

Some Hair Growth Formulas Poisonous to Cats

Minoxidil, a topical solution used to promote hair growth in humans, poses serious health risks for cats, according to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animal's Animal Poison Control Center.

"While the possibility of clinical problems from minoxidil exposures exists for dogs and other animals, too, cats may be especially sensitive because they lack a specific enzyme necessary for breaking this drug down in their bodies," said Sharon Gwaltney-Brant, DVM, medical director of the APCC.

Cats ingesting the drug can experience lethargy, a severe drop in blood pressure, fluid accumulation in the lungs, and damage to the heart muscle that can result in cardiac arrest, according to APCC data.

"Lethargy and a drop in blood pressure typically develop within 12 hours, and the cardiac effects generally occur three to four days following exposure if treatment is not sought quickly," said Gwaltney-Brant.

To minimize exposure to the drug, the ASPCA said pet owners should never apply minoxidil products to their cat or in the same room as their cat, always clean up any product spills immediately, and never allow their cat to lick any area treated with the product.

If ingestion of minoxidil is suspected, the ASPCA said owners should contact a veterinarian immediately.



Honor A Colleague

Deadline to Nominate Approaches...

Illinois has many veterinarians as well as other individuals who contribute significantly to the veterinary medical profession. Their passion is reflected in their work and words and the ISVMA wants to recognize the actions of these exceptional individuals.

Each year at the ISVMA annual convention, two awards are presented to individuals to honor their outstanding contribution(s) in Illinois. All honorees must meet the basic requirements of being both an ISVMA member and a graduate of a veterinary college. Qualifications are outlined in the award nomination forms.

The ISVMA Awards Committee is currently taking nominations through August 31 for the following honors:

The **Erwin Small First Decade Award** recognizes a graduate of a veterinary college who has been practicing veterinary medicine for less than ten years. Additionally, they must have supported the goals and mission of the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association through leadership and/or participation in programs approved by the ISVMA.

The **Veterinary Service Award** is a meritorious award designed to honor those giving special attention to, or promotion of, the human-animal bond in Illinois as well as demonstrating outstanding work as an Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association member.

Would you take a moment to call the ISVMA office at (217) 523-8387 for a copy of the nominations forms? Let someone know you think they perform an outstanding service for the veterinary profession.

Nominations must be submitted before August 31, 2005 to: Dr. Thomas Greiner, Awards Committee Chair, 3113 41st Street, Moline IL 61265. Winners will be notified in October and will be presented with their award at the ISVMA's Annual Convention in Springfield on November 6th, 2005.



Don't Miss The ISVMA Convention!

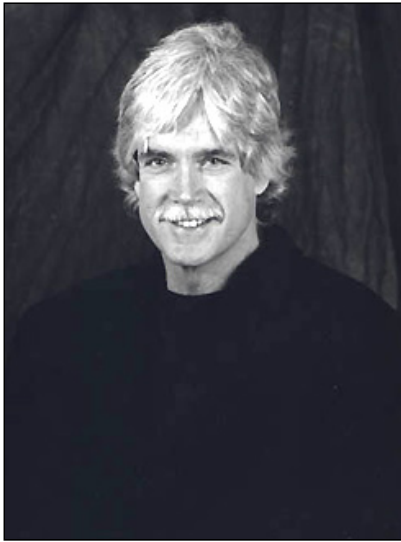
Keep the weekend of November 4-6, 2005 open to attend the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association's Convention. The high-quality program includes an all-day practice management seminar, outstanding speaker lineup, ophthalmologic and dental radiography wet labs, special Sunday program for recent graduates, expanded

practice personnel breakout sessions, fun and exciting social functions and much more!

Have you had a chance to visit the brand new **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum**? Recently opened, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum is considered to be the first major **Experience Museum**. The museum combines priceless historical artifacts with innovative, contemporary storytelling technologies. Visitors are offered an engaging, emotional and educational experience through immersive, "you-are-there" exhibits. Come see what everyone is talking about!

Thanks to the generous support of **Midwest Veterinary Supply**, the ISVMA Presidential Dinner will be held at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum. Participants who choose to take advantage of this special function (ticket price of \$65) will have full, exclusive access to all of the museum exhibits and enjoy an excellent full china, catered dinner. This unique opportunity will only be available to the first 250 ticketed participants - so register early!

Additionally, you will not want to miss our General Session speaker sponsored by **Ft. Dodge Animal Health!** Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald has been called, "The hardest working veterinarian in show business!" You may know him as the star of Animal Planet's "Emergency Vets," but there is much more to him. In addition to being a full-time veterinarian, Dr. Fitzgerald has also been performing stand-up comedy on an almost nightly basis since 1986. He is a regular at the famed Comedy Works in Denver, one of the top ten comedy clubs in the country.



Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald

"To me there are three things everyone should do every day. Number one is laugh. Number two is think; spend some time in thought. Number three; you should have your emotions move you to tears. If you laugh, think and cry, that's a heck of a day." Jim Valvano

The tears are up to you...ISVMA will provide the rest. Of course, Dr. Fitzgerald will make many of you laugh until you cry!

A Little Humor...

"A client brought a litter of golden retriever puppies to my veterinary clinic for inoculations and worming. As the look-alike pups squirmed over and under one another in their box, I realized it would be difficult to tell the treated ones from the rest. I turned on the water faucet, wet my fingers, and moistened each dog's head when I had finished.

After the fourth puppy, I noticed my hitherto talkative client had grown silent. As I sprinkled the last pup's head,

the woman leaned forward and whispered, "I didn't know they had to be baptized."

Regional VMAs Schedule Meetings

Region 1 (Southern Illinois VMA)

The Southern Illinois VMA meeting will be held on **September 8, 2005** at the Centralia Animal Disease Laboratory. Dr. Ralph Hamor, veterinary ophthalmologist at the University of Illinois Veterinary Teaching Hospital in Urbana will discuss veterinary ophthalmology. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and the program will run from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Region 3 (Eastern Illinois VMA)

The Eastern Illinois VMA will meet on **September 1, 2005** at the Hawthorne Suites Hotel in Champaign. Dr. William Tranquilli, Professor of Clinical Medicine at the University of Illinois, College of Veterinary Medicine, and Director of the school's Pain Management Program will discuss pain management. Registration and social activities begin at 6:00 p.m. Dinner and the program begin at 7:00 p.m.

Region 5 (Kankakee Valley VMA)

The Kankakee Valley VMA meeting will be held on **September 28, 2005** at Joliet Junior College, in the Vet. Tech. Building. "History and Advances in Veterinary Dentistry with Interactive Session" will be presented by Sandra Manfra-Maretta DVM, Dipl. ACVS, Dipl. American Veterinary Dental College, Professor, Veterinary Clinical Medicine, Chair, Small Animal Surgery, Veterinary Clinical Medicine U of I CVM. Registration begins at 2:30 with meeting beginning at 3:00. 3.5 hours CE will be offered for participation in this program. To register contact Dr. Al Whitman at (815) 686-2241.

Region 7 (Chicago VMA)

The CVMA Continuing Education Series welcomes Dr. John Bonagura, MS, DACVIM, on **September 14, 2005**. Dr. Bonagura will discuss "Treatment of Acquired Heart Disease in the Dog", focusing on guidelines for diagnosis and treatment of the most important cardiovascular disorders of canines. Other topics to be covered include "Feline Myocardial Disease: Causes, Assessment and Therapy". Dr. Bonagura is a professor at Ohio State University and a Diplomate board certified in Internal Medicine. Dr. Bonagura was recently presented with the Carl Norden-Pfizer Distinguished Teaching Award and The Ohio State University and Faculty Graduate Program Award.

The CE session will be held at The Lodge on the McDonald's Campus and begins at 8:00 am. Registration starts at 7:00 am. To pre-register for the seminar, call the CVMA Office at 630/325-1231.

About the Photo in This Issue...

One of North America's most abundant, widespread, and best-known warblers, the Yellow-rumped Warbler winters farther north than any other warbler. The winter diet of berries, especially the high-fat berries of the evergreen bayberry, enables Yellow-rumps to winter as far north as the Great Lakes in the East and Seattle in the West.

Until recently, the eastern and western populations of the Yellow-rumped Warbler were thought to be two distinct species, respectively the "Myrtle Warbler" and "Audubon's Warbler." However, it has been found that in the narrow zone where the ranges of the two come together, the birds hybridize freely. In the East, the "Myrtle Warbler" is an abundant migrant, and the only warbler that regularly spends the winter in the northern states. Yellow-rumped Warblers are vivid and conspicuous birds that search for food both high and low in Douglas firs or pines. They most often sing from the high canopy of trees. During winter they disperse in loose flocks, and usually two or three birds at most are observed at a time. The birds constantly chirp a "contact call" that keeps the flock together.

Birds of both sexes in all plumages have a yellow rump and a yellow patch on their side just in front of each wing. Females, fall males, and young are streaked gray-brown but always have yellow rump and white spots in tail. This Yellow-rumped Warbler was photographed near Rochester, IL in the late fall of 2003.



Contact Us

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