

Illinois Veterinary Medical Foundation (IVMF) Announces Important Projects

The IVMF is seeking contributions for two very important projects. We encourage you and your clients to support these projects through tax deductible contributions to the IVMF. The contributions can be made online at http://www.isvma.org/about_us/foundation.html or mailed to:

Illinois State Veterinary Medical Foundation
c/o ISVMA
133 South Fourth Street
Suite 202
Springfield, IL 62701

The IVMF will develop many projects to support the veterinary medical profession. Initially, our fundraising efforts are aimed at two specific projects:

PROJECT 1 -

The University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine and the IVMF (the foundation arm of ISVMA) is proposing creation of a Veterinary Heritage Collection and Information Commons. The collection is envisioned as a place for veterinary students to study surrounded by hundreds of artifacts and documents that bring to life the everyday efforts and extraordinary achievements of Illinois veterinary practitioners, educators, and researchers. The room will also feature state-of-the-art computer connectivity and spaces for individual and group study.

The proposed site for this collection is the second floor of the Veterinary Medicine Basic Sciences Building, just outside of the Office of Academic and Student Affairs, where students converge daily. Artifacts and historical documents have already been collected. As soon as financing is secured, construction of the space will begin. We hope to begin the construction as early as May 1, 2007.

We are inviting individuals, practices, classes, or other groups to sponsor display cabinets within the collection. You can see what the display cabinets look like by visiting the Veterinary Heritage and Information Commons website.

If you are interested in helping to create this space, which will unite our proud heritage with our emerging future, please contact either Peter Weber, ISVMA Executive Director, at atpeter@isvma.org or Brenda Betts, assistant dean for advancement, at bbetts@uiuc.edu.

PROJECT 2 -

The ISVMA is hoping to establish an endowment for scholarships to include annual scholarships to each of the four ISVMA class representatives.

The ISVMA Class Representatives fulfill specific job responsibilities related to encouraging support and participation of students in organized veterinary medicine. They also serve as ex officio members of ISVMA committees and the Third Year Class Representative sits as an ex officio member of the ISVMA Board of Directors. Since ISVMA has started working more closely with the student liaisons, our student membership participation has exceeded 90% and we have had nearly 100% membership from the last two graduating classes.

ISVMA currently funds a \$1000 scholarship for each of the four ISVMA Class Representatives for each of their four years of school. These scholarships are funded out of general funds. The goal is to endow the scholarships through the IVMF so that they will not fall victim to future budget restrictions.

The ISVMA Board of Directors has authorized a \$10,000 matching grant initiative to encourage support of the scholarship endowment. The matching grant will match all contributions to the

scholarship fund made before June 30, 2007. In other words, if you give \$100 the ISVMA will match your contribution and the endowment will grow by a total of \$200!

About the Illinois Veterinary Medical Foundation

The IVMF is a tax-exempt charitable foundation under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. All contributions to the IVMF are tax deductible.

Please support the IVMF projects with your tax deductible contribution to support the Veterinary Heritage Collection and Information Commons and the ISVMA Student Scholarship Fund. You can make your contribution on our secure web site at: http://www.isvma.org/about_us/foundation.html.

Help ISVMA Build Exciting and Informative Spring Seminars!

ISVMA is soliciting suggestions for hot topics and speakers for their Spring Seminar Series in April 2007. Please take a moment to send your suggestions for programs that would have broad appeal to all veterinary practice staff. We want ideas that will help your practice become more efficient and profitable!

Please make your suggestions by using our [online suggestion form](#).

Army Offering Free Satellite Broadcast on Botulinum Toxin

The U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases will be offering a free satellite broadcast titled "Advanced topics on medical defense against biological agents: botulinum toxin" from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. ET, Oct 25.

This program is targeted for military and civilian medical care providers, epidemiologists, pharmacists, first responders, and others who would assist in recognizing and managing casualties from a biologic agent attack. The two-hour satellite broadcast will inform and educate health professionals with detailed information on botulinum toxin.

World-renowned experts from USAMRIID and medical toxicologists with clinical experience treating cases of botulism from a variety of other organizations will present this program for no charge to viewers.

The broadcast can be viewed (via C & Ku-band satellite and on the Web) in the continental United States, Hawaii, and Alaska, and southern Canada. Interested viewers may register to view and obtain further information about this program at www.swankhealth.com or by calling (800) 950-4248.

The above information is courtesy of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)

In Memoriam: Marie Huwe

Marie E. Huwe, 72, of Morton passed away Friday, October 6, 2006 at the Lake Regional Hospital in Osage Beach, MO.

She was married to Duane E. Huwe, DVM for nearly 54 years. She was the office manager at the Animal Medical Clinics in Morton and East Peoria for 43 years. She was a past member of the Auxiliary to the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association and the Mississippi Valley Veterinary Medical Auxiliary.

Marie is survived by her husband, Duane of Morton; one son, Michael (Rhonda) Huwe of East Peoria; three daughters, Linda (Stephen) Kilper of Stow, Ohio, Sandra (Stephen) Gunter of Morton and Nancy (Mark) Harmon of Fort Collins, CO; and 11 grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Glad Tidings Assembly of God Church Women Ministries and Building

Fund, 2201 East Washington Street, East Peoria, IL 61611. Knapp-Johnson Funeral Home in Morton is handling arrangements. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.knappjohnsonfuneralhome.com.

About the Photo in This Issue...

The Eastern Screech-owl (*Megascops asio*) is a small nocturnal owl with piercing yellow eyes and prominent ear tufts. Nestlings are covered with fluffy white down. It comes in two color morphs, a more common gray phase and a rich reddish phase. Reddish owls are more common in the southern states, while the gray phase prevails in the north. A bird's color has nothing to do with its age or sex, nor does it change over its lifetime. As a matter of fact, both color phases can occur within the same brood. The Eastern Screech-owl resembles and is closely related to the Western Screech-Owl (*Megascops kennicottii*), from which it is distinguished by its descending trill, yellowish bill, and in some individuals, rufous coloration.

This little owl (8-10 inches) has the broadest ecological niche of any owl in its range. It occurs east of the Rocky Mountains, where it is a permanent resident of both rural and urban habitats from south of the Canadian boreal forest to near the Tropic of Cancer in Mexico. This species nests in tree cavities in wooded environments below about 1,500 meters, regardless of habitat, occupying lowland forests to mountainside woodlands, both deciduous and evergreen. Because it readily habituates to people, this species sometimes nests in human-made cavities such as bird boxes. It is often the most common or only avian predator in wooded suburban and urban habitats. They are fearless in defense of their nests and will often strike unsuspecting humans on the head as they pass nearby at night. When discovered during the day, they often freeze in an upright position, depending on their cryptic coloration to escape detection.

The screech-owls are the most strictly nocturnal of all North American owls. For this reason they are more often heard than seen. During the day, they usually spend their time in a tree cavity or old woodpecker hole where they will occasionally be harassed by small birds if their presence is detected.

After dark, the owl emerges to hunt, with most prey items being captured in the first few hours after nightfall. Preferred food items include large insects and small terrestrial mammals, but reptiles, amphibians, bats, spiders, scorpions, snails and earthworms are also taken. When bathing, these small owls will occasionally capture small fish and crayfish which happen by. Food is swallowed whole and small pellets of indigestible materials such as bone, fur and arthropod exoskeletons are regurgitated periodically. Should you find fresh, moist pellets on the ground underneath a large shade tree, it is a good indication you have an owl in your yard.

It is ironic that the species is called a screech owl. While other owl species commonly include screech calls in their vocal repertoire, the screech owls have a much softer and almost mournful collection of calls. Although it does occasionally use some hoots, bill-clicks and even screeches, these are not the most commonly heard vocalizations. Rather, their common calls could be described as a tremulous, descending wail; with soft purrs and trills.

Eastern Screech-Owls are monogamous and polygamous, forming pairs of same-age individuals in small territories around alternative nest sites. Nesting occurs between March and June. Adults incubate their three to four eggs for thirty days, feed the nestlings for nearly as long, and then tend the fledglings for eight to ten weeks. Foods include terrestrial and aquatic invertebrates and vertebrates taken opportunistically; the diet is the most varied of any North American owl. Among its prey are insects, worms, crayfish, small birds, and rodents. The Eastern Screech-Owl makes straight perch-to-prey strikes and also hunts on the ground. Sometimes it will hover over prey and use its wingbeats to flush the prey from cover or disturb shallow water to make prey surface. Now that is an exciting thing to witness!

I have included two photographs - I photographed the red phase Eastern Screech Owl near Carlyle Lake in January 2005 and the gray phase bird in my backyard in January 2002.

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.