

ISVMA Member Practices Receiving Interest Statements from the IDOR

It has come to our attention that several of our members that took advantage of the Illinois Department of Revenue's compliance settlement agreement offered last year have been receiving notices for penalties and interest. Please be advised that the compliance agreement specifically stated that "the veterinarian shall pay all the tax portion due from the self audit and after receipt of all the tax portion, the Department will calculate and separately bill the veterinarian for any interest remaining due".

If you have received a notice that includes only additional interest due it is probably correct. If additional penalties have been included it is most likely an error by the Department and should be questioned. You can try to contact the Department directly using the phone number or address information on the notice in an attempt to resolve the matter or you can utilize the services of JDMichael, LLC, the company who assisted many of our members with their settlement agreements.

If you elect to retain JDMichael, LLC for assistance they will contact the Department and work with them to resolve any issues with the notices. They can be contacted as follows:

JDMichael, LLC
112 W. Cook St.
Springfield, Ill. 62704
Ph. 217-527-1700
Email: JFranklin@JDMichael.com
Contact person: John Franklin

Fed Expert Sees Biothreat from Terrorists, Accidents

*Athens Banner-Herald (Ga.) by Blake Aued
courtesy AVMA*

Most domestic outbreaks of foreign animal disease are accidental, but bioterrorism is a growing threat, a U.S. Department of Agriculture expert said Thursday.

There's strong evidence that both homegrown and overseas terrorists have at least considered unleashing a virus like the highly-contagious foot-and-mouth on the U.S. food supply, USDA foreign animal disease diagnostic veterinarian Ed Arza told a small group of University of Georgia students and professors. [Read more...](#)

Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (VDL) Brown Bag Lunch Education Series

On Wednesday, October 8, 2008, Dr. Laura Kohrt, Clinical Assistant Professor, VDL/Department of Pathobiology, will present "Give Me an Eye: Why Do Histopathology on Eyes?". The presentation begins at 12:30 p.m. in the Veterinary Medicine Basic Science Building, Room 1220, 2001 South Lincoln Avenue, Urbana. Beverages will be provided. Lunch may be purchased for \$5 upon advance request. RSVP by Monday, October 6 to (217) 333-7259.

VDL Newsletter Available

The Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (VDL) <http://www.vetmed.illinois.edu/vdl/> at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine now has a newsletter. If you would like to receive it by fax or e-mail, please contact vdldirectoroffice@vetmed.illinois.edu. Past issues are posted on the VDL website.

ISVMA Practice Survey - Please Provide ISVMA with Important Updates

The membership renewal period is always very stressful for ISVMA staff. At this time every year, we learn about veterinarians that have changed jobs and/or locations since the last renewal period. If practices do not inform us of their staffing changes, it results in a chase for information that can

become never-ending:

Doctor "Smith" decides to leave Practice A to fill a vacant position at Practice B. Practice B has a vacancy because one of their doctors went to work at Practice C. Practice A hires a new doctor from Practice D to fill their vacant position.

This job-change carousel can go on and on and on...

Please help by asking your practice manager to [fill out the survey](#) created by ISVMA intended to help us update our database with information on your practice.

Additionally, please remember to contact ISVMA whenever you have a staffing change at your practice that involves a licensed professional (DVM or CVT).

Popular Behaviorist Rolan Tripp, DVM Returns to ISVMA Convention

The ISVMA Annual Convention is being held at the Westin Yorktown Center in Lombard, IL on November 7-9, 2008. [Online registration](#) is now open and the printed Prospectus (with detailed program descriptions and a registration form) is in the mail. If you can't wait for the mail, you may [download a copy of the Prospectus](#) from the ISVMA website.

It is unusual for a speaker to be invited to four consecutive conventions. The overwhelming popularity of Dr. Rolan Tripp's behavior lectures and wet labs, however, have made him one of the most popular features of the ISVMA Annual Convention.

Dr. Tripp (founder of [The Animal Behavior Network](#)) and his wife Susan (shown on right) will once again train participants in their popular "Puppy Aggression Prevention and Socialization" wet lab. Participants will learn to use the exam room handling technique, "Puppy Gentling" which takes under two minutes, and if continued by the owner, produces a gentle dog who is a wonderful companion and patient. They will also teach Injection Distraction so that the puppy won't even know that an injection has happened. Finally they will demonstrate a live "off-leash" puppy socialization "Master-Class" intended to allow the attendee to implement puppy classes as a veterinary service.



In canines, aggression is the most common, most serious, and difficult behavior issue. Dr. Tripp will also conduct a lecture on "Canine Aggression Treatment". This lecture outlines the basic tenants of diagnosing and treating all forms of canine aggression. Emphasis will be on those steps taken in ALL cases. Separate roles will be defined for DVM, owner, trainer and consultant behaviorist.

In response to requests from past participants, Dr. Tripp will expand his training to working with kittens. In the lecture, "Feline Inappropriate Elimination", Dr. Tripp will discuss the most common cause of surrender and behavior related euthanasia in cats. What if you were on the front line trying to help others understand and solve this problem? Dr. Tripp will take participants on an in-depth tour of litter-pan alley, and describe some innovative solutions.

A "Kitten Socialization" wet lab will teach participants "Kitten Gentling" techniques that take under two minutes and ideally should be learned by every person interacting with the kitten. Those who attend this wet lab can teach these techniques to other veterinary staff, who can then teach them to owners. This technique produces a gentle pet who is a wonderful companion and patient. We will also teach injection distractions so that the kitten never knew an injection happened. Finally, participants will have great fun in a kitten socialization "Master-Class".

There is no promise that you will be able to train puppies and kittens to pose for a Thanksgiving photograph, but you will have learned to utilize techniques to make more compliant patients in your practice and developed training skills that can be used to generate a new source of income.

Early registration is strongly recommended if you wish to participate in one of the nine (9) wet labs



being offered, including the wet labs offered by Dr. Tripp.

The ISVMA wet labs have been very popular and sell out quickly. A description of each of the wet labs is available in the [Convention Prospectus](#). Register early to assure that you get in!

About the Photo

The [Neotropic Cormorant](#) (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) is superficially similar to the more expected Double-crested Cormorant. There are many subtle and some very obvious ways to separate the species. In trying to separate common species, it is helpful to consider physical characteristics, range distribution and behavior.

The most obvious way to distinguish the species is to see them side by side. The Neotropic Cormorant is smaller, slimmer and has a tail that is proportionately longer in comparison to its body. Its gular pouch and base of gape form a backwards-pointing V against facial plumage as opposed to a more rounded base of the gular area and gape that would be expected in the similar Double-crested Cormorant. During breeding season, this area is also edged in white in the Neotropic Cormorant.

The Neotropic Cormorant has a summer (breeding) range that seldom extends beyond east Texas and west Louisiana. Occasionally, a stray bird will show up in the Great Lakes region or Great Plains. With a recent hurricane having hit the Gulf area, the chances of a stray bird showing up in this area is certainly elevated.

Neotropic Cormorants are also the only cormorant species that "plunge dives" for food. They will drop out of flight and plunge deep under water in search of prey. The other cormorant species are divers, but they do not dive from the air.

I photographed this Neotropic Cormorant at Sabal Palm Grove Audubon Center near Brownsville, Texas.

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.