue for our association. Peter and the staff have completely revised the data base that was terribly outdated. Staff has adopted a data integrity initiative to assure that we maintain correct names, addresses and work locations for all members.

Peter developed an e-mail newsletter (E-SOURCE) that is sent to all electronically connected members giving us updates on all vital subjects. Please call the office and sign up to receive this newsletter if you have not done so.


We have improved and expanded the *Epitome* so that is now a must for every practitioner's office. It contains worlds of information and opportunities that are invaluable to us all.

The ISVMA, along with many other regional and commercial sponsors, has just completed a Student Summer Program to bring the tools of the National Council of Veterinary Economic Issues to more than 100 practices in Illinois. The tools are designed to improve client services and practice incomes over the next few years. Look for opportunities to engage it next year if you have

not yet done so. It will be well worth your time!

The ISVMA Education Committee has instituted additional seminars throughout the year in regional locations in order to enhance continuing education opportunities.

All of our committees and task forces have been quite active in the past months. I applaud them for their time and effort. From my point of view, the dedication to the profession is remarkable.

Finally, last year's convention was an educational and financial success only because of a huge commitment by our new staff and the former staff. Our November meeting in Springfield promises to be much improved, with many diverse topics; separate sessions for recent graduates; an IVERT training session; 77 exhibitors; an exclusive dinner at the Lincoln Presidential Museum; and a general session featuring Kevin Fitzgerald with his special brand of veterinary humor. Plan to attend and celebrate with your new ISVMA - *Pushing For Greatness!* 

Editor's Note —

The Executive Director's column will be omitted this issue. Look for its return in the December/January 2006 issue.

A FOCUS ON THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF RECENT GRADUATES

Recent graduates, loosely defined as DVM's who graduated in the last three to five years, can look forward to an educational track customized for their needs at this year's ISVMA Convention. Convention programming for recent graduates provides an easy, economical way for young doctors to participate in an ISVMA activity. It also demonstrates how being an active member of ISVMA can lead to benefits from the networking, mentoring and continuing education offered throughout the year.


Dr. Matt Allender, co-chairman of the Recent Graduate Section of the ISVMA Education Committee, said "The recent graduate section is very important for the growth and maintenance of organized veterinary medicine at the state level. So that state organization participation does not decline, the energy and drive for a sustainable future must come from veterinary students and recent graduates with the mentoring of experienced veterinarians throughout the state. This section helps to include those recent graduates and get them excited about the ISVMA and to be a part of its future."

Recent graduates face all the same clinical challenges of veteran doctors, but have unique challenges that this year's Recent Graduate Section will address. According to Dr. Sarah Probst-Miller, co-chairman of the Recent Graduate Section of the ISVMA Education Committee, "New grads face different issues than our more experienced colleagues. We're trying to decide whether our first job was the right move while balancing work and family and figuring out what to do with a positive money flow for the first time in four years. Mulling issues such as these distracted me from what was most important in my first few years as a vet. We hope this section we've put together for new grads helps them learn how to be a good team player where they are at right now, helps them work through decisions relating to career changes, and also gives them some advice in regards to money management so they can retire happy, wealthy and wise someday. We're very excited about ISVMA's commitment to new grads and we also think this will be a great place to have a beverage with classmates and colleagues and stay involved with this very important state organization."

In addition to the educational sessions, ISVMA and the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine Office of Academic and Student Affairs will work with recent graduates to serve as on-site mentors to the many DVM students who will attend the convention. The goal is to provide early relationships that could turn into long-term relationships as the students move into their careers as DVM's in Illinois.

Recent Graduate Section sessions are scheduled for Sunday, November 6 at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield. Topics are "How to Retire a

Multi-Millionaire" by Dr. Larry Firkins; "Building an Effective Team: An Interactive Session" by Jill Walcholz; and "New Grad Jeopardy: Should I Stay or Should I Go?" featuring a panel of recent graduates.

All convention sessions are appropriate for recent graduates and begin on Friday, November 4. Convention registration materials have been mailed. Note that all DVM's who graduated in 2003, 2004 or 2005 qualify for a discounted registration rate. Visit the ISVMA website at www.ISVMA.org to download a prospectus and to register online today. 

DOG FLU: AN EMERGING VIRUS

This newly emerging respiratory pathogen in dogs has been receiving some heavy media coverage. If your office is receiving requests by clients or the media for information, refer to the ESOURCE that was issued on September 27, 2005 on this subject.

If you did not receive your most recent issue, contact our office at (217) 523-8387 for this timely information. We will be happy to resend it. If you are not on our electronic mailing list, ask us to fax you a copy of this important resource.


NCVEI SUMMER PROGRAM A SUCCESS

This past spring, the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association (ISVMA) approached the Veterinary Business Management Association (VBMA) at the University of Illinois - College of Veterinary Medicine with a request for assistance. The National Commission on Veterinary Economic Issues (NCVEI) had an excellent online tool that was being underutilized and the ISVMA wanted the VBMA to come up with a means of bringing the NCVEI's online business management tools to its members.

The NCVEI online data allows practitioners to evaluate the economic health and efficiency of their practice by allowing them to compare key economic indicators to other veterinarians with similar patient base throughout their state and country.

Three student members of the VBMA, Jim Park, Nick Guedet and Kelli Kramer, all executive board members of the VBMA, took on the challenge to develop a training program. The ISVMA assisted through marketing and providing financial backing while the students' main role was to train. The student representative/trainer was responsible for visiting each pre-registered practice, meeting with the veterinarian and/or practice manager and training them on the proper use of the NCVEI tools. The students also attended regional veterinary medical association executive board meetings to market the summer training program.

Registrations began in mid-May with site training running from June 1 through August 19. When the program concluded at summer's end, more than 100 practices throughout the state had participated and many practitioners were still interested in being trained.

The feedback on the program was very positive. Of those returning post-training evaluations, 95% of the respondents felt that the information gained will be beneficial to improving their practice's business. The online program was cited as being very useful and user-friendly. One respondee stated "This was a perfect way to get acquainted with the NCVEI tools. I am very excited about the potential for my practice and the profession." 

The ISVMA would like to thank the generosity of the following sponsors for helping make this program possible.

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Kankakee Valley VMA
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UIUC CVM ASA Office

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

ISVMA would like to welcome the following 34 new members (who joined between July 14, 2005 and September 23, 2005). ISVMA is still growing toward 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!

Dr. David J. Bongiorno
Dr. John W. Calhoun
Dr. Susan K. Carey
Dr. Jennifer Carroll
Dr. Adrienne Coleman
Dr. Stephanie J. Deneke
Dr. Katherine Duncan
Dr. Jordana Eisenstein
Dr. Kenneth W. Gretschrann
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Dr. Torry R. Steffen
Dr. Jeffrey A. Sutarik
Dr. Erica M. Wick
Dr. India C. Wood

EPITOME News & Notes

Status on House Bill 315 and Senate Bill 2078

On August 22, 2005, Governor Rod R. Blagojevich signed House Bill 315 into law. Effective as of that date, this bill now bears the title of the Illinois Public Health and Safety Animal Population Control Act and is recorded as Public Act 94-0639. The text of this new law can be downloaded by visiting the ISVMA's Member Center page, Legislation link at www.isvma.org/legislation.htm.

Highlights of Amendment #3 to SB2078 and HB315 include:

- Name of Pet Overpopulation Fund changed to Pet Population Control Fund.
- The rabies vaccination tax has been stricken.
- Eligibility to participate in low income spay/neuter program established - Eligible owners to submit proof of eligibility to the Department. Department then issues a voucher to be presented to a participating veterinarian.
- Veterinarian participation is voluntary.
- Dangerous dog definition has been modified.
- Definition of "intact" has been placed in section to allow for the differential for county programs. It reads as follows: "Intact" means an animal that has not been spayed, neutered, or chemically sterilized.
- County Board shall impose an individual dog or cat registration fee with a minimum differential of \$15 for intact dogs or cats. \$10 of the differential shall be placed in a county animal population control fund or in the state pet population control fund. If the money is placed in the county animal population control fund it shall be used to spay/neuter or sterilize adopted dogs or cats or to spay/neuter dogs or cats owned by low income county residents who are eligible for the Food Stamp Program.
- Allows counties to establish a county animal population control program.
- Strikes inclusion of cats in section requiring rabies vaccinations.
- Provides for a \$25 public safety fee for a dog running at large with \$20 to be deposited in Pet Population Control Fund and \$5 to be kept by county or municipality for administration.
- Impoundment - \$25 public safety fee to be deposited in Pet Population Control Fund. If it is dog or cat's first impoundment the fee may be waived if owner agrees to have animal spayed or neutered within 14 days.
- Biting - \$25 public safety fee. \$20 to be deposited in state Fund and \$5 to stay with local jurisdiction for administration.
- Vicious dog - \$100 public safety fee with a fine of \$500 for non-compliance.
- Dangerous dog - \$50 public safety fee.

Added to the Animal Control Act are changes that include:

- Any veterinarian or animal shelter who in good faith contacts the registered owner of a microchipped animal shall be immune from criminal liability


and shall not, as a result of his or her acts or omissions, except for willful and wanton misconduct, be liable for civil damages.

- Rabies vaccine for use on animals shall be sold or distributed only to and used only by licensed veterinarians.
- The veterinarian immunizing or microchipping an animal shall provide the Administrator of the county in which the animal resides with a certificate of immunization and microchip number.
- To review the amendment, visit the page that ISVMA created to outline the changes at www.isvma.org/amendment.htm.

Can Counties Require Veterinarians to Collect Rabies Tax?

The Animal Control Act gives apparent authority to counties to require veterinarians to collect the county rabies tax. This authority preceded the passage of House Bill 315 (see above).

Until recently, this authority was exercised by only a few Illinois counties. However, in recent years a number of counties have chosen to pass the responsibility for collecting the rabies tax along to veterinarians. ISVMA is aware of this growing tendency on the part of counties and the problems it causes in veterinary practices.

During the next legislative session, ISVMA will be supporting several amendments to the Animal Control Act - including language addressing the apparent authority of counties to require veterinarians to collect the rabies tax. We will work closely with animal control administrators to make sure that the amendments address the major issues facing animal control and private practice veterinarians. 

WHAT IS IVERT?

Currently more than 170 private practitioners from Illinois can call themselves a member of IVERT. To belong, these veterinarians did not take a special exam, pay an additional certification fee or earn a qualified salary. What they did was agree to be a trained volunteer to make their country a safer place to live.

To be a member of the Illinois Veterinary Emergency Response Team, or IVERT, an individual agrees to assist in some manner with the planning for, and possible response to, an emergency animal disease outbreak and/or natural disaster that might require veterinary assistance to mitigate the situation.

Overseen by the Illinois Department of Agriculture, IVERT is a program which works jointly with the State's Emergency Management Agency. It has a partnership with the College of Veterinary Medicine and is affiliated with the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association.

IVERT volunteers have all received training either regionally or nationally to respond to animal disease outbreaks. ISVMA, in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Agriculture, is proud to be offering a vital training program to its membership at this year's convention.


This free, day-long session will be offered to all interested DVM's. Prior training is not necessary. Topics will include information about the threat of

emergency animal diseases, whether introduced intentionally or naturally. These include foreign animal diseases and potential bioterrorism, especially within the domestic food supply. The day's training will also include actions that can be taken to minimize the impact as well as actions that will prepare you to respond in the event you are called to assist.

Participants will receive a current copy of "Emerging and Exotic Diseases of Animals" produced by the Center for Food Security and Public Health at Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine (a \$40 value), an agroterrorism/ bioterrorism CD ROM, and several other related resources. The ISVMA will offer seven (7) CE units for the day's training.

Registrants who are ISVMA members will be given first priority; however, anyone working in the field of veterinary medicine who wishes to volunteer may attend.

Please note when completing the convention registration form: attendance at any scheduled social functions at convention on Friday require a convention registration fee payment.

For further information, please contact the ISVMA office at (217) 523-8387. 

Continuing Education Seminar For Your Health Care Team

"It's What's Up Front That Counts"

Presented by Mark Opperman, CVPM

Learn how to improve your customer service, efficiency and enhance your practice's profitability.

- *Look at your practice from your client's perspective*
- *Learn how to enhance your practice's perception of value*
- *Improve your interpersonal communication and telephone skills*



Springfield, IL - January 15

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MESSAGE FROM DEAN HERBERT WHITELEY

University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine

CLINICAL MEDICINE A PRIORITY FOR THE COLLEGE

The continued excellence of clinical service and teaching at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital is a top priority for the College and for me. However, with pressures from growing private specialty practices and shrinking university budgets, hospitals at veterinary colleges across the country are recognizing that they cannot continue being the comprehensive tertiary referral centers that they had been over the past 30 years.



Faculty turnover is one aspect of this changing reality. Faculty have opportunities to enter the private sector, take on leadership roles at other institutions, or relocate for family reasons. We have led an aggressive recruiting program over the past several years, hiring 18 new clinical medicine faculty members. Eight searches are currently under way, and several more are planned for next year. Equally important, we have changed our administrative structure to intensify our focus on excellence in the department and in the hospital.

Dr. Ann Johnson has been in place since August as interim director of the teaching hospital. To this newly created position Ann brings international leadership as an orthopedic surgeon and innovative educator, as well as proven administrative ability that includes serving as head of the small animal surgery section and interim department head. I am grateful to Ann for returning from semi-retirement to establish the hospital director role while the search for a permanent director progresses.

“My top goals in this position are continued excellence in clinical service along with improved communication and access for clients and referring veterinarians,” she said recently. She has begun by establishing correspondence with referring practitioners to keep them abreast of changes in service, and she is exploring new models to meet critical needs. For example, she has arranged for Drs. Dan Hogan and Henry Green from Purdue University to provide weekly cardiology service beginning September 12.

Ann welcomes feedback of any sort from referring practitioners to help the hospital learn how to better meet your needs. The best way to reach her is through her administrative secretary, Mindy Garth, at 217/265-6554 or via email at aljohns@uiuc.edu. And of course, referring veterinarians can get

their questions answered by call the referral hotline at 217-333-5311.

By November Dr. David Williams will be on board as the new clinical medicine department head. David joins us from Texas A&M University, where he led the Gastrointestinal Laboratory. His international reputation will help draw new faculty to the department. He promises to foster a culture that supports top-notch clinical research while maintaining a deep commitment to professional education with a real-world focus.

I'd like to thank Dr. Peter Constable, an outstanding clinician and researcher, for serving as interim head of the Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine over the past year. He deserves tremendous praise for his leadership and contributions.

And thanks are also due Illinois veterinarians for their patience and support as we emerge from a troubling period. Our many new faculty members are excellent clinician educators and scientists, and I'm sure you will find working with them rewarding.

Only in partnership with you can our hospital and teaching program continue to excel. I know that Drs. Johnson and Williams welcome your comments and questions, as do I. You can reach me at dean@cvm.uiuc.edu.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Fall Conference, October 20 and 21. Speakers Drs. Michael Apley, Theresa Fossum, Erika Pratt, and Illinois alumni Drs. Robin Downing and Mark Mitchell will cover topics including antimicrobial use in food animals, compliance in practice, everyday pain management, exotic animal medicine, and small animal internal medicine. Visit <http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/ope/fallconf/> for complete conference information.

VEO TO OFFER DENTISTRY MODULES

New Dentistry Modules available soon on Veterinary Education Online (VEO), the Web-based continuing education program designed for busy veterinary professionals, will mark the completion of its first year with the addition of five new small animal dentistry modules. VEO has provided continuing education to individuals in 14 countries and more than 40 states. Veterinarians and licensed, certified, or registered veterinary technicians may register for skills-building courses in pain management, ophthalmology, small animal dentistry, diagnostic imaging, cytology, parasitology, and emerging diseases. VEO courses can be taken at your own pace anywhere you have a computer with Internet access. Check out the courses at www.veoillinois.org.

***ISVMA Annual Convention,
Alumni Reception, November 5, 7:30
p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel,
Springfield, IL. For more information,
please contact advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu.***

CVM Students Need Help with Project

ISVMA has been contacted by students working on the Veterinary Career Resource Center website, <http://vcrcillinois.org> at University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. The website is a resource for people with an interest in veterinary medicine, veterinarians looking for a position or students looking for an externship.

The students are updating a section called "Explore Careers." In this section, veterinarians are profiled in specific areas. Profiles in a number of specialized areas are lacking:

- Anesthesia
- Behavior
- Emergency and Critical Care
- Epidemiology
- Microbiology
- Nutrition
- Pharmacology
- Poultry
- Preventative Medicine
- Radiology
- Surgery
- Therigenology
- Toxicology
- International Veterinary Medicine

If you are willing to be interviewed and profiled, please contact Erin Lindblad at ehollim2@uiuc.edu.

HOW CAN I HELP? HURRICANE KATRINA RESOURCES

In an e-mail broadcast to members on September 11, 2005, the ISVMA Human-Animal Bond/Animal Welfare Committee and the ISVMA Disaster Committee listed various means of assistance that were available for the animal victims of Hurricane Katrina. The following list combines those resources with a few others compiled since then.

This is a shortened edition of what is available online. Visit the ISVMA's homepage and open the Hurricane Katrina assistance link. There you will find additional information on the efforts being made.

For more information on starting a collection effort in your clinic, or to share with us your efforts and successes, feel free to call Emil Baukert, DVM at Baukert@ameritech.net or 847-673-2520.

PLACES ACCEPTING FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS:

American Kennel Club Companion Animal Recovery – contributions are used to immediately purchase needed equipment and supplies and deliver them directly to contact centers. Donations may be sent to AKC CAR Canine Support and Relief Fund, Attn: Ms. Kim Luong, c/o American Kennel Club, 260 Madison Avenue, 4th Floor, New York NY 10016-2401.

American Veterinary Medical Foundation – contributions allow AVMA Veterinary Medical Assistance Teams (VMAT) already on site to continue their rescue and clean-up efforts. To make a donation online, visit www.avmf.org. Phone in your donation to 800-248-2862, ext 6689 or mail your check to AVMFoundation, 1931 N. Meacham Road, Suite 100, Schaumburg, IL, 601273-4360.

American Zoo Association - funds are being collected to provide immediate and long-term relief to the staff and their families, the animals and the facilities at the Audubon Nature Institute, which includes the Audubon Zoo, The Aquarium of the Americas, and the Audubon Center for Research of Endangered Species in New Orleans. To make a donation, visit the Lincoln Park Zoo web site at <http://www.lpzoo.org> and click on hurricane relief, or mail a check made out to The Lincoln Park Zoological Society, and send it to: Lincoln Park Zoo, P.O. Box 14903, Chicago IL 60614, Attention: Hurricane Katrina Relief.

Equine Disaster Relief Fund - American Association of Equine Practitioners Foundation's assistance fund. Visit www.aep.org to download a donation form. Contributions are being accepted at AAEP Foundation, Equine Disaster Relief Fund, AAEP Foundation; 4075 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington KY 40511.

Houston SPCA – this fund is being used to help care for the relocated animals of the Louisiana SPCA and the evacuees at the Houston Astrodome, Reliant Arena and the George R. Brown Convention Center. To donate to this fund, visit them online at www.spcahouston.org.

Humane Society of the United States – contributions fund their Disaster Animal Response Teams working in New Orleans and Mississippi doing search-and-rescue as well as staffing temporary shelters. To donate visit https://secure.hsus.org/01/disaster_relief_fund_2005. To send a gift by U.S. mail, make your check payable to HSUS Disaster Relief Fund and mail it to HSUS, Dept. DRFHBM, 2100 L Street, NW, Washington DC 20037.

Hurricane Equine Relief Fund – fund established by the United States Equestrian Federation. The money will be used to support efforts to deliver food, veterinary services, and shelter for horses and ponies in the stricken areas. Donations can be made online at www.usef.org. Checks made out to USEF Hurricane Equine Relief Fund may be sent to The United States Equestrian Federation, 4047 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington KY 40511.

Spirit of Veterinary Medicine Hurricane Katrina Animal Relief Fund - fund is administered through the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine used in the animal relief relief efforts both in the LSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital and Clinics, where sick and injured animals are being treated, and at the shelter facility at LSU's Parker Coliseum, where the majority of evacuated owned animals are being cared for. The College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Missouri-Columbia has graciously provided a means of accepting online donations. To donate go to www.cvm.missouri.edu/news/donate_LSU.htm. To donate by mail, make check payable to "LSU Foundation"

(continued on page 11)

Hurricane Katrina Resources (from page 10)

with "Spirit of Veterinary Medicine Animal Relief" written on the memo line, and send to: c/o Ms. Pat Edwards, School of Veterinary Medicine, Skip Bertman Drive, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Veterinary Memorial Foundation – funds donated to this effort, coordinated by the School of Veterinary Medicine at LSU in conjunction with the Louisiana VMA, the Louisiana SPCA and the Louisiana Animal Control Association, support statewide relief effort. To donate by mail, please make checks payable to LVMA Dr. Walter J. Ernst Veterinary Memorial Foundation (write "Katrina Fund" on the memo line) and mail to: LVMA, 8550 United Plaza Blvd. Suite 1001, Baton Rouge, LA 70809. To donate by phone, please call 1-800-524-2996 during regular business hours.

WHO TO CONTACT IF YOU WANT TO VOLUNTEER YOUR SERVICES


The Animal Emergency Response Network - is helping coordinate volunteer veterinarians, veterinary technicians, and other individuals who want to help. If you would like to volunteer your time to assist at the Parker Coliseum Regional Animal Shelter, please visit the Animal Emergency Response Network and click the link that says "I want to REGISTER to FOSTER displaced pets or VOLUNTEER to help pets in need. (from the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine Website at www.vetmed.lsu.edu/)

Louisiana State University, School of Veterinary Medicine - Contact Dr. David Senior by calling (225) 578-9551 or emailing dsenior@vetmed.lsu.edu.

Louisiana Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals - seeking skilled volunteers and professional animal care staff. Local volunteers are walking the dogs, cuddling with the cats and providing lots of love. Please contact Lama Dixon at 225.647.0712

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – request is for veterinarians. Immediate short- and long-term assignments require a minimum 14 days to maximum of 30 days of service. Call (866) 528-6334 for more information.

U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service – request is for veterinarians, technicians, students and assistants. For more information, email EmergencyVMO@aphis.usda.gov with the subject line "new NAHERC volunteer."

The Humane Society of the United States – Veterinarians, vet technicians can volunteer their services by visiting www.hsus.org. For those who are not trained in animal care or rescue training, there is always the need for help in cleaning kennels, feeding and watering and keeping the emergency shelters running. For more information, contact 1-800-HUMANE-1. 

WHO TO CONTACT IF YOU WANT TO FOSTER A DISPLACED PET

If you are interested in fostering a pet from the Parker Coliseum Regional Animal Shelter whose owner is temporarily unable to care for it, please visit the Animal Emergency Response Network at <http://disaster.petfinder.com/emergency/> and click the link that says "I want to REGISTER to FOSTER displaced pets or VOLUNTEER to help pets in need." Click the link that says "Show me pets that NEED FOSTER care" to search for specific kinds of animals or animals in specific areas.

WHERE TO CONTACT TO PROVIDE SUPPLIES, FOOD, ETC.

American Zoo Association is coordinating relief efforts that will provide animal food, veterinary medicine, fuel and other supplies directly to the animals and the facilities at the Audubon Nature Institute. Contact: Jane Ballentine of AZA, 301-562-0777 ext. 252 or Kelly McGrath of Lincoln Park Zoo, 312-742-2246.

American Kennel Club A donations exchange database is available at www.akc.org. People can list resource, equipment and transportation offers.

Noah's Wish Noah's Wish, a not-for-profit, animal welfare organization, has set up a Disaster Animal Shelter in conjunction with Slidell Animal

(continued on page 12)

MANAGING INFECTIOUS DISEASE ENTRY AND SPREAD... ON THE FARM AND IN YOUR CLINIC

Reprinted in part with permission by Danelle Bickett-Weddle, DVM, MPH
Center for Food Security and Public Health, Iowa State University

Biosecurity is such a buzz word in today's society. Whether it is in the human hospital, on the farm, or in your veterinary clinic, it conjures up the thought of preventing disease exposure. Often times as busy practitioners, we get asked by our clients to help establish a biosecurity plan or are faced with an infectious animal in our clinics and need prevention steps now. Where do you learn that information? How do you build your knowledge base about managing infections? What disinfectants work best in your situation? How do you get it all done when you are working 60 hours a week?

The Center for Food Security and Public Health has designed an, online Biological Risk Management (BRM) program to help you to prioritize what needs attention first to minimize infectious disease spread. This resource has been developed to assess risk on beef, dairy, or equine operations, or within your stationary or mobile veterinary clinic.

The term Biological Risk Management (BRM) is used to describe the overall process of evaluating a livestock operation or veterinary clinic based on the risk of infectious disease entry and spread. BRM was developed based on routes of transmission, rather than specific diseases. An advantage of this approach is that it can help protect against new or unanticipated infectious agents by identifying exposure points and providing management recommendations to minimize them.


How do you get started? Visit the website that stores the database and all other BRM Toolbox materials at www.cfsph.iastate.edu/BRM. Register to use the online database. Select your area of focus (beef, dairy, equine, mobile or stationary clinic) and print out the key points document. Help is provided throughout the process if you need it. It is simple and takes only minutes.

Next, have your client or clinic owner complete a pre-assessment questionnaire. After reviewing the pre-assessment, the veterinarian evaluates the client's animal facility or veterinary clinic using a question set created in the online database. Next, evaluate the facility using the printed question set. Once answers are obtained, visit the BRM online database to enter your responses and comments.

With this information, several different reports can be generated for use: management recommendations, routes of transmission charts plus

a list highlighting strong prevention practices currently being used.

As with any evaluation, it is only as good as the communication that informs all involved. With the above reports, and several supplements for each focus area that will help you educate others, information can be given to the client or the clinic owner and all employees. Together, a management plan can be designed based on the information provided in the BRM Toolbox to minimize disease risk.

Every facility is different and no one plan fits everyone. That is why the BRM program is customizable. Visit the website at www.cfsph.iastate.edu/BRM. There are many helpful handouts available to help educate yourself, your clients and your employees about infection control. Questions about the BRM materials can be directed to 515-294-7189 or brm@iastate.edu. 

— The BRM project is supported by a grant which will allow access free of charge through December 2005.

Displaced Pets (from page 11)

Control in Slidell, LA. To access a list of requested supplies, visit <http://www.noahswish.org/Hurricane%20Katrina.htm> or send an email to supplies@noahswish.org with "Supply and Equipment" in the subject line.

Feed the Children is collecting and distributing pet products to assist in animal relief. Call one of their live agents for information at 1-800-525-7575.

Calicivirus

A Devastating New Threat to Cats



Awareness and Prevention are Key to Protecting Cats from This Virulent New Strain

It's most veterinarians' worst nightmare—a perfectly healthy animal dies within hours of first exhibiting signs of trouble. But with a new strain of calicivirus attacking a handful of clinics across the country, this nightmare has become a reality for some practitioners.

Virulent systemic feline calicivirus (VS-FCV) infection has a mortality rate of more than 40 percent—even among cats vaccinated with current calicivirus vaccines.¹ Clinical signs usually include high fever and limb swelling; ulceration and hair loss on the face, feet, and ears; and ocular and nasal discharge. The virus affects adult cats more seriously than kittens and an otherwise healthy animal can die within 24 hours of displaying signs.

According to a study published in the Jan. 15, 2004, issue of *JAVMA*, outbreaks in Los Angeles began when four shelter cats introduced an especially virulent strain of calicivirus into a hospital. The virus spread to two clinics and a rescue organization via infected surfaces, cat-to-cat contact, human-to-cat contact, and fomites — objects such as clothing that transmit disease. Out of 54 suspected cases, 59 percent of adult cats and 14 percent of kittens younger than one year old died.¹

No vaccination exists for the VS-FCV strain, and it would pose a considerable risk if it were to spread widely among today's cat population.

In contrast to VS-FCV, the more traditional strains of calicivirus (FCV) are usually not fatal by themselves. About 50 percent of cats - but more in shelters - test positive for FCV, whether they develop clinical disease or not. In high-density populations like shelters, FCV is nearly endemic, says Janet Foley, DVM, University of California-Davis. Dr. Foley and her UC-Davis colleagues have been investigating VS-FCV since its discovery in the late 1990s.

Dr. Foley says veterinarians should always test for FCV in respiratory disease cases. "Part of the reason we don't test for FCV is that we don't have treatment options other than supportive care," she says. "But it makes a difference in your strategy when you know exactly what you're looking at." For example, veterinarians can administer antibiotics if secondary bacteria are present.

Kittens are much more susceptible to FCV than adult cats. "When I adopted my kittens from a shelter a couple of years ago, they developed an upper respiratory infection within days," Foley says.

Dr. Foley says that practitioners need to be aware of the signs of VS-FCV and take immediate preventive action if a case is suspected. "If you deal with it immediately, quarantine sick and exposed animals and follow sanitation protocols, you can stop this virus in its tracks," she says.

"A few practices have closed down completely while dealing with this virus. It's a lot of work, but if you weigh the deaths of perfectly healthy cats with the nuisance of using bleach, there is no contest."

Dr. Foley also recommends you educate your clients about vaccination

and what it will and will not protect against. Current calicivirus vaccines don't protect against the VS-FCV strain, but investigations are under way. "As we learn more about these new calicivirus strains," says Dr. Foley, "vaccine research will be one of the most important factors."

Clinical signs usually include high fever and limb swelling; ulceration and hair loss on the face, feet and ears; and ocular and nasal discharge.

1. Hurley KE, Pesavento PA, Pedersen NC, et al. An outbreak of virulent systemic feline calicivirus disease. *J Am Vet Med Assoc* 2004;224:241-249.



REGULATING VETERINARY TECHNICIANS — *The Latest Scoop!*

Regulation of veterinary technicians was a major topic of discussion at the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) Annual Meeting, held September 9 – 11 in Kansas City, MO. In attendance were over 130 veterinary board members and board administrators from the United States and the Virgin Islands, who spent 2 _ days discussing important regulatory issues and trends.

Joining AAVSB this year were members of the AAVSB Veterinary Technician Testing Committee (VTTC), whose members are veterinarians and technicians in private practice and in veterinary technician education. Two members have served on veterinary boards. The VTTC meets annually to conduct regular business and to review the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE). Hosting the VTTC meeting in conjunction with the AAVSB Annual Meeting provided an excellent opportunity for dialog between leaders in the veterinary technician profession and veterinary boards. And there was a lot to discuss, since AAVSB acquired ownership of the VTNE (Veterinary Technician National Exam) in June 2005. The AAVSB Board of Directors met for several hours with members of the VTTC, and gained valuable insight on issues of concern to veterinary technicians.

Lack of uniformity in regulation of technicians between jurisdictions is a major concern for both AAVSB and VTTC. Eighteen jurisdictions do not regulate technicians formally through a veterinary board. Of these, ten states have programs and standards for technicians determined by either the state VMA or the Technician Association (CO, CT, FL, MA, MN, MT, NJ, RI, TX, and VT). In two states there are competing technician programs (FL and CT) and eight jurisdictions have no requirements for technicians at all (DC, DE, HI, NH, PR, UT, VI, AND WY). Several jurisdiction allow mechanisms for credentialing

technicians without any formal technician education (AK, AZ, CT, MS, MT, OR, VT, WA, and WI). Adding to the confusion is the use of different terms for credentialing technicians – some are referred to as licensed while others are called registered or certified. While Illinois licenses technicians and refers to them as “certified”, on-the-job trained technicians perform the same tasks for similar pay in many practices.

While “state’s rights” allow for each jurisdiction to set its own standard, the lack of uniformity in regulating veterinary technicians is confusing and makes license transfer very difficult. In order to tackle these difficult issues, AAVSB formed a Veterinary Technician Taskforce in 2005, comprised of veterinarians and veterinary technicians, several of whom also serve on the VTTC. The task force is charged with the goal of submitting a recommendation for a national veterinary technician credential, for review by the AAVSB Delegate Assembly in September 2006.

(continued on page 15)



Dr. Georgianne (Georgie) Ludwig is a contributing author to the “Epitome”. Her articles address topics regarding veterinary licensure issues regulated by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.


Dr. Ludwig is actively engaged in companion animal practice in west suburban Chicago where she is Hospital Director and Business Partner at Lombard Veterinary Hospital, a seven DVM companion and exotic animal hospital. She is a second generation veterinarian with a special interest in feline medicine and the human-animal bond.

Dr. Ludwig was appointed by Governor Edgar to the Illinois Veterinary Licensing and Disciplinary Board in 1998 where she is currently Chairman. She has served on the American Association of Veterinary State Board’s (AAVSB) Executive Committee since 2001 and holds the position of Secretary. She serves on the AAVSB Practice Act Model Taskforce and the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association’s Legislative Committee.

When she isn’t actively engaged in her professional career, she cherishes “down time” spent on the beach with her husband Greg, children Gregory and Gracie and dog Scuba. She enjoys SCUBA Diving and she is a Girl Scout Leader.

Veterinary Technicians (from page 14)

The Illinois Veterinary Licensing and Disciplinary Board will be watching these national trends closely, and will be discussing the regulation of technicians at upcoming meetings with input from ISVMA.

I am happy to report that on a national scope, the supply of credentialed technicians is on the rise. In the year 2000, approximately 2600 candidates sat for the VTNE while over 4500 candidates sat for the exam in 2005. As their supply increases, veterinarians must provide challenging roles in practice and industry for credentialed technicians, with appropriate salaries, to prevent the egress of technicians from their chosen profession. 

For questions about this article, e-mail Dr. Georgianne Ludwig at georgieludwig@yahoo.com.

Heart-to-Heart

Social and Raffle

5:15 p.m., Saturday, November 5

Plan to attend one of the convention's most popular events!

Enjoy food, music, and fabulous prizes, including one complimentary registration and expenses paid trip to AVMA's Convention on July 15-19, 2006 in Hawaii.

It's easy to qualify to win prizes by simply talking with exhibitors and learning about their products and services.



68th Annual MSAA/AAHA Meeting!

A two-day learning and networking experience
November 9-10, 2005 • Davenport, Iowa

This meeting is a friendly regional gathering of veterinarians, managers, practice owners and technicians for two days of continuing education and networking. Attendees enjoy not only learning from expert speakers, but seeing friends and making new contacts. Anyone is welcome to attend; no association memberships are required.

What You'll Learn

This year's MSAA/AAHA Meeting includes topics like Ophthalmology by Keith Collins, DVM, Dipl. ACVO; Gastroenterology Update on Liver and Pancreatic Disease by David Twedt, DVM, Dipl. ACVIM; and Update on Chronic Kidney Disease in Cats by Todd Towell, DVM, MS, Dipl. ACVIM.

Why You Should Attend

- Learn the latest information on ophthalmology, and diagnosing and treating diseases of the liver and pancreas
- Network with your peers and meet new colleagues
- Take a break from your practice and reconnect with your profession
- Bring an additional member of your practice for a discount registration



*Healthy Practices.
Healthier Pets.*

To register for the MSAA/AAHA Meeting, call 800/883-6301 or visit www.aahanet.org.



NEW Program! Sponsor-A-Student at the ISVMA Convention

The ISVMA's Planning Committee has introduced a new program to this year's convention. Entitled "Sponsor-A-Student," the goal of the program is two-fold: initiate mentor/mentee relationships and defray the cost of student participation.

To help initiate the mentor/mentee relationship, the ISVMA will provide an opportunity at the Saturday evening Heart-to-Heart Social for the DVM sponsors and DVM-sponsored students to get acquainted. Additionally, resources to foster a long-term mentor/mentee relationship will be provided.

To defray the cost of student participation, ISVMA is soliciting \$100 sponsorships from ISVMA members who are attending convention. This funding will underwrite the cost of providing complimentary registrations for all interested University of Illinois DVM students.

To participate in this important opportunity is simple. Indicate your interest on the convention registration form in the Sponsor-A-Student section. DVM sponsor will be paired with students who share similar goals and interests. 

How to Login to the Member Center

Username = Your Last Name (ex. Smith)

Password = Work Phone (ex. 2175238387*)

**note: the phone number contains no dashes*

JOB FAIR



Linking Employees and Employers at the

•
ISVMA Convention
November 4-6, 2005
Crowne Plaza
Springfield, Illinois

•
Meet (and maybe hire)
candidates from all
disciplines
Private interview space
will be available

A very small investment:

ISVMA members
\$35, plus one
convention registration

Non-Members
\$85, plus one
convention registration

*For more details, or to reserve
a table, contact dana@isvma.org.
Space is limited. Reserve early!*

ISVMA FORUM

Following are actual questions that have recently been asked of ISVMA staff members:

Q: I recently heard that veterinarians are going to be required to earn 30 hours of CE for license renewal. When is this going to go into effect?

A: According to Dan Harden, the ISVMA's liaison to the Illinois State Licensing Board, there is discussion of this change. The rules, however, are still in draft form and not anywhere near ready for proposing. It will be quite some time before the rules will change.

Q: Our office is purging files and would like to dispose of developed x-rays. Is there anything designated by the EPA on the correct way to dispose of these?

A: According to information forwarded by David C. Jansen, Springfield Regions Manager, Division of Land Pollution Control, Illinois EPA, representative Kodak photographic films, both processed and unprocessed, have been tested based on the U.S. EPA's Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure. These did not exhibit the Toxicity Characteristic. As a result, most Kodak films and papers are not considered hazardous waste based on U.S. Federal Regulations and can be disposed of safely in a municipal or industrial landfill.

Polyester film, typically used for medical and industrial x-rays may be returned to Kodak for film-base recovery. Kodak makes available through their website a listing of scrap film buyers. Two of the resources listed service the Midwest US. Visit www.kodak.com/eknec/documents/bd/0900688a801a50bd/KES60_ENG.pdf for contact information.

ISVMA Convention Updates

Lodging at the Crowne Plaza

If you have called the Crowne Plaza Springfield to reserve your room(s), and been told that there were only smoking rooms available, it is incorrect. The hotel is experiencing computer problems with central reservations and the room block is not updating properly. We have been assured that there are plenty of non-smoking rooms available.

If you are informed that non-smoking is the only reservation available, please call the ISVMA at (217) 523-8387 for assistance. We will work through the hotel to ensure that you get your desired accommodations.

Waiting lists offered for President's Dinner and Wet Labs

As of October 1, all seats for the President's Dinner at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum are sold out. Additionally, all available spots for the Dental Radiography and Ophthalmology Surgery Web Labs are filled.

We are currently taking names of those interested individuals who want to be on a waiting list for these events. *Please indicate on your registration form that you wish to be placed on a waiting list and we'll notify you if/when an opening occurs.*

DISCOUNTS OFFERED for Convention Registration

A Group Discount Is Offered!

Register four or more staff from your office and take \$25 off each registrant after that.

Recent Graduates!


DVM's who graduated in 2003, 2004 or 2005, are offered reduced rates.

Convention Updates (from page 17)

JOB FAIR: SPACE IS LIMITED SO RESERVE YOUR TABLE EARLY!

The Job Fair has expanded! Scheduled for the entire convention this year, this event allows prospective employees of every level of veterinary care to visit various potential employers' tables PLUS it allows job seekers the opportunity to learn what is available throughout the state. Streamline your search time and budget.

Conveniently located to both exhibit hall and session traffic every day of convention, this year's Job Fair allows maximum exposure for both employers and potential employees. For the convenience of both parties, private interview space is available onsite, away from the crowd.

If you are a job seeker, be prepared and bring lots of resumes. If you are an employer, tables must be reserved in advance. A small fee of \$35 is required, plus a minimum of one registrant for your clinic/hospital to attend convention. Non-members must pay a slightly higher fee of \$85 plus one registrant. Job Fair registration forms can be downloaded from the ISVMA website at www.ISVMA.org or by calling the ISVMA office at (217) 523-8387 and we'll fax one to you. 

Convention: Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I want to register my spouse with me, but I don't see a space on my registration form for them like in years past. What do I have to pay to have them attend with me?

A: To help streamline the registration process, the ISVMA made a change to the registration forms this year. We ask that DVM's complete their registration form and then fill out the non-DVM registration form for the spouse, family members, significant other, etc. Both forms were included in this year's prospectus and are also available online.

Q: My spouse is attending the special event on Saturday - the lunch at the Governor's mansion. There wasn't a box option for me to accompany him/her. Am I able to participate in this also if I'd like to?



A: The answer is yes! Due to an oversight on our part, this option was omitted from the DVM registration form. This event is free of charge, included in your registration fee, and if you are interested in attending it will just take a phone call to our office to inform us of your lunch preference for Saturday. This event was added to be "family friendly" so families could participate in something together during convention.

Q: I am interested in sponsoring/mentoring a student at convention. What kind of time will be set aside to interact with the student?

A: Instead of a separate reception to allow interaction, the Heart-to-Heart Raffle social event will be the time and place to mix and meet your sponsored student. Look for more information in your registration packet.

Q: Can CVT registrants of the Annual Convention attend DVM sessions and obtain CE for them?

A: Although the convention prospectus states that CVT's can only receive 4.0 CE on Friday and 2.5 CE on Saturday, any session they attend on either day will count toward continuing education credits.

MUCH TO SEE AT EXHIBIT HALL DURING CONVENTION 2005!

The ISVMA and the following exhibitors welcome you to Exhibit Hall! Stop by to get acquainted, to see what products and services are new, and to make purchases. The majority of our vendors are offering convention discounts for on-site purchases this year through a new program: the PASSPORT Coupon Book. Look for your PASSPORT Coupon Book in your registration packet and use these tickets to additional savings! *(Exhibitors confirmed as of September 26)*

Antech Diagnostics
 ASPCA Animal Poison Control
 AVID Identification Systems Inc.
 AVMA Group Health and Life Insurance Trust
 Bayer Animal Health
 Body Tek Coatings Group
 Buck Mountain Botanicals
 Buck Mountain Botanicals
 Central Illinois X-Ray
 Chester Inc. Construction Services
 Christian Icons & X-Ray, LLC
 Christian Veterinary Mission
 Columbus Serum Company
 Compounding Pharmacies of IL
 Compounding Pharmacies of IL
 Designing Health, Inc.
 Diagnostic Imaging Systems, Inc.
 Edgewood Industries LLC
 Elsevier (Mosby & WB Saunders)
 Federal Check Recovery
 Ferno
 Fort Dodge Animal Health
 Heska Corporation
 Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc
 IDEXX
 ImproMed, Inc
 InterVet
 Invisible Fence
 ISVMA Auxiliary
 IVESCO
 Jesser, Steven H., Attorney at Law
 L & L X-Ray Service, Inc
 Medical Resources Group Limited
 MedRx, Inc.
 Merial
 Midland Bio Products Corp

Midwest Veterinary Supply
 MWI Veterinary Supply/Vetpo
 Nestle Purina Pet Care Company
 North Shore Compounding Pharmacy
 Novartis
 Paw Bearers, LLC
 Pets Best
 Pfizer
 PORTA-VET
 PORTA-VET
 Professional Veterinary Products
 RadioCat
 Remote Vet
 RKR Solutions
 Roadrunner Pharmacy
 Royal Canin Veterinary Diet
 Schering-Plough Animal Health
 SCIL Animal Care Company
 Sedecal USA Inc.
 Shor-Line
 Snyder Mfg. Co.
 Standard Process, Inc.
 Suburban Surgical
 Butler Animal Health Supply
 The Iams Company
 TransFirst Health Services
 University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine
 US Army Healthcare Recruiting
 Vetamac, Inc.
 VetCentric
 Veterinary Technician Assoc of IL
 VetLink, LLC
 Vetspecs, Inc.
 Wayne X-Ray, Inc
 Webster Veterinary Supply

Want help but don't know where to go?

Addictions can show themselves in behaviors. Is anyone around you acting differently?

- Sudden, noticeable personality changes
- Severe mood swings
- Irresponsible attitude toward job
- Depressed feelings
- Smell of alcohol or other drugs
- Tendency toward dishonesty
- Trouble with the law, such as driving
- Items missing from clinic
- Deterioration of relationships
- Obvious signs of intoxication


All calls will be kept CONFIDENTIAL

24 hour helpline:
 1-800-215-HELP

Promote Pet Wellness In Your Clinic

Do your clients know which disease threats are preventable and how to prevent them? Do they know that pets age much faster than people? Do they know significant health changes can occur in pets over a short time period? Are they aware that twice-a-year wellness exams can help their pets live longer and healthier lives?

You can help educate your clients about these and other pet wellness questions by participating in National Pet Wellness Month, a joint initiative of the American Veterinary Medical Association and Fort Dodge Animal Health. Each participating clinic receives a wide variety of high quality materials – posters, brochures, slide wheels – to support you and your staff in educating clients. Best of all, these materials are designed to help you maintain year-round visibility and initiate pet wellness discussions in your clinic.


More than 10,000 veterinary clinics already participate in National Pet Wellness Month. To register for your FREE In-Clinic Education Kit, visit www.npwm.com or email info@nationalpetwellnessmonth.com or contact your Fort Dodge Animal Health representative. 

SOMETHING NEW FOR EQUINE PRACTITIONERS - ILLINOIS EQUINE PRACTITIONERS ASSOCIATION

The inaugural meeting of the Illinois Equine Practitioners Association is scheduled for Wednesday, October 19, 2005. It is being held at the Pheasant Run Resort Mega Center, located 3 miles west of Route 59 on Route 64 (North Avenue) in St. Charles, IL. Featured speakers for the event are Drs. Amy Gill and John Vacek. Registration is from 8:30 – 9:00am, and the meeting will last until 4:00pm. Lunch and refreshments will be provided and the cost is \$85.00.

Amy M. Gill, Ph.D., has an extensive background in equine nutrition and exercise physiology. She conducted her graduate studies at the University of Kentucky, receiving first a Master of Science degree in Equine Nutrition in 1989 and a Doctorate in Equine Nutrition and Exercise Physiology in 2000. She has many years experience breaking and galloping racehorses as well as racetrack equine physical therapy. She currently is working with several feed manufacturers writing technical bulletins and articles, presenting educational seminars and performing on-site farm consultations. She has authored numerous articles and is a regular contributing writer for the Thoroughbred Times. She will be presenting the most current concepts regarding nutrition for growth, performance and managing Cushing Disease and Metabolic Syndrome.

John R. Vacek, DVM, is a well-known speaker on equine veterinary surgery addressing groups at the local, state and national levels. Receiving his bachelor of science degree in biology from Washington University in St. Louis, he furthered his studies at Colorado State University where he earned his Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine degree. After completing an internship in equine medicine and surgery at Illinois Equine Hospital in Naperville, Illinois, Dr. Vacek entered a three-year surgery residency at Texas A&M University where he was awarded several research grants and the Johnson Scholarship Award for Achievement in postdoctoral studies in veterinary surgery. He has published more than 20 articles on various aspects of equine veterinary surgery. Dr. Vacek will be discussing case studies involving the equine head.

Any interested persons wishing to attend should contact Dr. David Heinze or his staff at (630) 406-1180, fax (630) 406-1226 or email at fvep1@aol.com. This is an opportunity to become involved in an organization bringing together practitioners who care for horses in Illinois and address their specific needs, interests and education. 

VM – SSO SCHEDULE FOR 2005-2006

**Affiliated with the Auxiliary to the Illinois
State Veterinary Medical Association*

Thursday, October 20 (Fall Conference)

Guest Speaker (Illinois Auxiliary Member(s)), Vet Med Café, 4-5 pm
Topic: "The Auxiliary to the Illinois Veterinary Medical Association and You."

Tuesday, November 8

"Finger Foods" Potluck, Vet Med Café, 5:30-6:30 pm

Tuesday, December 6 (1st Tuesday)

"Holiday Cookie/Dessert Exchange," Vet Med Café, 5:30 -6:30 pm

Tuesday, January 17 (3rd Tuesday)

"Couples/Families Mexican Dinner," Fiesta Café, 6:00 pm

Friday, February 10

"Valentine's Day Party" Potluck, location to be determined, 7-9 pm

Tuesday, March 7

Guest Speaker (VM Counselor), Vet Med Café, 5:30-6:30 pm
Topics: "Handling Stress" & "Healthy Communication"

Tuesday, April 11

"Finger Foods" Potluck, Vet Med Café, 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Saturday, May 9

"Farewell for the Summer" Picnic in the Park (TBD)

For information contact Lois Meerdink at lmeerdin@uiuc.edu or 217-333-4483.

AWARD WINNER ANNOUNCED

The 2005 Auxiliary 4-H Veterinary Science Award winner is seventeen year old Charity Thacker from Deer Creek, Illinois in Woodford County. Charity is the daughter of Doug and Teresa Thacker. She has been a 4-H member for ten years and has been enrolled in the 4-H Veterinary Science Project for five years. She is a senior in the Victory Hills Home School Group in Deer Creek.



Pictured above is Charity Thacker


In her Veterinary Science Project, Charity has studied and made displays about incubating chicken eggs, genetics in the Paint horse breed, salmonella pullorum, and equine infectious anemia.

Charity's other 4-H projects are poultry, sheep, horse, and beef cattle. She is considering a career in veterinary medicine.

Charity's award of a certificate and \$100 from the Illinois Auxiliary and a medal and certificate from the A.V.M.A. Auxiliary were presented to her during the Award Presentation Program at the Woodford County 4-H Fair on July 27.

Do You Know A VM-SSO?

During the 2004 University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine's Fall conference, an Open House was hosted by the Auxiliary to the ISVMA, held at the Vet Med Café. The goal of the open house was to determine if there was interest in forming a Student Auxiliary to the ISVMA. The result of this event was the formation of the student equivalent of the Auxiliary to the ISVMA. Thus, the U of I VM-SSO, the Vet Med Spouses and Significant Others was begun!

The group is mentored by Auxiliary Student Liaison Committee Co-Chairs Lois Meerdink and Christine Fairbrother and led by student spouse Karen Owens. After a successful beginning last January, the group has created a schedule of events for the 2005-2006 school year for all spouses/significant others as well as family members (which includes children) of veterinary students. The DVM student is encouraged to attend with their partner too. This group meets in the Vet Med Café from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm, unless otherwise noted. 

Continuing Education Calendar

This month's CE listing has been condensed for convention-related topics.

Visit us online at www.ISVMA.org for an extensive listing of CE opportunities on the Member Center page. Thank you for your understanding.

OCTOBER 2005

OCTOBER 19: GREATER ROCKFORD VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION 19TH ANNUAL FALL SEMINAR. Tebala Temple, Rockford IL. 6 CE hours. "Practical Cardiology" will be the topic presented by Robert Hamlin DVM, PhD Diplomate ACVIM, Professor, Dept. of Veterinary BioSciences, Ohio State University. Contact Chris Lendman DVM for information at (815) 398-2804, clendman@insighbb.com or 3022 Utah Place, Rockford IL 61108.

OCTOBER 19: FALL MEETING. Illinois Equine Practitioners Association. Pheasant Run Resort Mega Center, St. Charles IL. For information contact Dr. David Heinze or his staff at 630-406-1180, fax 630-406-1226 or email at fvep1@aol.com.

OCTOBER 20: 86TH ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE FOR VETERINARIANS. University of Illinois, College of Veterinary Medicine. Please email ope@dvm.uiuc.edu for more information.

NOVEMBER 2005

NOVEMBER 2: DISSECTION OF THE EQUINE LIMB. Noblesville IN. Indiana Association of Equine Practitioners. 6 hours CE. Featured Speaker: Mitch Taylor. For more information contact Indiana AEP, Dr. Dawn Frank at 765-564-3400.

NOVEMBER 4-6: 2005 ISVMA 123RD ANNUAL CONVENTION. Crown Plaza Springfield, Springfield IL. For more information visit online at www.ISVMA.org or call (217) 523-8387.

NOVEMBER 12-14: AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF FELINE PRACTITIONERS FALL CONFERENCE. Renaissance Chicago Hotel, Chicago IL. For more information visit online at www.aafponline.org or call (908) 359-1184.

DECEMBER 2005

DECEMBER 14: DERMATOLOGY. Hosted by Chicago VMA. Featured speaker, Dr. Kenneth Kwochka, DACVD. For more information contact the CVMA office at 630-325-1231 or email cvma@chicagovma.com.



Veterinary Education Online

In October of 2004, the University of Illinois - College of Veterinary Medicine began offering a Web-based continuing education program specifically developed for busy veterinarians looking to enhance their knowledge and increase their clinical skills. Veterinary Education Online (VEO) delivers professionally developed, university-level courseware in an interactive environment. All that is required to complete the CE course is a computer and Internet access.

Getting started is quick and easy and the cost is just a fraction of typical CE courses. Visit the ISVMA home page and click on the VEO button. You will immediately be linked to the courses and other information on VEO homepage. Check out how VEO can be a smart alternative in obtaining your continuing education requirements.

She's Not Just Being Stubborn

Do your clients understand the subtle signs of sickness in cats?



Changes in feeding and other behaviors may be subtle signs of sickness

Because cats sometimes hide their illnesses, veterinarians need to inform pet owners about what is normal behavior and how to tell if a cat may be sick.

Behavioral issues including urination and litter box use, changes in eating, changes in grooming, and pain associated aggression are often associated with feline medical conditions.¹

Because physical illness and pain are often expressed as a nonspecific change in behavior, it is important for clients to be aware of a cat's normal routine and note even the smallest changes.²

Sample Behavior Assessment Questions to Ask During an Exam:³

1. Does your cat urinate or defecate outside the box?
2. Has your cat had any changes in behavior or disposition, or shown any fearful behaviors?
3. Has there been any change in appetite or water consumption?

There are more than 90 million cats in the U.S., or about 20 percent more cats than dogs.⁴ However, according to the

1-3. Adapted from The Association of American Feline Practitioners Feline Behavior Guidelines, December 2004

4. APPMA, 2005/2006 National Pet Owners Survey, Greenwich, CT, 2005

5. AVMA, 2002 U.S. Pet Ownership & Demographic Sourcebook

American Veterinary Medical Association, cats are brought to the veterinarian only about half as often as dogs.⁵ In connection with National Pet Wellness Month, Fort Dodge Animal Health and the AVMA want to make sure cats are getting the medical care they need.

Twice a year exams can help prevent, diagnose or treat many feline health problems before they become life-threatening.

Encourage twice yearly wellness exams!

Twice a year for life!



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POLICY FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

RATES:

ISVMA Members pay a discounted rate of \$25.00 for first 35 words, \$ 0.25 each additional word plus a complimentary posting on the ISVMA website. Non-Members pay a rate of \$40.00 for first 35 words, \$ 0.25 each additional word plus an additional fee of \$10.00 for placement online. Exception for unemployed DVM, may place a "Seeking Employment" ad free of charge for up to 6 months.

DEADLINES AND PUBLICATION:

Any classified ad purchased will be posted upon receipt on the ISVMA website at 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 November 1, 2005 for inclusion in the December/January 2006 "Epitome". Mailing Date: First week of December. 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.

FORWARDING INSTRUCTIONS:

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

VETERINARY RELIEF

2001 University of Illinois Graduate available for relief veterinary services in central Illinois. 4+ years experience in a mixed-animal practice. References available. Call Kristi McCullough, DVM at (217) 625-2358.

IN-STATE OPPORTUNITIES SEEKING VETERINARIANS

FULL-TIME ASSOCIATE:

Motivated associate veterinarian wanted for progressive, AAHA-certified hospital in a northwest suburb of Chicago. Join our multi-doctor team. Outstanding support staff to work at your side. Excellent opportunity for professional growth and long-term association. Contact Dr. David Saidel, 1031 W. Dundee Road, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089, phone (847) 394-1128.

FULL-TIME ASSOCIATE: Associate needed for a progressive AAHA-certified hospital in Chicago's northern suburbs. Completely renovated, well-equipped facility. Affiliated with and adjacent to AECCC, a 24-hour critical care and multiple specialty practice. Full benefits. Buy-in possible. Please contact Dr. Gene Koski (847) 835-1302.

FULL-TIME ASSOCIATE:

Associate veterinarian wanted for a progressive, two-location, 4-doctor, AAHA certified practice in McHenry, IL (approximately 60 miles NW of Chicago). We are a well-equipped and team-oriented facility. New graduates are welcome. Phone Dr. Michael Dunn, Lakeland Animal Hospital at (815) 385-6925.

EQUINE ASSOCIATE:

Equine Veterinary Practice in Frankfort IL seeks associate veterinarian. Practice is located in the best of two worlds. It has the rural American Charm, yet is close to downtown Chicago. This is primarily an ambulatory practice, with haul-in work to our clinic accounting for 25% of our gross. Practice provides vehicle and technician to each associate. All the usual veterinary toys (tools) are available including portable x-ray, endoscope, ultrasound, and shockwave machine. Phone Dr. Gary C. Porter at (815) 464-0044 days and (815) 469-5026 evenings. Email at EVPGP@aol.com.

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The Leader in the Treatment of Feline Hyperthyroidism

- A One Shot Deal... One injection of Radiiodine (I-131) is all it takes!
- Over 21,000 Cats Treated
- Greater Than 98% Success Rate
- Typically 3 Days of Hospitalization

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(from page 24)

FULL-TIME VETERINARIAN:

Veterinarian needed for a rapidly growing small animal hospital. Must have good people skills and be a team player. We have an excellent support staff and computerized record system. There are no evening hours or emergency calls. Please send resume to Edwardsville Pet Hospital, Karen VanAnrooy, D.V.M., 423 South Buchanan, Edwardsville, IL 62025 or fax your resume to 618-656-9129.

FULL-TIME VETERINARIAN: Arlington Heights Animal Hospital seeks full-time dedicated, enthusiastic and compassionate veterinarian to join our professional staff. Established 7-doctor practice located in an affluent NW suburb. The right candidate will have general surgical skills, ability to build strong relationships and a good bedside manner with clients and patients. Competitive salary and benefits. Please contact Dr. Stephen Camp at (847) 593-1898.

FULL-TIME EMERGENCY VETERINARIAN; PART-TIME ASSOCIATE VETERINARIAN
General Practice and Emergency – Working as a Patient Care Team!

Located in the Northwest Suburbs of Chicago, our general and emergency practice currently employs 21 general practitioners, 3 emergency veterinarians and a well-trained, motivated support staff of 70+ team members. Dundee Animal Hospital is AAHA certified and we have a superior reputation that is built on a 48-year practice history. Our three new hospitals are located in East Dundee, Elgin and Algonquin. We see a large volume of both internal and external referrals in our emergency practice, which is located at our Dundee hospital. We offer patient hospitalization only – no boarding or grooming.

A new part-time associate's responsibilities would include outpatient care, surgery and dentistry. Reap the benefits of having an internal emergency staff care for 24 hour monitoring of your patients, as well as a Practice Administration Team to support the medical professionals' needs.

The emergency veterinarian's position will compliment an existing staff of emergency doctors and support staff specifically trained in emergency medicine. Responsibilities include the treatment of emergency patients from our three hospitals and other area hospitals with an average caseload of 8 - 12 patients per night, or 11 – 16 patients on the Sunday day shift. Other duties involve surgery and the monitoring and continual care of all admitted and transferred hospitalized patients.

Our focus at Dundee Animal Hospital is on teamwork, flexibility, and dedication to quality care. We treat each animal as if it were our own, with great compassion and unsurpassed professionalism. Be an active member of this unique organization and contribute to shaping the future of the practice! If you are interested in more information regarding this opportunity, contact our Practice Administrator, Debra James at Dundee Animal Hospital, (847) 428 – 6114. FAX: (847) 428 – 8213. E-mail: djames@dundeeanimalhospital.com.

FULL-TIME ASSOCIATE: MOKENA ANIMAL CLINIC Full-Time Associate Veterinarian needed for a well-established, AAHA accredited 5-doctor small animal practice in the Southwest suburb. Modern, well equipped clinic, trained support staff.

Seeking a compassionate, self-motivated, team-orientated associate with excellent people skills with both staff and clients. Competitive wages and benefits, medical, dental and life insurance; 401K/Profit sharing, continuing education.

Please contact Dr. Wayne Ingmire, 9455 W. 191st Street, Mokena IL 60448. Phone-(708) 479-2811, fax-(708) 479-2933.

FULL-TIME ASSOCIATE: 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.

ASSOCIATE VETERINARIAN:

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.

VETERINARIAN:

The Animal Doctor, an AAHA accredited practice, is seeking a friendly, personable, independent and energetic veterinarian who enjoys practicing progressive small animal medicine. In-house equipment includes CBC and Chemistry Analyzers, Ultrasound, Video Endoscopy, Blood Pressure and CO2 Monitors, just to name a few. In addition, we have a great support staff and excellent technicians. For more information or submission of resumes, please contact Denise at The Animal Doctor; 600 Industrial Dr., Unit L; Cary, IL 60013; Ph:(847)516-8190; Fax:(847)516-8624; Email: theandoc@flash.net

BOARDED/BOARD ELIGIBLE

INTERNIST Animal Emergency and Critical Care Center is currently seeking veterinarians in an internal medicine residency program who will be board certified or board eligible upon joining our staff. We are one of the Midwest's premier 24 hour emergency, critical care and specialty referral practices. Located in Northbrook Illinois, (approximately 30 minutes north of Chicago) our emergency hospital services

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the greater Chicago area and our specialty referrals come to us from as far away as Wisconsin, Iowa, Michigan, Ohio and of course, throughout Illinois.

The medical center is equipped with a wide range of diagnostic and monitoring equipment that includes ultrasound with color flow Doppler, video endoscopes, fluoroscopy, CT and MRI digital imaging. We have a well-equipped in-house laboratory and provide on-site blood banking.

Our veterinary staff includes emergency doctors (both full and part-time), internal medicine, surgery, cardiology, neurology/neurosurgery and radiology disciplines. Each specialty department is headed up by a board certified veterinarian. Over 70 technicians, receptionists and administrative staff support the emergency and specialty services.

We are in search of energetic veterinarians that insist on practicing high quality medicine and enjoy working in a fast paced environment. Our veterinarians celebrate the human-animal bond and successfully blend the best interests of both the patient and the client. Applicants must have excellent communication skills be responsible to the referring veterinarians and possess a diverse skill set to handle a busy and often complicated caseload. To learn more about employment opportunities at AECCC and our outstanding compensation and benefits package, please contact Sheri Rothschild at 847-564-5775. Email your CV and questions to her at vrothschild@aeccc.com or fax to 847-564-9604. For additional information, visit our website at aeccc.com.

FULL-TIME VETERINARIAN:
The DuPage County Animal Care and Control Department is currently seeking a full-time Veterinarian to work on contract. Must be a VMD or DVM, graduate of College or University accredited by the AVMA, with a minimum of 3-4 years of clinical vet medical experience, and

possess a valid license to practice veterinary medicine in Illinois. If you meet these requirements and are interested in this opportunity, please contact Jennifer Ulmer at: jennifer.ulmer@dupageco.org

ASSOCIATE VETERINARIAN:
Associate veterinarian needed for 3 doctor small animal clinic in North Central Illinois. Established full-service facility with faithful clientele. Opportunity for growth. Special interest in ultrasound and diagnostics preferred but not necessary. No after hour emergencies. Salary commensurate with experience, benefits package and 401K. Contact Dr. Jay Forsyth, 815-654-2012, fax 815-636-8901, 1740 E. Riverside Blvd, Rockford, IL 61111.

VETERINARIAN:
Bremen Animal Hospital: Seeking an enthusiastic veterinarian for full-time small animal position. Join Drs. Roger Hagenberg, Terry Becker and Scott Gallatin and our great staff in the Tinley Park/Orland Park area. Contact Dr. Becker, 7613 W. 159th Street, Tinley Park, IL 60477, ph 708/532-5578, e-mail tlbdvm@illinoisalumni.org.

OUT-OF-STATE OPPORTUNITIES SEEKING VETERINARIANS

LARGE ANIMAL VETERINARIAN:
Our 6 vet mixed-animal practice is replacing a 4th large animal veterinarian. We are located in Whitewater, WI, a college town located between Madison and Milwaukee. Our LA practice is 90% dairy, using Dairy Com, ultrasound, and Spartan ration software. An interest in ET is a plus, but applicant should be willing to share in all LA duties. Salary will depend upon prior experience. Benefits include profit sharing, 401K, mileage, paid vacation, CE, medical reimbursement, and a health/disability plan. Potential start date of December-January. Send resume to Whitewater Veterinary Hospital, 527 South Janesville Street, Whitewater, WI 53190 or email resume to wwvet@idcnet.com.

FULL-TIME FELINE ASSOCIATE VETERINARIAN: St. Louis Cat Clinic's mission is "to provide excellent medical, surgical and boarding care for cats in the St. Louis area, and to provide unsurpassed SERVICE to our clients in a caring and stimulating environment." We are searching for a collegial, full-time association feline veterinarian with excellent surgical and medical skills to assimilate into a compassionate and caring environment that demands the ability to respect and communicate effectively with both clients and staff. Our current facility is just two-and-one-half years old, has a terrific long-term staff, great clients, and excellent emergency clinics for night and weekend referral. Our full caseload of challenging and interesting cases, wonderful cats, and loyal clients test our skills and give us great satisfaction daily. We are seeking a veterinarian who is interested in growing into a management role with potential future ownership. Email resume to GatoDVM@aol.com or mail to Joan M. Freesh, MS, DVM, St. Louis Cat Clinic 3460 Hampton Avenue, St. Louis, Mo 63139.

ASSOCIATE: Associate wanted for mixed animal practice in central Nebraska. Primarily small animal and equine, we have a fully-equipped in-house laboratory, auto processor, ultrasound, video Vetscope, and much more. Trained staff and busy caseload combine to create a challenging and satisfying professional experience. Emergency cases shared equally among 5 local clinics. Buy-in availability possible. Call soon to take advantage of this unique opportunity. Phone: Dr. J.E. Stewart, Grand Island Veterinary Hospital PC at (308) 384-1641.

BOVINE ASSOCIATE:
We need a partner who likes cows! Our financially sound practice is 98% cattle and 90+% dairy. Our recent customer appreciation day fed over 400 people! Dairy Comp 305 and ultrasound services are available if you are interested in

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providing them. Good palpation skills, herd health skills, and an outgoing personality are a must. Montfort is 50 minutes from Madison WI or Dubuque IA and is surrounded by outdoor recreational activities. We will offer a competitive salary and benefits. The right person will be offered a partnership at a reasonable cost in 1 to 2 years depending on experience. Send resume to P.O. Box 117 Montfort, WI 53569 or call 608-943-6317.

FULL-TIME ASSOCIATE: Sauk Prairie Small Animal Hospital has an opening for a full-time associate to join its 3-veterinarian, AAHA-certified facility. This fast-paced practice located in south central WI is 25 miles NW of Madison along the Wisconsin River. Applicant will need a strong background in small animal. Experience in exotics and/or wildlife rehabilitation would be a plus. Full-service hospital is equipped for advanced diagnostic as well as orthopedic surgery.

Lab/tools include a surgical laser, endoscope, video otoscope, tonopen, blood pressure/Doppler, pulse oximetry, Idexx in-house lab. Exceptional veterinary support staff to assist all aspects of daily workload. If interested in joining our compassionate family whose goal is to provide only the best in client care and education, we want to hear from you. Contact Dr. Joseph Kelley at E11340 Cty. Road PF, Prairie du Sac, WI 53578. Spsmallanimal@aol.com (608) 643-2451.

PRACTICE PERSONNEL CERTIFIED VETERINARY

TECHNICIAN: The Animal Doctor: (AAHA accredited) We are looking for a personable, compassionate, skilled CVT who enjoys client interaction and applying medical skills and knowledge. C.E. package and health benefits (F/T). For more information or submission of resumes, please contact Denise at The Animal Doctor; 600 Industrial Dr., Unit L; Cary, IL 60013; Ph:(847)516-8190; Fax:(847)516-8624; Email: theandoc@flash.net

TECHNICIAN: Our growing specialty practices in surgery, internal medicine, cardiology, nephrology, oncology, radiology/imaging, emergency & critical care, dermatology, physical therapy and behavior are seeking certified technicians, veterinary assistants and receptionists. For more information contact Carla Berthold, Veterinary Specialty Center, 1515 Busch Parkway, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089; fax 847-459-1848; phone 847-459-7535 x 308; or e-mail @ cberthold@vet-specialty.com

PRACTICES FOR SALE IN-STATE OPPORTUNITIES

Small animal practice for sale in Springfield, established in 1948. Real estate includes clinic and currently rented house. Emergency clinic nearby. Solo practice grossing \$458,000 in 2004. Owner wishes to become a shelter veterinarian. Price \$325,000. Phone Dr. Richard Speck at (217) 498-7450 or email at rjspeck@springnet1.com.

Nice small animal clinic in Quad cities area in Moline. Live-in house adjoining. Buy it all for \$200,000. Easy terms. Also former animal clinic in Murrayville. Nice clinic on 2 acres. Only \$100,000 or lease with option to buy. Dr. Zydeck, (248) 891-3934.

PRACTICES FOR SALE OUT-OF-STATE OPPORTUNITIES

Nice solo practice west of Fort Wayne. Grossing over \$700,000 and growing. Price of \$900,000 includes real estate. Net over \$150,000 after debt service. Dr. Zydeck, (248) 891-3934.

SERVICES

VETERINARY HOSPITAL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION: New hospitals, additions, or renovation of existing hospitals in Chicago and surrounding communities. Preliminary - facility planning, construction costing, evaluation of potential sites. Design - design, engineering, evaluation of alternatives, permits, documentation for financing. Construction. JF McCarthy phone (708) 547-5096, email jfmcCarthy@ntsource.com

VETERINARIAN LEGAL SERVICES: STEVEN H. JESSER, P.C. (800) 424-0060, (847) 212-5620 (mobile), shj@sjesser.com, www.sjesser.com. Full-service health professional and veterinarian representation; including practice sales and acquisitions, other contracting, litigation, disciplinary proceedings, animal law, real estate and estate planning.

LEGAL SERVICES: Attorney specializes in registering professional corporations, practice sale and purchase, associate buy-ins, real estate (commercial professional buildings), lease and other matters of interest to professional practices. Highly efficient, reasonable prices, same day response. Contact Klein Law Offices at (773) 714-1648 or eugene_klein@yahoo.com.

VETERINARY PRACTICE

TRANSITIONS - PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE CONSULTANTS OF ILLINOIS, INC. has offices now open in the Chicagoland and Indianapolis areas. Services include Practice Sales and Acquisitions, "Partnerships", Earned Equity Associate Positions, Practice Appraisals, Career Transition Programs, and Debt Restructuring. For a confidential consultation or information related to practice sales, contact Dr. Ronald Prokes at (800) 334-9126, Bill Houston at (815) 645-2598, or Beth Benkert at 630-504-1477. We have combined experience of over 35 years in practice transitions with hundreds of successful transitions since 1989. We pride ourselves on and attribute our success to experience, integrity, knowledge, and understanding the needs of our Clients.

AVMA GROUP LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE

Fred Rothschild, CLU, RHU and David Rothschild have advised over 400 veterinarians. For AVMA Group Life and Health information, underwritten by New York Life Insurance Company, New York, NY as well as your investment needs contact us at 1-800-673-5040 or frothschild@mony.com for analysis.