

Happy Holidays!

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of ISVMA we would like to wish you a wonderful holiday season. Thank you for your support of ISVMA during this past year. We look forward to continued service to and on behalf of the veterinary profession in Illinois.

Upcoming Seminars for Sales Tax Changes

ISVMA will be conducting regional seminars in the next few weeks to review for veterinary practices the requirements of the new sales tax regulation that has been agreed upon by ISVMA and the Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR). The purpose of the seminars will be to go over the new rule, discuss likely tax scenarios, and review how the new rule is a tremendous improvement over past practice. If you attend these seminars, you will have an excellent chance of avoiding any future adverse audit situations.

We have been waiting on the development of the implementation schedule from the IDOR. As soon as we have the logistics determined, veterinary clinics will be notified by email and fax of the seminar schedule.

It will be very important for you to have someone from your practice attend one of these tax sessions.

You may bring your accountant, practice manager or whomever you determine is appropriate. We anticipate allowing each practice to bring up to (2) people.

A relatively small fee will be charged for these seminars. For more information call the ISVMA at (217) 523-8387.

ISVMA - University of Illinois Class Challenge

Did you graduate from the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine between 1980 and 2006?

If you did, you have a chance to play a vital role in an exciting challenge! If we can recruit 25% of the prospective members (99 new members) that have graduated from the University of Illinois in the last quarter of a century, Executive Director Peter Weber will make a \$500 donation to the Wildlife Medical Clinic at the University of Illinois in honor of the class that has the highest percentage increase in membership! The challenge will run until June 30, 2007.

ISVMA maintains a database of every licensed veterinarian in Illinois. Sometimes the data gets a little outdated because we are not always informed when a veterinarian moves out of state to practice or discontinues their practice.

The following chart indicates the membership levels for every graduating class since 1980. In some of the more recent years (2004 to 2006) we have a number of licensed veterinarians in our database who may not be practicing in Illinois. Any updates on the location of your classmates would be appreciated!

Class	Members	Prospects	Membership Ratio
1980	14	5	74%
1981	24	13	65%
1983	23	8	74%
1984	38	13	75%

1985	20	15	57%
1986	20	9	69%
1987	22	10	69%
1988	20	20	50%
1989	27	5	84%
1990	21	24	47%
1991	21	8	72%
1992	27	14	66%
1993	29	11	72%
1994	27	11	77%
1995	36	15	71%
1996	28	17	62%
1997	26	14	65%
1998	23	26	47%
1999	23	46	50%
2000	31	18	63%
2001	31	16	66%
2002	24	28	46%
2003	34	9	77%
2004	29	21	58%
2005	45	21	68%
2006	83	0	100%
Totals	746	397	65%

If you are willing to assist in this challenge as a class coordinator, please contact peter@isvma.org to volunteer! If you wish to see the list of your classmates and their membership status you can search by graduation year on the special [ISVMA - University of Illinois Challenge](#) page on the ISVMA website.

In Memoriam: Clint L. Franks



Clint L. Franks 25, of Port Byron and student at the University of Illinois, College of Veterinary Medicine, Urbana, IL died suddenly Sunday, December 17, 2006 at the Carle Hospital, Urbana, IL.

Funeral services will be 10:30 A.M. Thursday at First United Methodist Church, Geneseo. Visitation will be from 4-8 P.M. Wednesday at Vandemore Funeral Home LTD. In lieu of flowers the family requests memorials may be left to the Clint Franks Memorial Fund.

Clint was born on August 20, 1981 at Illini Hospital in Silvis, IL the son of Clifford and Suzie (Fertig) Franks. He graduated from Riverdale High School where he participated in track and musicals. Clint stayed involved in track and cross country at Augustana College where he earned a bachelors degree and continued his education at the University Of Illinois College Of Veterinary Medicine. He was currently in the Production Medicine Club and the University's Aquatics Club. Clint was on track to graduate as a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Illinois in May of 2007. He loved animals, the

outdoors: fishing, hunting, camping, running, landscaping and yard ponds. Clint enjoyed playing basketball with some of his closest friends. He was a gifted drawer and avid aquatic life lover as demonstrated by his beautiful fresh and salt water aquariums. He enjoyed motorcycles and darts as well. Clint was an uncle, brother, son, grandson, friend and blessing to those who knew him. We are thankful for 25 years of laughs Clint brought to our lives and he will continue to live on in our hearts.

Survivors include: His Mother Suzie Franks, Port Byron His Father & Step Mother Clifford & Diana Blackert Franks, Geneseo 3 Sisters & Spouses Christa Franks, Port Byron Bobbi & Jim Flaherty, Geneseo Becky & Mike Asher, Galesburg Grandfather Everett Blackert, Geneseo 2 Nieces Kira Franks & Madison Flaherty Special Friends Larry & Kaye Miller, Port Byron Jennifer Marlatt, Student – University of Illinois He was preceded in death by a sister Cheryl and his grandparents.

About the Photo in This Issue...

The Ross's Gull (*Rhodostethia rosea*) is named after the North Pole explorer John Ross. It is a small, elegant gull with a distinctive wedge-shaped tail and a unique black collar around the neck and a remarkable deep pink hue on their breast during the breeding season. This beautiful Siberian gull winters mainly above the Arctic Circle and its southernmost breeding area is in Nunavut and the Hudson Bay Lowland, near Churchill, Manitoba.

Ross's Gulls very rarely visits coastal areas from Arctic Canada and Siberia. It is highly unusual for this beautiful gull to visit places where it can be seen. The appearance of a Ross's Gull in settled areas attracts hundreds of observers.

I photographed this Ross's Gull in October 2006 at the Salton Sea, California. This inland record is quite remarkable and represents the southernmost sighting of this species (by hundreds of miles). Within hours of this bird being found, stories and pictures appeared on national and international news broadcasts and in newspapers all over the world. The bird only remained at the Salton Sea for about 36 hours.

You can still note a bit of the pink in this bird's breast. Additional photographs of the bird can be seen at <http://www.wildbirdphotos.com/newphotos.html>.

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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