

ISVMA Membership Renewals Due Today!

ISVMA membership renewals are due on June 30, 2008. Members that have not renewed their dues will receive a final notice and notification of the ISVMA policy on membership suspension. Article IV, Section 3 of the ISVMA Constitution states:

Any member whose dues are 30 days past due shall be suspended and all privileges of membership discontinued. Members suspended for nonpayment of dues may be reinstated at any time upon payment of the current year's dues.

If your practice receives an invoice from the ISVMA for a veterinarian that is no longer employed at your practice, please contact Jill (jill@isvma.org) to let her know and please share any information on where the former employee has moved. If you prefer to call, Jill can be reached at (217) 546-8381 (ext. 25).

Members can renew their dues (and new members can join) at http://isvmaimpak.networkats.com/members_online/members/newmember.asp.

Rabies in Dog Imported from Iraq, June 2008

Memorandum from State Public Health Veterinarian Connie Austin, DVM, MPH, PhD to Local Health Departments, Illinois Animal Control Offices, Regional Offices of Illinois Department of Public Health on June 26, 2008

A dog imported on June 5, 2008 from Iraq into New Jersey with 23 other dogs and two cats developed rabies following its arrival into the United States. The animals were imported as part of "Operation Baghdad Pup", a project coordinated by the SPCA International of Washington, D.C. These animals were distributed to soldiers or their families in 16 states. Illinois was not one of the state where the animals from this shipment were distributed.

Please be aware that dogs and cats imported from countries with endemic dog rabies may be at risk for developing rabies upon arrival in the United States. They may already be in the incubation phase for rabies in spite of having been vaccinated shortly before arrival in the United States. The Illinois Department of Public Health receives some dog importation information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and this information is distributed to local jurisdictions for follow up. This incident of rabies in a dog from Iraq is a good reminder of why it can be important to follow up and ensure that the quarantine period for dogs imported into Illinois from countries with endemic dog rabies is followed.

We request that local health departments share this with the animal control partners in their jurisdiction.

Pet Owners Take Precautions After Tick Outbreak

*Reported by: Matt Franzblau/WCIA-3 News
Saturday, Jun 28, 2008 @05:01pm CST*

(CHAMPAIGN)---Pet owners are taking extra pre-cautions after a dangerous disease is found in a local dog. The disease is called Rocky Mountain Spotted fever and ticks spread it. The disease was recently found in a dog in Champaign County. So far no human cases of disease have been reported but since R.M.S.F. is spread through ticks, officials at C-U Public Health are urging folks to check themselves and their pets regularly for the insect. Dog owners we spoke to say they already keep close tabs on their dog's collar. "I'll just check them a little bit closer when I take them for a walk." Says dog owner Katherine Judy "I do keep them clipped rather short." She says "During the summer their hair is very short, so it's very easy for me to find a tick on them." Some symptoms of the disease include fever, nausea, and muscle pain, followed by a rash. It's important to remember the disease can only be spread through ticks, not animal to human or human-to-human contact. To avoid getting infected health officials suggest staying away from where ticks are found like wooded areas and tall grass. The C.D.C says if the disease is found within the first four to five days of being infected, patients will usually feel better within a few days. If left untreated, it could even lead to death.

About the Photo

A brilliantly blue bird of old fields and roadsides, the [Indigo Bunting](#) (*Passerina cyanea*) is a small seed-eating bird in the same family as the Northern Cardinal. Adult males have deep blue plumage; the wing and tail are black with blue edges. Adult females are brown: darker on the upperparts, faintly streaked underneath.

Their breeding habitat is brushy edges across eastern North America and the southwest United States. They nest relatively low in dense shrub or a low tree and are often seen singing from telephone lines in the rural Midwest. The song of this bird is a high-pitched buzzed sweet-sweet chew-chew sweet-sweet. The sequences of notes in Indigo Bunting songs are unique to local neighborhoods. Males a few hundred meters apart generally have different songs. Males on neighboring territories often have the same or nearly identical songs.

The Indigo Bunting migrates to southern Mexico, the West Indies and Central America. They occur in western Europe as an extremely rare vagrant. This species will migrate during the night, using the stars to direct itself. In captivity, since

they cannot migrate, they experience disorientation in April/May and in September/October if they cannot see the stars from their enclosure. Experienced adult Indigo Buntings can return to their previous breeding sites when held captive during the winter and released far from their normal wintering area.

Indigo Buntings forage on the ground or in trees or shrubs. They mainly eat insects and seeds. In winter, they often feed in flocks. They are monogamous but not always faithful to their partner. In the western part of their range, they often hybridize with the Lazuli Bunting.

Although an abundant species during breeding season in Illinois, I photographed this male Indigo Bunting in Portal, AZ in May 2008.

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.