

Vote Online for Your ISVMA Officers

The ISVMA Constitution (adopted November 2005) gives every member an opportunity to nominate candidates for the ISVMA Board of Directors and vote for their Board members and ISVMA Board officers. We are pleased that you now have an opportunity to learn about your association leaders and participate in identifying and electing these valuable volunteers.

Please vote by accessing the online ballot at www.votingondemand.com/isvma or by returning the ballot inserted in your next copy of the Epitome Newsletter (to be mailed next week). Each member is allowed one vote. The ballots must be returned to ISVMA **no later than September 9, 2006** in order to be counted.

In order to vote online please use the following procedure:

1. Log on to www.votingondemand.com/isvma
2. Enter your Username (Last Name) and Password (Birthday).

*Your birthday must be listed in this format 1/1/1951. If you try 01/01/1951 or 1-1-51 or any other variation it will not work.

3. Review the candidate biographies.
4. Cast your votes by either choosing the slated candidates or writing in a candidate of your choice.

If you have any difficulties logging in to vote, please call the ISVMA at (217) 523-8387 and ask for assistance.

Thank you for your support and participation in the election of the ISVMA leadership team!

Dr. Roger Mahr Outlines Goals as President of AVMA

AVMA president Dr. Roger K. Mahr told members of the AVMA House of Delegates on July 14, 2006 about his vision for a national commission uniting veterinary and human medicine with the goal of improving and protecting animal and public health worldwide.

Dr. Mahr's plan is modeled after the formation of the National Commission on Veterinary Economic Issues. The first step is establishing a Steering Committee for the One Health Initiative. Next, the committee would hold a national one health summit that would lead to the development of an action plan. Finally, a National Commission for the One Health Initiative would be created and charged with implementing the national plan.

Potential outcomes of the commission include greater collaboration among veterinary colleges in developing centers of excellence for education and training in underserved areas and between the veterinary and human medical professions to address critical needs to improve animal and human health globally.

"Animal health is truly at a crossroads," Dr. Mahr said. "Its convergence with human and ecosystem health dictates that the 'one world, one health, one medicine' concept must be embraced. We need our colleagues in human medicine, public health, and the environmental health sciences.

"Together, we can accomplish more in improving global health than we can alone, and we have the responsibility to do so."

Delegates elected Dr. Mahr of Geneva, Ill., by unanimous consent last July in Minneapolis. After receiving his DVM degree in 1971 from Iowa State University, Dr. Mahr owned and operated a small animal practice for more than three decades.

Dr. Mahr became an advocate of organized veterinary medicine early in his career. He served as

president of the Illinois State and Chicago VMAs and has chaired the Illinois Veterinary Licensing and Disciplinary Board. Dr. Mahr also served a three-year term on the board of directors of the American Veterinary Medical Foundation.

In his address on July 14, Dr. Mahr explained that the "one medicine" concept is not new. Physician Sir William Osler, founder of the medical teaching hospital concept at Johns Hopkins University, in the 1800s wrote that, "Veterinary medicine and human medicine complement each other and should be considered as one medicine."

Dr. Mahr said it is "imperative" that the AVMA play a major leadership role in the veterinary profession around the world. "It is important to share our accreditation standards with foreign veterinary colleges and to encourage them to achieve those standards if world health and safety are to be attained," he said.

Additionally, Dr. Mahr called on the AVMA to nurture existing relationships and establish new ones through the World Veterinary Association and other international bodies to encourage the advancement of the veterinary profession worldwide.

Strengthening ties to the World Health Organization, United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, and World Organization for Animal Health will further enhance global health and development as well as solidify AVMA's role as a visionary organization in global health issues, Dr. Mahr added.

Dr. Mahr said veterinarians should also provide their expertise in ecosystem health. To that end, he encouraged the Association of Wildlife Veterinarians and the Association of Zoo Veterinarians to gain representation in the AVMA House of Delegates. "Your representation," he said, "your voice, and your input are vital as integration of the health sciences occurs."

In Memoriam: Dr. David A. McConnell (ILL 1956)

We were informed today that Dr. David A. McConnell, a Life Member of the ISVMA, passed away after a 12 year battle with ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease). Friends reported that while he had lost much of his strength, he never lost the ability to speak and share a good joke.

There will be no service but a visitation/reception will be held at The Milk Pail restaurant this Friday, July 28th, from 3:00 – 7:00 PM.

The Milk Pail
1/2 mile North of I-90 on Route 25
PO Box 960, East Dundee, IL 60118
Restaurant: (847) 742-5040

In Memoriam: Dr. Stephen M. Nash (ILL 1994)

Dr. Stephen M. Nash, 38, of Pittsfield, died peacefully on Thursday, July 20th, 2006 at his parents home at Lake of Egypt in Southern, Illinois. Stephen was born in Murphysboro, IL, April 22, 1968 to Jimmie Ray and Betty Oglesby Nash. He graduated from Murphysboro High School in 1986; from the University of Illinois in 1990; and from University of Illinois School of Veterinary Medicine, third in his class, in 1994. Stephen has been a partner and veterinarian at Ghrist Veterinary Clinic in Pittsfield for ten years. He was a member of the Pike County Ducks Unlimited and the American Veterinarian Association and the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association. Stephen was an avid hunter and an excellent father to his three children.

Preceding him in death were his father Jimmie Nash, his aunt Kathie Elliot, his grandmother Velma Zuelke Dede, and grandfather Marion Nash.

He leaves behind his wife, Kara Anne Nash, and three children, Savannah, Dawson, and Sierra; mother and step father Betty and Bill Rypkema; brother Dennis Nash and step brothers Michael Rypkema, Matthew Rypkema; and step sister, Amanda Rypkema, aunts and uncles, Judy and Mike

Ellet and Jo Ellen and Ed Christman, cousins Doug, David, Julie and Valerie, nephews Alex and Kyle Nash. He also leaves many friends and clients turned friends in Pike County and across the country.

Funeral services were held on Monday, July 24, 2006 at 11:00 a.m. at the Church of Nazarene in Pittsfield, IL.

Memorial donations may be made to Duck Unlimited Pike County Chapter or Southern Illinois Hospice of Marion, Illinois. Niebur Funeral Home is handling arrangements. Condolences may be sent to www.nieburfh.com or e-mail pmniebur@casscomm.com.

Niebur Funeral Homes
At Adams & Franklin Streets
Pittsfield Illinois 62363
Phone: 217-285-5505

About the Photo in This Issue...

The Red-crested Cardinal (*Paroaria coronata*) is found in Southeastern Brazil (Mato Grosso and RioGrande dosul), eastern Bolivia, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Argentina south to Mendoza, La Pampa, and BuenosAires (Ridgley, 1989). Introduced population Widespread on Oahu, localized on Kauai, Lanai, Maui, and Molokai (Pratt, et al, 1987).

The Red-crested Cardinal's population size is not listed as threatened, and it is generally considered "common to locally abundant" throughout most of range (Ridgley, 1989). However, Ridgley (1989) states: "In demand as a cage bird, and as a result has declined in many populated areas.

The species is monogamous, so male/female ratio presumed roughly equal, though difficult to confirm as adults are essentially identical in appearance. It enjoys semiopen country, with scattered trees and shrubbery, especially near water (Ridgely, 1989). In Hawaii, the species favors lawns, parks, and dry thickets (Pratt, et al, 1987).

Red-crested Cardinals forage for seeds, fruits, berries, and insects, on ground and in shrubbery; in pairs or flocks. It is often found perched in trees or bushes. In Hawaii, it is commonly observed on walls or roofs, and picks up crumbs, etc. left by humans. (Ridgley, 1989)

I photographed this Red-crested Cardinal in Honolulu, HI during the AVMA Convention in July 2006.

Contact Us

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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.

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