

Only 3 Days Left to Pre-Register for the ISVMA Annual Convention!



Please consider registering yourself or encouraging an associate to register for convention and one of the outstanding wet labs.

Please plan to join us for the 131st ISVMA Annual Convention on November 15-17, 2013 at the Westin Lombard Yorktown Center Hotel.

We have a great program planned with outstanding speakers and wet lab opportunities. A copy of the [convention brochure](#) can be downloaded from this website. [Online registration](#) is also available. The program provides registrants with up to 18.5 hours of continuing education.

FDA Releases Progress Report on Jerky Pet Treat Investigation

The FDA is asking veterinarians to assist in their investigation of the cause of reported pet illnesses associated with jerky pet treat products by submitting samples, educating clients, and reporting pet illnesses associated with jerky treats. As of September 24, 2013, FDA has received approximately 3000 reports of illness, involving more than 3600 dogs, 10 cats, and including more than 580 deaths. [See the full story...](#) and [read the FDA press release](#).

AVMA & European Veterinary Group Issue Joint Statement

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) this week issued a joint statement, entitled "[The Essential Role of Veterinarians in Protecting Animal, Human, Public, and Environmental Health—A Global Public Good.](#)" The statement emphasizes the important role veterinarians play in the protection human and public health by controlling animal disease.

The organizations note that while the public appreciates the role of veterinarians in caring for the health and well-being of companion and farm animals, their additional roles in protecting and advancing human, public, and environmental health are less recognized.

Halloween Can be Scary, Particularly for Pets

(SCHAUMBURG, Ill.) October 22, 2013—Kids in costumes walk the streets, bowls of candy and other treats. The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) warns people to keep pets safe this Halloween, a holiday that can be truly frightening—and a little hazardous—for pets.

"While Halloween is a lot of fun for kids, pets can be alarmed by the new activity and strange costumes. Many dogs feel they are the guardians of their homes, and they can feel threatened if a stranger comes into their area," explains Dr. Clark K. Fobian, president of the AVMA. "If your pet is apprehensive in these situations, you need to be sensitive to that and make preparations before Halloween to keep your dog or cat from becoming confused and fleeing your home or perhaps even biting somebody."

The AVMA has produced an informative video posted on the AVMA YouTube channel offering tips on celebrating Halloween safely with pets.

"Nothing will ruin your Halloween fun like an emergency trip to the hospital, or to the animal hospital, because one of your animals got into the candy bowl or got scared enough to scratch or bite," Dr. Fobian says. "Consider putting your pet into a place where it will feel safe. This could be inside a crate with a favorite toy or pet treat or inside a room with the door closed. If you're dog or cat is prone to becoming extremely stressed, work with your local veterinarian to find solutions. It might even be advisable to board an animal to remove them from the situation."

Here are some other tips to help keep your pet happy and healthy this Halloween:

*The cocoa in chocolate can be poisonous to dogs and cats. The darker the chocolate, the more deadly it can be. In addition, small dogs are more likely to be affected by ingesting a small amount of chocolate than larger dogs. For more tips about common household poisons, watch the AVMA's video on household hazards.

*Chocolate candies aren't the only sweets that are potentially dangerous. Some pets will consume a candy whole, including the candy wrapper, which can cause an intestinal blockage. Also, Xylitol, an artificial sweetener used in many chewing gums and baked goods, has been shown to be poisonous to dogs. In addition, raisins, a common healthy treat for kids on Halloween, can be poisonous to dogs and cats.

*If you fear your pet has ingested candy or any other potentially dangerous foods, contact your veterinarian or your local emergency pet hospital immediately. A quick response could save your pet's life.

*If you want to put a Halloween costume on your pet, make sure that the costume doesn't obstruct the animal's vision, breathing or movement. Also, it may be a good idea to introduce your pet to the costume a few days or weeks before Halloween, so it won't startle them on such a busy, unusual day. Never leave your pet alone while it is wearing a costume.

*Halloween decorations, like candles or jack-o'-lanterns, and pets don't go together. Your pet could knock something over and possibly start a fire or suffer burns. Make sure they're placed where pets can't access them.

*Make sure that every day—but particularly on Halloween—your pet has proper identification. With the front door opening and closing to allow neighborhood children to say "trick or treat," it's possible a pet could panic and run out into the night while you're busy handing out candy. Proper identification, particularly microchip identification with up-to-date registered information, will make it much more likely that you'll be reunited with your pet.

For more information about Halloween safety, including a short video and podcast, visit www.avma.org/Halloween. For more information about the AVMA, visit www.avma.org.

AVMA Seeks Governance Input from Members

The AVMA Governance Engagement Team (GET) appreciates those who participated in their recent survey. After receiving responses from AVMA leaders & members, the GET prepared a number of recommendations contained in an [interim report](#) to revise the original governance proposal.

The GET would like to hear what AVMA members think about these new recommendations. Please read the report ([linked above](#)) and provide your feedback. To do so, please answer a [very brief questionnaire](#). The questionnaire is available through November 15, 2013.

Creating A Universal Flu Vaccine: Inhibiting Aspects Of Immune Response Could Allow Vaccine To Target Multiple, Even Deadly Strains

Scientists at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital used an immune-suppressing drug during influenza vaccination to spark a more diverse antibody response that offers protection against multiple viral strains, suggesting a new approach to developing a universal flu vaccine. In the study, mice vaccinated against the milder H3N2 strain were also protected from more dangerous strains, including H7N9 and H5N1, in later weeks. "[O]ur results show that a more diverse, less focused response provides a broader repertoire of antibodies that target different flu strains," said researcher Maureen McGargill. [Read entire article...](#)

Wet Labs Offered at the 2013 ISVMA Annual Convention

The ISVMA has nine outstanding wet labs planned for veterinarians and veterinary technicians.

These labs are offered at a significant discount compared to large regional and national meetings. Space is still available in each of the labs.

[Sign up now](#) and enhance your convention experience.

- Ear Surgery (M. Joseph Bojrab DVM, MS, PhD)

This wet lab will cover surgery of the ear including total ear canal ablation, modified ear canal ablation and ventral bulla osteotomy. A discussion of the procedures will precede a "hands-on" lab where each registrant will get a chance to perform the procedures on cadaver dogs.

- Wound Management for Veterinary Technicians (Gina Falish, CVT)

This interactive lab will give case-based scenarios involving several types of wounds that will allow participants to discuss closure types and bandaging options based on type, factors, classification and wound care necessary. The participants will have the opportunity to apply bandages using animal mannequins.

- Surgical Solutions: Fundamental Soft Tissue Surgeries in Dogs and Cats (M. Joseph Bojrab DVM, MS, PhD)

Learn the basics or tweak your techniques for some of the most frequently needed soft tissue surgeries in veterinary patients: urethrostomy in cats and dogs, cystotomy, anal saccullectomy, reconstruction of large skin defects in cats and dogs, procedures to correct upper airway disease in brachycephalic breeds, inguinal and diaphragmatic hernia repair, and various organ biopsies. The lecture will review all the facts you need to succeed in performing these procedures; the wetlab will provide hands-on training, learn tips, and practice performing these procedures.

- Hematology - Blood Smears and Introduction to Blood Cells (Beth Armstrong CVT)

Some animals may show up in your practice and leave you and your veterinarian puzzled. As a technician it is your job to help look at every aspect, big and small, to help solve the puzzle. You will learn how to make a perfect blood smear, as well as identify different types of cells, and changes of these cells and what that means. In this series of wet labs, you will see how one drop of blood can be so important in a diagnosis for your patient. Part I will include: How to make a perfect blood smear, white blood cells, red blood cells, and platelets.

- Hematology - Evaluation of Blood Smears (Beth Armstrong CVT)

A continuation of the early morning wet lab, Part II will cover evaluation of blood smears including: practice making blood smears, evaluation of cells and interpretation of results.

- Hematology - Emergency and Critical Care Procedures - Long Term Catheter Placement (Beth Armstrong CVT)

Part III of this wet lab will cover: jugular catheters, PICC lines, a discussion of CVP, male urinary catheter, female urinary catheter, naso-gastric tube, and esophageal tube.

- Beginner Cardiac Ultrasound Wet Lab (Christopher Stauthammer DVM, DACVIM)

This wet lab is designed to be an introduction to cardiac ultrasound and will provide plenty of hands-on experience for those wanting to learn this useful skill.

- Intermediate Cardiac Ultrasound (Christopher Stauthammer DVM, DACVIM)

This wet lab is designed for those clinicians looking to improve their cardiac ultrasound skills by providing plenty of hands-on experience.

- Dental Radiographic Positioning and Techniques (Stephen Juriga DVM, DAVDC)

This wet lab will be small groups with hands-on use of digital veterinary equipment to achieve high quality diagnostic images of teeth and subgingival tissues. This will include the principles of positioning using parallel and bisecting angle techniques. Attendees will learn a systematic approach to full mouth radiographs as well as advanced techniques for feline and canine patients. Attendees will receive: laminated full mouth feline and canine series, dental radiographic technique chart, and Radiographic Guide to Common Oral Pathology.

Do You Have an Associate and/or CVT That Is Not an ISVMA Member?

ISVMA membership continues to grow and we set new membership records every year. We want all veterinarians and CVTs to join 3000 of their colleagues and become an ISVMA member today! Please encourage your colleagues to take a moment and fill out the [online membership application](#) and pay your dues with your VISA or MasterCard.

Do you know about ISVMA's tremendous success lobbying state government on your behalf? Have you seen the new Epitome magazine that is mailed to every DVM and CVT member? Have you participated in ISVMA's high quality, affordable and accessible CE programs? Has your practice saved money through one of our sponsored benefit programs?

Your support and participation are greatly appreciated. If you know a colleague or associate that is not a member of ISVMA, please encourage them to join also! Some of the benefits of membership are listed on the [ISVMA website](#).

About the Photo

The first snow of the season (actually it *isn't* seasonal!) is falling in parts of Illinois today. The [Snowy Owl](#), therefore, is a perfect image to share on this chilly October afternoon.

I took this picture in Indiana in July (*thanks to a tip from Dr. Ronald Gill*)! The bird was definitely out of range.

Contact Us

Please feel free to forward this issue of the E-SOURCE to veterinarians that are not receiving ISVMA's electronic newsletter. Any ISVMA member may subscribe to the E-SOURCE for free.

If you wish to add your name to the recipient list, send an e-mail to info@isvma.org and ask to receive the E-SOURCE newsletter.

ISVMA values your membership and does not want to send you any unwanted email. If you would like to be removed from this member service, please email info@isvma.org.