

ISVMA Membership Renewals Past Due - Please Pay Immediately to Avoid Interruption of Member Services

Please help ISVMA staff track down past due membership renewals.

Beginning next week, ISVMA staff will have to start calling all of the members that have not renewed their dues. It is a very time-consuming and difficult task that can be made much easier if you will either pay your dues online or by fax (217) 546-5633 or contact ISVMA to let us know if you do not intend to renew. We hope that you will renew because ISVMA depends upon the support of its members to provide the quality services, programs and advocacy that are so important to the profession in Illinois. You can contact ISVMA by emailing peter@isvma.org or calling (217) 546-8381. If you need another copy of your invoice, we can fax or email one to you if you call the office to request it.

ISVMA members can now pay their dues online with a VISA or MasterCard. This added convenience is available through the [ISVMA Member Center](#). When you click on the link, you will be asked to login to go to your account. If you have forgotten your username and/or password, click on the reminder link and the information will immediately be delivered to your email address.

Once you have logged in, you will see a link called "Member Renewal" in the floating orange box on the right hand side of your screen. Click on that link to pay your dues.

ISVMA member dues invoices will be mailed on Monday and are due on June 30, 2011. Please pay your dues before the deadline to avoid any interruption in your membership status. When you pay your dues this year, please notice that the invoice form allows you to make additional contributions to the Veterinary Medicine Political Action Committee (VMPAC) and the Illinois Veterinary Medical Foundation (IVMF). I hope that you take advantage of the opportunity to contribute whatever you can afford to these two other organizations that support the activities of ISVMA:

1. VMPAC helps improve both our visibility and the relationships local veterinarians have with their elected officials. These relationships pay off tremendously when we are lobbying for support of our legislative positions. VMPAC contributes to the campaigns of legislators who are friendly to ISVMA and our issues. Typically, we purchase fundraiser tickets and invite veterinarians from the legislator's district to attend as representatives of ISVMA.
2. Donations to the IVMF, a 501(c)3 charity, are used to provide scholarships and to develop and support charitable programs related to the veterinary profession. 100% of every dollar contributed to IVMF is spent on the scholarships and programs established by the organization's mission. All administration for the IVMF is donated generously by the volunteer board members and ISVMA staff.

Your support and participation are greatly appreciated. If you know a colleague or associate that is not a member of ISVMA, please encourage them to join now! Some of the benefits of membership are listed on the [ISVMA website](#).

Check and Confirm the Accuracy of Your Practice Listing Using the ISVMA "Find a Veterinarian" Search Tool

Nearly 20,000 people visit the ISVMA website every day. Many of them use the "[Find a Veterinarian](#)" search tool to locate a nearby veterinarian.

There are two ways to use the "Find a Veterinarian" search tool:

1. The public can use the "[Find a Veterinarian](#)" link located just below the "Home" button on the vertical link bar at the left side of the ISVMA website. This search tool **will only list ISVMA member veterinarians**. Non-member veterinarians **will not** show up using the public search tool. Those members that have not paid their dues

by July 30, 2011 (after the 30-day grace period) will no longer show up on this public search tool.

To get a listing of ISVMA member veterinarians associated with your practice, type in your practice name in the "Organization" search field.

2. If any ISVMA member logs into the [Member Center](#), you can get a complete listing of veterinarians and technicians listed for your practice in our database and their membership status using the Member Directory Link on the horizontal (orange) link bar at the top of the ISVMA website.

To get a complete listing of all veterinarians and technicians associated with your practice in our database (and their membership status), type in your practice name in the "Organization" search field.

IMPORTANT: Please take a few minutes to have an ISVMA member from your practice log in to check the listing for your practice. Review the veterinarians and technicians listed for your practice and contact ISVMA if there are any changes. If you have a veterinarian or technician that has left your practice, please let us know where they have relocated. If you have a veterinarian or technician that is in your practice, but not listed, please let us know so that we can update our database. If there are any changes to your practice staffing list, please email peter@isvma.org with the requested information.

Consumer Reports Chides Veterinarians About Fees for Services, Prescriptions

DVM NewsMagazine (July 5, 2011) - National Report — Pet owners should price shop on veterinary care, according to a report from Consumer Reports. Costs on pet food and veterinary care have risen 4 percent since 2008, which is "considerably faster than the rate of inflation," the consumer group says in a new report titled Tame your pet costs.

In addition, the Consumer Reports National Research Center says that during the height of the recession Americans did not cut back on the amount of money spent on pets.

In fact, only 16 percent of Consumer Reports survey respondents said they had to cut back on the amount they spent on their dogs and cats. [Click here to read more...](#)

Top Ten Poisonous Plants to Cats and Dogs

Every day, Pet Poison Helpline receives dozens of phone calls from dog owners and cat owners saying "My cat ate a lily!" or "My dog ate a plant. Is it poisonous?" Some of the most poisonous plants for dogs and cats are reviewed below. While there are thousands of species of plants and flowers, only a small percentage of plants are truly dangerous and poisonous to your pet. Make sure you know which plants are most deadly to avoid your dog or cat from getting into these poisonous flowers and poisonous plants! [Click here to read more...](#)

Topinka Unveils "Comptroller's Critters" Website

Illinois comptroller Judy Baar Topinka has partnered with 50 shelters in the state to create Comptroller's Critters, a website aimed at finding homes for more of Illinois' abandoned pets. "There's a savings in lives, and there's a savings in money; it's a two-for," she said. [Click here to read more...](#)

Bright Hiring Outlook Brings Eager Animal Lovers into Veterinary Technician Field

Veterinary practices are hiring more veterinary technicians, creating brighter job prospects and bringing more animal lovers into the field. Revenue can increase more than \$161,000 per average practice for each credentialed technician working with a veterinarian, says Helene Pazak, director of Michigan State University's veterinary technician program. [Click here to read more...](#)

ISVMA Sponsored Benefit Programs Can Save Your Practice Money!

Have you checked into the ISVMA sponsored benefit programs? Save money for your practice and help ISVMA at the same time!

Please contact TransFirst Health Services to see if they can save you money on your credit card processing charges!



How Efficient Is Your Payment Processing?






ISVMA
ILLINOIS STATE
VETERINARY MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION

Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association offers a payment processing program to help your staff work smarter, not harder

Conserving energy is good for your bottom line – that's as true for your business operations as your utility bills. TransFirst's innovative payment processing solutions can help you and your staff work more efficiently and more cost-effectively. And that can help you grow your business.

Let us show you what our payment processing program can do to improve your efficiency.

ISVMA's program offers:

- Lowest pricing available, based on entire membership instead of one practice
- Access to eCheck (ACH) processing and PIN Debit to help reduce costs
- New inexpensive cell phone wireless processing for house/barn/ranch calls
- 24/7/365 U.S.-based, in-house support and free on-line reporting
- No contract term or cancellation fees; simple electronic enrollment process

Contact the ISVMA Program Team at ISVMA@TransFirst.com for more information or to **ENROLL TODAY!**

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ISVMA will be announcing another exciting new sponsored benefit program in the next few weeks!

Survey Responses Will Help Vet College Chart Its Course

Calling all Illinois veterinarians: your input is invited as part of the strategic planning process currently under way at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. [The survey](#) will take approximately 15 minutes and will help direct the college's focus in the next one to five years. Thank you in advance for your thoughtful responses. – Vet Med Planning Team.

About the Photo

The photograph in this issue of the E-SOURCE Newsletter is of a dog belonging to a K-12 classmate of ISVMA Executive Director Peter Weber. The dog and its owners live in Phoenix, AZ where it was 118 degrees a few days ago when this photo was taken.

Remember to keep your pets cool on the scorching hot days ahead! Read the AVMA recommendations on how to protect pets from heat.

http://www.avma.org/press/releases/100714_protect_pets_heat_stroke.asp

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.