

## **ISVMA Grassroots Advocacy Program Continues Stellar Support - Amendment to House Bill 4056 Held in Senate Committee**

Last week, ISVMA members received a Legislative Alert on an amendment to House Bill 4056. The amendment would, among other things, prohibit Illinois pet shops from selling dogs and cats they have acquired from breeders. Instead the bill would require pet shops to sell dogs and cats acquired from an animal shelter or animal control facility.

The ISVMA worked with association members in key legislative districts to build opposition to the bill. The reasons for our opposition are explained in the [Legislative Alert](#). We are happy to report that the amendment was held in committee today. ISVMA and our allies on the mis-directed legislation were successful in pointing out the serious flaws of the proposal.

ISVMA is committed to shuttering puppy mills and the mistreatment of animals. This legislation would have had unintended consequences that would make it even more difficult to regulate improper breeding practices and it would have removed all consumer protection for people that purchase unhealthy puppies or kittens.

Thank you to the hundreds of ISVMA members that contacted their legislators by email and for the many that responded to our request to call specific legislators that were important to our effort to defeat the amendment to House Bill 4056. ISVMA lobbyists will remain vigilant in case this proposal pops up again before the end of the Spring Legislative Session.

## **2014 ISVMA DENTAL WET LAB PROGRAM Offering hands' on education for the veterinary team**

The ISVMA is offering a Small Animal Dentistry Program on Friday, June 6, 2014. Dr. Larry Baker, DVM, DAVDC, Fellow, Academy of Veterinary Dentistry will be the instructor. The program offers a morning lecture and an afternoon lab for the doctor, the technician or the whole team.

The program is designed to build core knowledge and strategies for the technician & practitioner looking to expand their dental practice. The program will be held from 8:15am - 4:00pm at Northgate Pet Clinic, 2800 N. Martin Luther King Dr., Decatur, IL 62526. Participants in the lecture/lab will receive 6 hours of CE and participants in the lecture only will receive 3 hours of CE.

Register now for the ISVMA Small Animal Dentistry Lecture/Lab on Friday, June 6, 2014. Veterinarians and CVTs are welcome to attend. [Download the program brochure](#) and/or [register online](#).

## **It is ISVMA Membership Renewal Time! Pay Your ISVMA Membership Renewal Dues Online!**

ISVMA members can pay their dues online with a VISA or MasterCard. This added convenience is available through the [ISVMA Member Center](#).

1. When you click on the link, you will be asked to login to go to your account. If you have forgotten your username and/or password, click on the reminder link and the information will immediately be delivered to your email address.
2. Once you have logged in, you will see a link called "Member Renewal" in the floating orange box on the right hand side of your screen. Click on that link to pay your dues.

ISVMA member dues invoices will be mailed next week and are due on June 30, 2014. Please pay your dues before the deadline to avoid any interruption in your membership status. When you pay your dues this year, please notice that the invoice form allows you to make an additional contributions to the Veterinary Medicine Political Action Committee (VMPAC) and the Illinois Veterinary Medical Foundation (IVMF).

VMPAC supports the lobbying activities of the ISVMA and, with the significant turnover in the legislature, we will need more PAC funds to help our members get to know their legislators better by attending fundraisers paid for by VMPAC.

Donations to the IVMF, a 501(c)3 charity, are used to provide scholarships and to develop and support charitable programs related to the veterinary profession. 100% of every dollar contributed to IVMF is spent on the scholarships and programs established by the organization's mission. All administration for the IVMF is donated generously by the volunteer board members and ISVMA staff. All contributions are tax deductible.

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 now! Some of the [benefits of membership](#) are listed on the ISVMA website.

Thank you for your continued support and participation!

### Legislative Relations Survey

ISVMA is most effective at legislative advocacy when we identify a "key contact" for every legislator. There are 118 state representatives and 59 state senators in Illinois. We are working to identify the veterinarians and/or veterinary technicians in each of the 177 legislative districts that have some personal relationship with their legislator. They could be friends, relatives, clients, classmates, attend church with you or your children may play soccer on the same team. There are many relationships that can lead to a person becoming a "key contact" and critical to our lobbying effort. Please fill out the [Legislative Relationship Survey](#) so we can contact you to help us influence the outcome of bills related to the health and welfare of animals and the public..

### New Veterinarian and CVT Members Can Join ISVMA Now and Get 6 Weeks of Membership Free!

If you have a colleague that is not an ISVMA member, now is a great time to encourage them to join. By joining now, you will get the remainder of this membership year (April-June) for free and your membership will be good through June 30, 2015!

SVMA 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

If you have been outside much in the past two weeks, there has been a lot of activity in the branches and leaves of the trees above you. It is spring migration time and there is no other time of the year in which Illinois is so full of colorful avian wildlife.

Just this morning, I stood outside of the ISVMA office building and saw/heard 14 species of warblers. Those are the small, colorful birds, like the [Magnolia Warbler](#) (*Setophaga magnolia*). This beautiful bird was named by famed ornithologist Alexander Wilson, when he first spotted it in a magnolia tree in Mississippi.

The Magnolia Warbler is found in the northern parts of some Midwestern states and the very northeastern parts of the United States; with states such as Minnesota and Wisconsin comprising its southernmost boundaries. However, it is mostly found across the northern parts of Canada, such as in Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, and Quebec. During the winter, the warbler migrates through the eastern half of the United States to southern Mexico and Central America.

The Magnolia Warbler breeds in dense forests, where it will most likely be found among the branches of young, densely packed, coniferous trees. It migrates to the warmer south in the winter, wintering in southeastern Mexico, Panama, and parts of the Caribbean. In migration it passes through the eastern part of the United States as far west as Oklahoma and Kansas. During migration season, the Magnolia Warbler can also be found living in woodlands.

If you want to see this beautiful bird in its alternate (breeding) plumage, get outside quickly and look up in the trees!

I photographed this male Magnolia Warbler in Chicago, IL in April 2009.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:info@isvma.org).