36th Annual BTVMA - Morehead Clinic Days Held at MSU Farm

Over one hundred and fifty vendors, technicians, and veterinarians attended the 36th annual Buffalo Trace Veterinary Medical Association Morehead Clinic Days this year, held at the Derrickson Agricultural Complex on May 31-June 1, 2014. Topics included Equine and Small Animal Practice Management and Client Relations information, Fluid Therapy Protocol for Food Animals, New Thoughts on Control of Bovine Infectious Diseases, Equine Anesthesia, Current Research in Equine Inflammation and Infectious and Metabolic Diseases from the Gluck Equine Research, USDA-APHIS Accreditation, Small Animal Medical and Surgical updates, Dermatology, and Clinical Pathology topics. Speakers included Dr. Michelle Arnold, Dr. Beth Johnson, Dr. Cynthia Gaskill, Dr. Louis Pittman, Barb Lewis (MA, CVT), Dr. Anu Radharkrishnan, Dr. Chris Craig, Dr. Roger Rowe, Davin Smith (Auctioneer), Dr. Amanda Adams, Dr. Sharon Dial, Dr. David Horohov, Mr. Keith Klien, Mr. Robert Lord, Ms. Sara Lundy, Dr. Karl Maritato, Dr. Allen Page, Dr. Chris Reader, and Dr. Ronald Riegel.

The meeting went extremely well, with great speakers, food, and fellowship. The live auction was a hit with all of the attendees and raised an additional $1500 which will be added to the BTVMA / MSU Foundation Veterinary Technology Scholarship Fund. Buffalo Trace Veterinary Medical Association holds this CE meeting each June in conjunction with Morehead State University. Proceeds from the meeting are used for scholarships that are awarded to Morehead State University Veterinary Technology students. Last year over $6,000 in scholarships were awarded. For more information or dates for next year’s meeting, contact Amy Staton or Barb Lewis at 606-783-2326.
Greetings from the KVMA!

As I write my final president’s message, I would like to focus on the importance of all veterinarians being members of the AVMA, KVMA and their constituent groups.

Many of you may ask “What do these organizations do for me?” The American Veterinary Medical Association provides numerous benefits to its 85,000+ members. These include being a resource for information and providing high quality continuing educations and publications, as well as offering discounts on personal and professional programs and services. The AVMA is an organized group of volunteers who make up numerous councils and committees as well as the House of Delegates and the Board of Directors. These members strive to recognize and anticipate the needs of the veterinary profession. Some of the areas of work for the AVMA include: Legislative Advocacy, Setting Standards for Quality Veterinary Medical Education, Public Relations, Support of Scientific Research, Emergency Preparedness, and Wellness Programs and Resources.

The Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association’s mission is to Promote, Protect and Improve the veterinary profession. Since its beginning in 1911, the KVMA membership has grown to over 1000 strong. Your association monitors state and federal legislative activities that pertain to veterinary medicine and animal health and lobbies these legislative bodies to maintain the Kentucky veterinarians’ best interest. KVMA also maintains relationships with numerous regulatory agencies to ensure that its members are always informed of changing policies, regulations and disease outbreaks. To provide Kentucky students with an opportunity to receive education in Veterinary Medicine and Technology, the KVMA has established relationships with several colleges and universities. The KVMA is your source of information that impact the profession. As you might say or hear: “The KVMA Has Got Your Back!”

The KVMA is organized into several geographical and discipline-associated constituent groups. The active groups include the following VMAs: Buffalo Trace, Central Kentucky, Greater Louisville, Jackson Purchase, Kentucky Association of Equine Practitioners, Lincoln Trail, Northern Kentucky, RADR (Regulatory, Academics & Diagnostic Laboratory veterinarians), South Central Kentucky, South East Kentucky, and West Central Kentucky. All of these groups have members that serve as board liaisons to ensure that all facets of the profession are represented on the executive board. If you are not a member of your constituent group or your group is not actively meeting, please consider stepping forward and giving back to the profession. Remember we are the MOST NOBLE PROFESSION!

It has been an honor to serve as your president! The relationships and knowledge that I have received are invaluable. The KVMA has been a true inspiration to me. I hope that each and every one of you continue to support organized veterinary medicine and your associations.

Thank You!

Best Regards,

Mark S. Smith, DVM

Make sure to update your address books with the new KVMA e-mail address!
info@kvma.org
Lincoln Memorial University-College of Veterinary Medicine (LMU-CVM in Harrogate, Tennessee, held the White Coat Ceremony for the Inaugural Class of 2018 on August 15th.

The White Coat Ceremony serves to symbolize the pathway toward becoming a doctor, including the knowledge and professionalism students will acquire. The ceremony also enables the College of Veterinary Medicine to affirm its commitment to providing the education and training necessary to help each student achieve his or her professional goals.

LMU-CVM is one of only 30 veterinary colleges in the United States, and Tennessee is one of only three states to have two veterinary colleges. There are 20 men and 76 women in the LMU-CVM Class of 2018. Thirty-two members of the class come from the immediate tri-state region of Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia. The average age is 24.

Lincoln Memorial University’s College of Veterinary Medicine is located on the LMU main campus in Harrogate, Tenn., with additional academic facilities in nearby Lee County, Va. LMU-CVM is an integral part of the University’s Division of Health Sciences and provides real-world, community-based education in a collaborative learning environment. For more information about LMU-CVM, call 1-800-325-0900, ext. 7150 or visit us online at vetmed.lmunet.edu.

Above: Members of the LMU-CVM Inaugural Class of 2018 recite the veterinary student oath after receiving their white coats.
Finding My Footing

By Ali Judah, Tuskegee University/SVM Class of 2017

It’s August, which means summer is ending and school is about to begin. I am excited to get back to Alabama for the beginning of my second year of vet school, but it’s always tough to say goodbye to sweet summertime.

The opportunities I experienced this summer were unexpected and somewhat out of character for me. I am a born-and-raised Kentucky girl and my summers usually revolve around working with equine vets and traveling all around the Bluegrass for Saddlebred horse shows. This year, though, a chance encounter at a horse show offered me a different path. Everyone has his or her own path and different means of navigating. First-year summer offers a perfect time to take advantage of last-minute opportunities and a time to get your footing and find your own path. That’s exactly what I did. I stepped out of my Kentucky comfort zone and spent the majority of my summer working with Dr. Ginger Reagan of Reagan Equine in North Carolina.

The Easter break from school lined up perfectly with the JD Massey Classic Horse Show in Clemson, South Carolina. I’m in my element at horse shows, so this offered a perfect respite from the madness that comes with looming final exams. This show not only offered me some much needed time off from school, but it also surrounded me with supportive and eager friends who were happy to offer me many different opportunities for my summer away from vet school. It was my plan to enjoy my summer in Kentucky externing with several equine vets throughout the area while still enjoying the summer show circuit. I was torn, though, when I met Dr. Reagan, as she described how I could spend my summer with her in North Carolina, assisting in her varied peripatetic and extremely personal equine practice.

In order to come up with the right decision, I spoke with a couple of my favorite Kentucky equine vets and mentors to ask their opinion. How had they spent their summers? What did they think about this North Carolina opportunity? They all encouraged me to take advantage of Dr. Reagan’s offer, explaining that first-year summer was a perfect time to spend a large part of the summer in one place while the following years would require multiple two-week externship excursions.

Armed with their advice, and after much thought on what would make me happy, I decided to spend the summer in North Carolina, and I am so glad that I did. Time flies when you’re having fun, and that was definitely the case with this summer. At first, the idea of stepping out of my comfort zone left me a little uneasy, but I soon got over that! My time with Dr. Reagan and everyone at her practice was invaluable. Whether it was equine medicine or how to run a small practice, Dr. Reagan shared her expertise, and I am so thankful for the opportunity she provided me.

One of Dr. Reagan’s many awesome clients is TIGERS Preservation Station of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Our rotation there allowed me the amazing bonus of working with exotic animals at a wild animal preserve. So, whether we were using the upper airway scope on a horse or an elephant tusk, or even welcoming Volly, the chimpanzee, into the vet truck, I was privileged to see it all!

Of course, everyone is welcome to spend their summer however they see fit. Whether working (at a vet clinic or not), an externship, or choosing to do absolutely nothing during the summer, it’s to each their own. For me, this summer away from my familiar routine gave me skills, memories, and experiences that will last a lifetime, and which will undoubtedly assist my future vet career. As fun and interesting as North Carolina was, though, my roots run deep in the Kentucky bluegrass with the equine vets of Central Kentucky. So with a few days of summer left before I head back to Alabama, I will make sure the road leads me back to horse country to get my Kentucky horse fix. ♦
Morehead State University’s Veterinary Technology (Vet Tech) program has been granted full accreditation from the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA).

The accreditation is granted through the AVMA Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA). Thanks to this re-accreditation, MSU Vet Tech graduates will be eligible to sit for the Veterinary Technician National Examination, the national board exam for prospective veterinary technologists. Program graduates also will be qualified to apply for credentials as a Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT) in the state of Kentucky.

“We are thrilled to get word of our AVMA accreditation. This is not only great for our community and potential students, but also for the veterinarians in our area who will now have easier access to qualified vet techs,” said Dr. Phil Prater, professor of veterinary technology.

Gaining accreditation is an intensive and lengthy process. CVTEA personnel made an on-site visit to the Morehead State campus in early December, 2013.

Following this site visit the AVMA identified strengths and weaknesses, and submitted recommendations to enhance the program. MSU then took those recommendations and responded to the AVMA with a plan of action. MSU received the official notice on May 5th from the AVMA that they had achieved full accreditation status.

The MSU program was first accredited by the AMVA in 1977.

MSU offers associate and bachelor level degrees in Veterinary Technology, a program offered at few other Universities in the region. The University has partnerships with several veterinarians in the region to help students with job placement after graduation. While students work toward their degrees, they will receive hands-on experience in fully-functional small animal and equine clinics, located at the Derrickson Agricultural Complex.

Students in the Vet Tech program take classes on the expansive 350 acres of the Derrickson Agricultural Complex. The facility houses 40 horses, 150 cows, a swine unit of 60 sows, 40 sheep and fully functional small animal and equine hospitals. At the farm, Vet Techs will get top priority when working with and studying animals up close. In addition, students will be required to take a semester-long practicum and courses where they manage a laboratory under University supervision to give them the ability to hit the ground running when they start their career in veterinary technology.

Additional information is available from Dr. Prater at 606-783-9364 or visit www.moreheadstate.edu/vettech/.

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What the Heck is Chikungunya?

Need something else to think about when planning that late summer or fall vacation? A new infectious disease has emerged into the U.S. this summer. Chikungunya (pronunciation: \chik-en-gun-ye) virus is transmitted to people by mosquitoes. The most common symptoms of chikungunya virus infection are fever and joint pain. Other symptoms may include headache, muscle pain, joint swelling, or rash. Outbreaks have occurred in countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Indian and Pacific Oceans. In late 2013, chikungunya virus was found for the first time in the Americas on islands in the Caribbean, though it has now been reported in the continental United States. As of August 12, 2014, those locally acquired cases in the U.S. had occurred in Florida, only, though that is a fluid situation. There is a risk that the virus will be imported to new areas by infected travelers. There is no vaccine to prevent or medicine to treat chikungunya virus infection.

Travelers can protect themselves by preventing mosquito bites. When traveling to countries or areas with chikungunya virus, it is recommended that you use insect repellent, wear long sleeves and pants, and stay in places with air conditioning or that use window and door screens.

Hmmm. Long sleeves and pants on the beach? How are the Rockies this time of year? 🦀
An appellate court overturned a ruling that would have made federal drug authorities start proceedings to withdraw some antimicrobial uses in agriculture.

In a split opinion, a three-judge panel from the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York determined that the Food and Drug Administration has discretion over whether to start or end such proceedings. That decision, delivered July 24, overturns a lower court's 2012 ruling that would have compelled the FDA to continue a process started in 1977 to withdraw approvals for uses of penicillin and tetracycline drugs in livestock feed at concentrations below those needed to cure disease.

The proposed withdrawals were intended to address the risk that some drug uses were selecting for antimicrobial-resistant bacteria.

The FDA had halted the proceedings when Congress called during the 1970s and 1980s for more study. The FDA did not continue the hearings, and advocacy organizations sued the FDA in May 2011 on the basis of lack of action on the proposed withdrawals and on lack of final responses to 1999 and 2005 petitions that sought agency action.

The Natural Resources Defense Council joined four of the petitioners—Center for Science in the Public Interest, Food Animal Concerns Trust, Public Citizen, and Union of Concerned Scientists—in filing the lawsuit.

In December 2011, the FDA canceled the then 34-year-old withdrawal proceedings.

In the majority opinion from Circuit Judge Gerard E. Lynch and District Judge Katherine B. Forrest, the judges indicate Congress had not required that FDA officials hold hearings about concerns over animal drug safety, and whether to start or end withdrawal hearings “is a discretionary determination left to the prudent choice of the FDA.”

The judges also found that the FDA did not act in an “arbitrary and capricious manner” in denying the petitions, unlike the lower court.

Whether agency inaction on dangers cited in 1977 “represented politically-inspired foot-dragging or wise caution in developing a cost-effective approach, it was for the agency, and not the courts, to determine how best to proceed,” the ruling states.

Chief Judge Robert A. Katzmann wrote in the dissenting opinion that the FDA was refusing to use a process prescribed by statute for withdrawing approval of drug uses connected with the growing public health problem of antimicrobial-resistant bacteria. He said the law requires formal withdrawal proceedings when the FDA has a preliminary finding that an approved animal drug use is not shown to be safe.

“Today’s decision allows the FDA to openly declare that a particular animal drug is unsafe, but then refuse to withdraw approval of that drug,” he wrote. “It also gives the agency discretion to effectively ignore a public petition asking it to withdraw approval from an unsafe drug.”

The FDA has asked that pharmaceutical companies agree to withdrawal of approvals of production uses—such as to increase rate of weight gain—of antimicrobials deemed important for human medicine, as well as agree to remove over-the-counter access to such drugs. Agency officials have warned that they could take regulatory action if all affected companies do not comply by the end of 2016, and those companies have told the agency they would comply.

The affected products include some penicillin and tetracycline drugs.

Read the July 24 Appellate Court ruling here: http://www.ca2.uscourts.gov

Courtesy: AVMA
Present at meeting: Mark Smith (President), Vicky McGrath (President-Elect), Alice Mills (Vice-President), Debbie Spike-Pierce (Immediate Past President), Summer Buckner (Secretary/Treasurer), Jim Weber (AVMA Delegate), Jen Quammen (Northern KY VMA), Bob Stout (KY State Veterinarian), Candice Pace (representing Southeast KY VMA), Andy Roberts (KY Association of Equine Practitioners), Louise Cook (Executive Director), Calling in: Mary Mattingly (Central KY VMA), Jason Rodgers (Jackson Purchase VMA), Barb Lewis (KVTA), Emily Dawson (Greater Louisville VMA), Mary Proctor (RADR VMA).

Guests representing Lincoln Memorial University College of Veterinary Medicine (LMU CVM) include: Dr. Glen Hoffsis (Dean, Associate Vice President of Health Sciences, CVM), Dr. Bob Lester (Assistant Dean for Clinical Relations, CVM), and Dr. John Weale (Clinical Program Development Coordinator) – presented LMU CVM report and only attended that portion of Executive Board meeting.

Minutes of February 13, 2014 Executive Board Meeting – changes to minutes: Dr. Ashley Craig as new PR committee member. The Finance Committee recommended the two investment pools be merged to ease management, but they must remain separate. Change minutes to state: AVMA Council on Education accredits foreign veterinary schools. A motion was made to pass minutes with changes, seconded, and passed.

Financial Report – A motion was made to accept motion, seconded, motion passed.

2013 KVMA Audit Report – A motion was made to accept financial report, seconded, motion passed.

Constituent Reports were presented

Kentucky State Veterinarian report: Requesting labs report positive cases of BVD and PI. The State Veterinarian’s office is contacting owners and giving them options for affected cattle. Office should be moving soon to 109 Corporate Drive.

Executive Board Member Participation – Report to your local constituent group on the KVMA Executive Board meeting. Each constituent representative should provide ideas to increase KVMA member participation at EB meetings. KVMA new email address: info@kvma.org

Lincoln Memorial University CVM report – Guest representatives were Dr. Glen Hoffsis, Dr. Bob Lester, and Dr. John Weale reported that LMU will be admitting its first class in August 2014. The college is constructing large and small animal buildings, including a clinical skills building. LMU will not have a veterinary hospital. It is approaching veterinary education from a distributive model. There will be a network of practices near LMU serving as fourth year student rotations. Each associated practice will conduct a one month rotation per student. An affiliation agreement has been established with the University of Kentucky and Gluck as access for teaching and research sites. LMU will be the third veterinary school to use the distributive model. This teaching model has been used in medical schools for about 20 years, and he believes it helps students be more prepared for practice.


Mid America Veterinary Conference update was presented.

Elk Creek Sporting Clay Shoot report was presented.

AVMA Nominations: Dr. Roger Murphy - Council on Public Health & Regulatory Veterinary Medicine - KVMA makes motion to recommend Dr. Murphy, seconded and passed.

Dr. Frank Vice – Task Force on Veterinary Compounding Legislation - KVMA makes motion to recommend Dr. Vice, seconded and passed.

AVMA Report was presented.

AVMA Legislation: Mobility Act has been sent to subcommittee of the House. Five of the six Kentucky representatives have signed on it. Fairness to Pet Owner’s Act will be reintroduced. Groups supporting passage of the Act have a website: www.apaw.org

Continued pg. 9
Discussions have been held on ways to reduce concerns the Federal Trade Commission has with the veterinary profession.

Public Policy Symposium - September 5-6, 2014, Chicago, Illinois, Hyatt Regency O’Hare Airport – Dr. Weber is on the committee.

Auburn & Tuskegee University Financial Assistance Report – Mr. Ethan Dawe
He has received positive responses from both fourth year students requesting contract negotiations and reviewing contracts as well as visiting with incoming and current veterinary students.

AUCVM Graduation – Dr. Smith attended the Auburn CVM Graduation 88 students - 71 women and 17 men. He also visited Tuskegee on May 7, 2014. Their building of the new facility has been halted.

KVMA Website update

KVMA PR Committee – The committee is continuing to develop the KVMA Facebook page. Facebook page to contain: events calendar, have people like page only, geared toward veterinary members

Kentucky Proud Magazine – A motion was made to place 1/8 page ad with same layout as 2013 at $1,485.00 includes website advertising, second, and passed. KVMA has advertised in the Kentucky Proud Magazine for the past two years. The advertising price has increased. This magazine is sent to Legislators.

KVMA Foundation Board of Directors – The Foundation is requesting nominations for two open positions on the Board of Directors. They meet annually in January and review funds to determine which programs to support.
Some programs the KVMA Foundation regularly supports follow:
The White Coat Ceremony, first year Kentucky students receive a $100 gift card, 4-H, FFA, Livestock Judging, and KVMA silver sponsor.

KVMA membership applications
Motion made to accept, seconded and passed.

Additional News
Vicky McGrath attended the Breathitt Veterinary Center accreditation last week. Ground breaking for the new building will occur June 2014.
Vicky McGrath participated in a conference call with Auburn CVM alumni and the AUCVM Dean regarding a five year plan for AUCVM.

Louise Cook Annual Contract
Currently contribute 9% of her salary to her SEP IRA. A motion was made to raise percentage contributed to Louise Cook's SEP IRA to 12.5% of her current annual salary, seconded, and passed.

Tentative 2014 KVMA Executive Board Meeting Dates:
August 14, 2014 Thursday
September 19, 2014 Friday at MAVC
November 21-22, 2014 Retreat

Meeting adjourned 4:56 pm. ♦
Ways to Improve the Recovery of Bacteria from Submitted Specimens - Part 1: Transport Media

The staff at the BVC often fields telephone calls from veterinarians with questions as to why the pathogen they suspected was not isolated. The answer is that there are several points in the process that may affect the final results. In this article, we will discuss the importance of selecting the proper transport media and shipping conditions. Later we will discuss the importance of proper sample collection.

In selecting the proper transport media, the first thing to consider is whether you suspect an aerobic or anaerobic bacterium. Next select a transport media that is suitable for that bacterium. The purpose of all culture transport media is to protect the sample from desiccation and to inhibit the overgrowth of bacteria during transport. Desiccation of the bacterium is prevented by the presence of media in either a liquid or a gel form. The media (Amies or Stuarts) which consists of phosphate and chloride compounds do not provide enough nutrients to support bacterial replication. Phosphate compounds act to buffer the system while the chloride salts add electrolytes and maintains osmotic balance during transport.

While it may be tempting to cut costs by using culture transport media that is expired, it is best to resist this urge. Gel and liquid media will evaporate over time. Yes, bacteria can still survive and be identified from expired media, but what bacteria have been missed by the use of expired media? The time, expense and effort involved in obtaining a culture may be worth far more than the extra cost of keeping transport media on hand that is “in date”.

There are many different types of culture transport media available for purchase. How do you choose the correct one for your diagnostic needs? Either a gel or sponge system in Amies media would be considered appropriate as a general purpose transport media for aerobic bacteria. If the veterinarian is concerned about isolating more fastidious bacteria, Amies with charcoal may be useful. The purpose of the charcoal is to further protect sensitive bacteria such as *Haemophilus* by neutralizing potential toxins in the sample. If the swab is going to be used for both aerobic culture and polymerase chain reaction (PCR), then it needs to be submitted in a sponge system, as the gel is a PCR inhibitor.

When submitting swabs for anaerobic bacteria, the gel systems are able to protect even strict anaerobes during transport. However, there are swab systems available especially for anaerobes. These anaerobic systems (for example BBL™ Vacutainer™ Anaerobic Specimen Collector) contain a sachet that is broken after the swab is placed back into the tube. Once broken the contents of the sachet will remove oxygen and maintain an anaerobic environment during transport. Specimens collected and immediately placed into the Vacutainer™ system are able to maintain the viability of anaerobic bacteria for up to 72 hours at room temperature (BD BBL™ Vacutainer™ Anaerobic Specimen Collector).

Once a specimen is collected and placed into transport media, it is important the laboratory receive it as soon as is feasible possible. There have been several studies undertaken to examine the ability of transport systems to maintain the viability of bacterial pathogens commonly encountered in human health systems (Rishmawi *et al* 2007 and Tan *et al* 2014). While they may not be directly related to pathogens of veterinary importance, there are some general conclusions that may be drawn. Recovery of bacteria from swabs begins to drop within 6 hours of the time collected regardless of the storage condition (4°C/ refrigerator or 25°C/room temperature). Human studies rarely extend past 48 hours for they have found that the recovery rates drop to approximately 15%. Recovery of bacteria is always higher if the sample is maintained at 4°C instead of at 25°C. How does this apply to veterinarians? Immediately after specimen collection, keep the transport media on ice and route to the laboratory as soon as possible.

In order to receive the most accurate bacterial culture results, determine what bacterium is expected in the given situation. Then choose a transport system that will guarantee the highest recovery rate of the suspected bacterium. Finally, ensure that the transport system will be maintained at or below room temperature until it is received in a timely fashion at the laboratory.

References:
BD BBL™ Vacutainer™ Anaerobic Specimen Collector. Package Insert Revision 0308. Becton, Dickinson and Company. Sparks, MD.
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PART VET SCHOOL YEARBOOK,
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Email: info@kvma.org
The KVMA Foundation was established in May 1989 with “a commitment to improve the profession of veterinary medicine by educating the public and developing future leaders in animal industry through financial assistance.”

One of the primary functions of the Foundation was to receive and distribute contributions and own properties, unacceptable practices for a non-profit organization such as the Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association. The Foundation places no liabilities on the KVMA.

In recent years, the Foundation has been active supporting many activities. Among them:

- Kentucky 4-H
- Kentucky FFA
- Kentucky Young Farmers
- The White Coat Ceremonies at Auburn University CVM and Tuskegee University SVM
- Gifts for KY first year veterinary students
- Disaster Relief Programs

The Foundation sympathy card program, begun in 2004, has helped support the KVMA. Since 2004 there has been $46,371.00 raised by the card program.

An organization is only as strong as its membership and the KVMA has always been strong. Those of you who support or have supported the Foundation in the past, we thank you. We hope others of you will join us today. We need your participation!

**Sample message inside of the sympathy card:**

Dear Jones Family,

The Doctors and Staff of Doe Animal Hospital wish to express their heartfelt sympathy with your recent loss of Fluffy. Losing a special friend is always difficult because of the close bond we share with them. Comfort can be found in the special memories they gave us that will last eternally. To honor Fluffy’s memory, the Doctors and Staff of Doe Animal Hospital have made a monetary donation to the Kentucky Veterinary Medical Foundation. This donation helps support our work to improve the lives of animals and people through education.

The Kentucky Veterinary Medical Foundation

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*Top: The cover of the Sympathy Card features a full color photo and the popular “Rainbow Bridge” verse.*

**Thank you to recent card program contributors:**

The Animal Clinic-Lawrenceburg, Pennyrile Animal Clinic-Madisonville, Reidland Veterinary Clinic-Paducah Animal Hospital, Grants Lick Veterinary Hospital-Butler Dr. Barbara A. Schmidt and Dr. Brittany L. Rogers-Union, Pendleton County Veterinary Hospital-Falmouth, Crestwood Veterinary Hospital-Crestwood, Goose Creek Animal Clinic-Louisville, Eastpoint Animal Clinic-Louisville, West Liberty Veterinary Clinic-West Liberty, Dr. William H. Leonard-Lexington, Knox County Veterinary Services-Barbourville, Springfield Animal Clinic-Springfield
The Partners for Healthy Pets consumer awareness campaign is under way! Millions of pet owners are becoming familiar with our friends Henley and Oz and their compelling message, “A yearly visit to your family vet is as essential as food and love. Make an appointment for an annual check-up today.”

The veterinary profession’s support for this campaign is unprecedented. The KVMA invites you and your practice to be a part of this effort to ensure that more pets visit a veterinarian at least once a year.

By registering for the Practice Enrollment Program, you will receive a monthly newsletter containing colorful and compelling campaign materials that you can use on your websites, in your newsletters and blogs, and in your practice. In addition, you will expand the reach of the campaign and ensure that your clients will be reminded that regular preventive healthcare is as essential as food and love and will take action by calling for an appointment. Enrolling is free, and the newsletters and materials are fully funded by the Partners for Healthy Pets.

All ads direct pet owners to Partners for Healthy Pets consumer website, www.healthypetcheckup.org and to YOU.

KVMA is proud to be an associate member of Partners for Healthy Pets and we urge you to join this industry-wide effort.

Go to: http://www.partnersforhealthpets.org/join.aspx to register your practice today.

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The second annual KVMA Foundation Clay Shoot was a success!

Sixty one shooters participated in the event held June 26th at the Elk Creek Hunt Club in Owenton, Kentucky. This event was co-sponsored by Elanco Animal Health and Henry Schein Animal Health. In addition to our title sponsors, we had five station sponsors from the veterinary industry. The participants included veterinarians, family members, friends and industry employees. A good time was had by all in attendance, and the event raised $4,765.00 for the KVMA Foundation. Many thanks go out to Drew Daniels from Elanco Animal Health, and Dannie Surbaugh from Henry Schein Animal Health for their continued support of this event. We are planning for next year and hope that you will as well.
Thank you to our sponsors for the Shoot:

Elanco

Henry Schein

Getting ready to head out for a day of fun!

The Ford Team

Enjoying the luncheon!

Jim Rice takes aim
The 2nd Annual KVMA Foundation Clay Shoot
What is the protocol exactly for managing a dead dog’s food bowl? What about his collar, leash, and bedding? What is the best way to manage his dog brother who silently pines for him by lying on the couch and refusing to eat? What words do you say when people ask an explanation for his sudden demise? I don’t believe there is ever a way to be completely prepared for the moment when a dear companion is lost, yet somehow it is our responsibility to help people through these difficult times even if we ourselves somehow cannot manage them well.

In June I said a final goodbye to my 13-year-old Border Collie named Boon. He had been my coworker, companion, and on and off bedfellow for twelve years. I had been emotionally preparing myself for his passing for about a year as he suffered chronic hind limb ataxia (most likely from a lesion or mass in the lumbar spinal region) which I managed with NSAIDs. I was “that owner” who refused further diagnostics because the cause of the ataxia was irrelevant in my decision-making process. With Boon’s age and my budget, managing his comfort (“palliative care”) was my only real option.

Boon had good days and he had some challenging days over the past year, but he was always happy, ate well, and always continued to walk with me – albeit on much shorter walks than in the past. Boon’s ataxia was managed and manageable.

For the last four or so years of Boon’s life he had an abdominal hernia that started small and gradually grew to the size of a small egg. The hernia never bothered him and by all accounts most likely contained fat. It was never a cause for concern, until one day somehow it was a major problem. Boon’s hernia grew in size by about 400% overnight; the skin became hard and taunt with a color change from healthy pink to dark purple and bruised. Boon had no appetite and was painful over the area. The rent in Boon’s abdominal wall had somehow grown large enough that his spleen had slipped through the opening.

Yes, we could have taken Boon to surgery, performed a partial or complete splenectomy, and closed his abdominal wall. It is important to recall however that Boon was 13 years old and already suffered lower motor neuron damage bilaterally in his pelvic limbs. He was not an ideal surgical candidate. Add that fact to our budget limitations and it was time to give Boon the gift of euthanasia.

Earlier this spring I treated a dog with insulinoma and worked through the decision making process with his family as they ultimately chose euthanasia. It struck me as odd when the husband tearfully told me that this was the first dog he owned as an adult. Boon, too, was the first dog I owned as an adult and letting him go was heart wrenching. Receiving his clay paw print in the mail a few weeks later was so very touching and meaningful.

I’m halfway finished my clinical rotations and, sadly, I’ve had a few patients pass. Always, I send the owner a personal note expressing my condolences for their loss and thanking them for allowing me to care for their pet. This simple act of kindness means a great deal to owners as evidenced by their grateful responses. I wonder how many practitioners take the time to let their clients know they care or to create clay paw prints for the grieving family? It is such a small act yet it creates an incredibly meaningful connection in much the same way those follow up phone calls and emails impact the client.

Veterinary medicine is so much more than simply providing patient care and understanding and identifying illness. Veterinary medicine is caring: caring for patients and their families, caring for staff and associates, and caring for the community. It is the little things that make a big difference: calling clients to check on their sick animals, sharing in the grief of a lost companion, giving back to the community, and treating employees well. There are many clinics that do these things so very well and someday I hope to be part of one of them. I sincerely believe that behind every remarkable clinic is a caring staff and empathetic veterinarians, and through that genuine concern success is born.

If alcohol or drug dependency is a problem in your life or the life of a loved one or colleague, perhaps it’s time to talk with someone who understands and can help.

Voluntary and Confidential.
Sam Vaughn, DVM - (502)245-7863 or e-mail: aviansam@gmail.com
Roy Burns, DVM - (502)238-5333 or e-mail: roy.burns@louisvilleky.gov
Welcome New KVMA Members

Dr. Frederick B. Peterson, Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital, Lexington, KY
Dr. Jonathan Barnard, Leitchfield Veterinary Clinic, Leitchfield, KY
Dr. Faryka Rogers, Tuskegee Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, Tuskegee, AL
Dr. Sarah-Jane N. Fredrick, Sarah-Jane Fredrick, DVM, Bowling Green, KY
Dr. John Weale, Lincoln Memorial University, Columbus, OH
Dr. Jael Pitts, Hagyard Equine Medical Institute, Georgetown, KY
Dr. Sara C. Terry, Gainesway Small Animal Clinic, Lexington, KY
Dr. Kevin Bueter, Grant County Veterinary Clinic, Williamstown, KY
Dr. Simon H. Soignier, Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital, Lexington, KY
Dr. Wesley A Dyer, Thomas Veterinary Services, Park City, KY
Dr. Whitney S. Bruce, Wills Animal Hospital, Owensboro, KY
Dr. Rosemary Bayless, Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital, Lexington, KY
Dr. Samantha Godbey, Noah’s Ark Animal Hospital, Manchester, KY
Dr. Stephanie G. Mittelkamp, Dixie Animal Hospital, Louisville, KY
Dr. Lauren E. Sheehan, LaGrange Animal Hospital, Louisville, KY
Dr. Michelle Arnold, Sheabel Veterinary Services, LLC, Lexington, KY
Dr. Catherine Milley, Animal Dermatology Clinic, Louisville, KY
Dr. Mary Whitehouse, Hagyard Equine Medical Institute, Lexington, KY
Dr. Lisa C. Paulsen, Lisa C. Paulsen, DVM, Calhoun, KY
Dr. Sarah C. Blanchett, Chevy Chase Animal Clinic, Lexington, KY
Dr. Jessica C. Massengale, Wills Animal Hospital, Owensboro, KY
Dr. Andrew Pike, Pike Veterinary Services, Hardyville, KY
Dr. Brittany J. Park, Grants Lick Veterinary Hospital, Butler, KY
Dr. Alison Todd, Henderson County Animal Clinic, Lexington, TN
Dr. Charlene R. Siza, Charlene R. Siza, DVM, Lexington, KY
Dr. Jason N. Wells, Hagyard Equine Medical Institute, Lexington, KY
Dr. Katherine Onasch, Town & Country Animal Clinic, Hazard, KY
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Contact Bill Fling, DVM
(937) 402-8300
dr.fling@petdepotvetgroup.com
From the Director’s Desk
Craig Carter, DVM PhD Dipl. ACVPM
UK Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (UKVDL)
Lexington, KY

At the time of writing this letter, your UKVDL faculty and staff are in the throes of final preparation for our 5-year national accreditation visit by our team from the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians. They will be spending three days in our laboratory from Aug 17-19, examining just about everything we do to assure that our diagnostic and regulatory testing methods are valid and accurate. They will also meet with our Advisory Committee members and with Dean Nancy Cox and Associate Dean Steve Workman in the College of Agriculture, Food and the Environment. After their visit, our faculty and staff will be debriefed by the team and in a few weeks we will receive an initial report of their findings. We will likely not hear their final decision on accreditation till later on this fall. This is all about assuring that our laboratory can do the very best for our clients and Kentucky animal agriculture, something we don’t take lightly!

Our new fee schedule was implemented on July 1, 2014. This year, we increased pricing (average 5% increase) on 17 tests. Tests affected are necropsies, biopsies, and cytologies. Looking at other labs in surrounding states we are still very competitive in our pricing, especially since our necropsies are capped, i.e. all ancillary testing is included no matter what is ordered with the exception of toxicology. Please call if you have any questions regarding.

Once again, our Laboratory Information System Web Portal is ready for your use. Several of our clients have already signed up. The portal enables you to gain access to your case reports, invoices and billing statements via the Internet directly 24x7. If you would like to sign up for a free account, please call and ask for one of our IT representatives to assist you at our general number 859-257-8283. Soon you will be able to accession diagnostic and regulatory cases directly from your clinic with this portal. We will keep you posted on this.

Just a reminder, the UKVDL has no facilities for handling live animals (especially livestock) so we are unable to euthanasia. Please advise your clients of this policy so that they do not bring live animals to our facility. They should make arrangements for euthanasia prior to transport. Many thanks for your cooperation.

Continued pg. 22
Due to the widespread drought conditions in Kentucky and adjoining states, the BVC has begun sending out information about nitrate testing to veterinarians. We anticipate receiving Sudan grass and other forages as local farmers are harvesting late hay. If the drought worsens, many farmers bale corn stalks in an effort to feed livestock through the winter months and those stalks may contain high nitrate levels that can be fatal to cattle. Testing for nitrate requires about 4 pounds of the forage harvested from the bottom 8” of the stem. The nitrate is concentrated in the roots and the lower portions of the plant. It is recommended to take plants from several locations throughout the field to ensure good sampling.

Mycotoxins also tend to show up in corn during drought years. It remains to be seen if this will be a problem during the fall harvest. Mycotoxins will not be consistent through a field, or even through a load of corn following harvest. Sampling throughout the field or the bin is necessary to get any idea of the level of mycotoxin present. Most of the mycotoxin are invisible to the naked eye and cannot be identified easily outside of a laboratory. Don’t hesitate to give one of your Kentucky diagnostic laboratories a call should you have questions about any of these problems. The staff of the BVC and the UKVDL are always ready to help.

As fall begins the number of equine abortions in which a fetus and placenta are recovered increases. Key to the diagnosis of abortion is proper specimen selection. Tissues to collect both fixed and fresh include: heart, lung, liver, kidney, spleen, thymus and placenta. Two sections each of lung, liver and kidney is desirable, while sections of placenta should include a sample from the cervical star, the body and both horns. Heart blood or body cavity fluid (pericardial, pleural or peritoneal) should be collected in a plain, red-top tube, as well as stomach contents. Serum from the dam can potentially be of great value.

Tests performed on fresh tissues include aerobic cultures of the lung, liver, placenta and stomach contents, fluorescent antibody testing for leptospirosis and equine herpes virus, and virus isolation. Fetal heart blood or body cavity fluid is used for serologic testing to detect leptospirosis. Histopathology often includes both routine and special stains. This battery of tests is performed for each abortion submission and in many cases multiple laboratory results are needed to confirm a diagnosis. While the specimen submission selections outlined are ideal, it is well understood that in some cases not all the tissues will be available, most commonly due to scavenging. Please don’t hesitate to call with any questions.

As always, if questions arise please contact the laboratory for further information.

The UKVDL is proud to announce that we can detect pregnancy in cattle via a serum ELISA test that measures pregnancy-associated proteins (PAG’s). Please submit 1.5 ml of fresh serum or 7 ml of blood in a red top tube (without a serum separator gel). Serum should be collected at least 28 days post breeding and at least 60 days postpartum. PAG’s can circulate in cows/heifers for some time after embryonic death and needs to be considered in the interpretation of the test. A test result of <0.30 units indicate cow is “OPEN”. Values > 0.30 suggest presence of a developing placenta which is consistent with an active pregnancy. UKVDL runs this test on Wednesdays, $1.75/sample in-state and $2.62 out-of-state. Please call with any questions!
You don’t have to look hard to see that there are tough conversations that need to be had all around you. You may tend to avoid them, which isn’t a good strategy if you’re a leader. You must model the work of a leader, and that includes stepping into uncomfortable dialog with others.

Perhaps someone who reports to you is not working up to their potential, or an individual on your team is disruptive to efforts to move the team forward. Maybe a peer is undermining your efforts or your boss is not supporting you in the way you think she should.

Ignoring these things is not very leader-like. And, similar to that little light on the dashboard of your car that says, “Check engine soon,” things you don’t take action on can become worse. And that’s when you have an even bigger and tougher problem to deal with.

If you’ve been in the workforce long enough, you’ve seen it all. Do you use any of these excuses for avoiding or ignoring tough conversations?

- The problem will go away if I ignore it.
- It’s a small thing.
- I’m afraid that my emotions will get out of hand if I address it.
- I don’t want to hurt their feelings.
- I don’t want to make a scene and am concerned about their reaction.

What will it take to have those tough conversations? Some thoughts about how to proceed:

Set an intention for your behavior. The better you can manage your own behavior, the better the likelihood that the person in need of a tough conversation will respond well. You may expect defensiveness or blame. Yet, you might be surprised when it doesn’t happen because you’ve managed to have a dialog while remaining calm and expressing care for the individual.

Breathe in compassion. The breath is a wonderful tool to calm yourself. Before the conversation begins, take a few moments to breathe deep belly-breaths full of compassion for the person you need to talk to, because your feedback may not be easy for them to hear. Remember that this person is a complex human being and may not be aware of the harm caused.

Let go. Release any assumptions or judgments about the other’s intent; they will not serve you (or them) because, honestly, you don’t know why they did what they did. You can’t read their thoughts and really don’t know the reasons for their actions. Letting go of assumptions and judgments opens you up to learning about them in a good way.

Be direct. Say what you have to say in a direct but respectful way. Most people will prefer that you don’t beat around the bush; that can be frustrating and create misunderstanding. Tell them what you’ve observed and the impact it has on you, the team or the organization. Realize that this is your truth, not the truth. Be open to the idea that there may be more to the story than you expected.

Listen. After you’ve said what you need to say, stay silent and let the other person respond. This is a conversation, which means it’s two-way. Check your need to control the conversation. You never know where it will go, and that’s OK; go with it. If emotions get out of hand, suggest a break and resume the dialog later.

Leaders have tough conversations. Don’t ignore things that require your intervention. You can manage how you conduct yourself and do it with respect and care, even if the other person doesn’t.

Mary Jo Asmus is an executive coach and a recovering corporate executive who has spent the past 12 years as president of Aspire Collaborative Services, an executive-coaching firm that manages Fortune 500 corporate-coaching initiatives and coaches leaders to prepare them for bigger and better things.
After the new AAHA-AVMA Canine and Feline Preventive Healthcare Guidelines were introduced, Dr. Elizabeth Alton was committed to implementing them in her practice at Green Mountain Animal Hospital in South Burlington, Vermont. She was delighted that Partners for Healthy Pets provided a ready-made suite of free, professionally produced online tools for introducing the Guidelines to her healthcare team. When she began using the online resources, she quickly noticed that they had two important features.

"First, it was apparent that these resources weren't like reading a practice management article in a veterinary journal," she says. "The online tools were very specific, practical, and helpful, not general and abstract. The tools didn't just tell us what to do, they told us how to do it, step-by-step."

Staff Training
Dr. Alton also noticed that the online tools engaged her entire healthcare team. "It wasn't a matter of the practice owner lecturing the staff on how we're going to apply the Guidelines," she continues. "The training sessions were very interactive, by design. Everyone in our practice now has a clear understanding of what the Guidelines are and how to use them. That means we'll speak with one voice when we make preventive healthcare recommendations to our clients.

"There's no question that these materials helped us use the new Preventive Healthcare Guidelines in a very effective way," Dr. Alton adds. "The staff training experience strengthened and unified our practice's commitment to making disease prevention a priority. We're already seeing an increase in compliance in several areas of preventive healthcare. Our clients are responding to our recommendations."

Not just a checklist
The AAHA-AVMA Preventive Healthcare Guidelines are carefully written consensus statements for a complete disease prevention program. Although the Guidelines are concise, single-page documents, they are not just a checklist. When properly implemented in clinical practice, the Guidelines make disease prevention the first objective of primary care and enlist the entire healthcare team in that mission.

To personalize the implementation of the Guidelines for an individual practice requires conducting staff training on how to effectively communicate the preventive healthcare message to clients. The Partners for Healthy Pets online tools are designed to make staff training a positive, growth experience for the practice. The tools will help motivate the healthcare team to embrace preventive healthcare as a core value, clarify individual roles in implementing the AAHA-AVMA Preventive Healthcare Guidelines, and train the staff to effectively communicate disease prevention to clients.

Healthy Life for their pets
Dr. Alton explains that the key to implementing the Guidelines is to convince clients in an authentic way that preventive healthcare is the key to a long, healthy life for their pets. "We needed to do that by demonstrating that our first concern is for the welfare of our patients," she says. For Dr. Alton, that core value was captured by a statement in the slide presentation used for staff training: Clients need to know how much you care before they care how much you know. Dr. Alton had the ‘Clients need to know how much you care’ quotation laminated and posted in work areas throughout the hospital. "It became our motto," she says.

“When clients get that message, they are much more inclined to comply with our recommendations. For us, it was an essential step in implementing the Guidelines. By using this approach, the Guidelines became the pathway for connecting with our clients. But first we needed to learn how to communicate our core message on a consistent, unified basis.”

The Training Experience
Team Meetings
In-service training of the Green Mountain staff was conducted in five team meetings conducted by Dr. Alton at
Dr. Alton offers the following tips for implementing the AAHA-AVMA Preventive Healthcare Guidelines:

Browse through the tools first. Several online tools are available under the Guidelines Implementation tab of the Resources Toolbox. By quickly browsing through all of them, you’ll get an idea of what they offer and won’t feel overwhelmed by trying to digest them all at once. There is also a three minute video entitled “Why do we need tools to implement the AAHA-AVMA Preventive Healthcare Guidelines?” that tells how the suite of individual tools work together.

Use the webinar for an overview. In a one-hour presentation, the webinar tool provides the “big picture” of how the online tools work together to implement the Guidelines in your practice. The webinar can be viewed by the practice owners and managers, or by the entire healthcare team. The webinar includes a short inspirational video by Dr. Andy Roark that will remind your staff how veterinary medicine makes a positive difference in the lives of your patients and clients.

Read the “10 Steps to Success”, “Team Meeting Guide” and “Practice Action Plan”. These handbooks provide the “how-to” detail needed to successfully train your healthcare team to implement the Preventive Healthcare Guidelines. Take time to read these materials, and jot down notes on how you’ll apply the suggestions they offer.

Customize the PowerPoint slide presentation for your practice. Insert your own text, photos, and entire slides to make the training slides specific for your practice. For example, determine your hospital team’s unique core values and specific goals and insert them into your presentation.

Prepare for each staff training meeting. Don’t wing it. If you do, it will show.

Ignore the “moans and groans” about role play. Not everyone likes role play. On the other hand, some are good at it and enjoy the experience. Let those who volunteer for role play carry the ball for this exercise. In most cases, role play using the “Words that Work” scripts and videos turns out to be a positive experience.

Assign each individual in the practice specific responsibilities for implementing the Preventive Healthcare Guidelines. Everyone should be committed, informed, and involved in implementing the Guidelines. Clients are more likely to respond to a unified practice commitment to preventive healthcare.

Set goals. Goal-setting will help you measure how successfully your practice is implementing the Preventive Healthcare Guidelines. The Practice Action Plan provides a template for developing specific, individual goals for applying the Guidelines.

Take the VetMedTeam.com course on “Implementing the AAHA-AVMA Preventive Healthcare Guidelines for Dogs and Cats”. The entire Green Mountain healthcare team took this excellent, free online course as an adjunct to the preventive healthcare team meetings.

Don’t make a recommendation just once. A preventive healthcare recommendation should be repeated at every exam until compliance occurs. When this is done, clients understand that you are committed to the recommendation as a means of safeguarding the health of their pets.
In one of the team meetings, the Green Mountain staff listed what each person considered the practice's core values to be. Each person also offered lists of three things the practice does well and could improve. As the discussion evolved, those ‘short lists’ expanded well beyond what was anticipated. The responses were used to create goals (areas for improvement) and client communication messages to explain the importance of preventive healthcare.

Dr. Alton and her staff customized the AAHA-AVMA Guidelines for their practice by adding one-line explanations for each procedure and a recommended treatment schedule. They then used their practice's preventive healthcare guidelines as an educational tool and handout for clients. Feedback confirmed that clients found the practice's guidelines to be very helpful and something they appreciated.

One of the goals of the team meetings was to sharpen the staff's communication skills so that discussing preventive healthcare to clients became second nature. The “Words that Work” videos from the Partners web site were particularly helpful in demonstrating how healthcare team members can dialog with clients in a natural, positive way in various exam-room situations. “The videos helped us communicate with the client, not at the client,” Dr. Alton explains. “They also took me out of the discussion and let the team members learn from each other how to connect with clients. The videos presented practical tips, such as asking a client how a pet got its name, to quickly create empathy with the owner.”

After observing the “Words that Work” videos, staff members discussed the communication techniques involved, then used them in actual encounters with clients. At the next team meeting, they shared their “real-world” experiences. “Through this process, we started to relate better to our clients when taking the patient’s history, during the physical exam, when making recommendations, and when responding to questions,” Dr. Alton says.

“In some cases clients challenge our healthcare recommendations. The videos helped us to respond to these situations in a positive way. We have a few clients who question everything we propose. Part of the challenge is to be able to explain preventive healthcare in a professional, non-defensive way to clients who are skeptical or think you're trying to push services on them.”

As examples of specific preventive care recommendations, Dr. Alton cites recent outbreaks in Vermont of laboratory diagnosed canine influenza, newly emergent cases of leptospirosis, and prevalence of arthropod-borne disease. “We added vaccination for these diseases to the standard immunization protocol,” she continues. “We also recommend regular dental care and screening tests for heartworm and tick-borne diseases. Some of our clients express doubt that these procedures are needed. We explain that preventing these diseases is a whole lot easier and less expensive than treating them, and avoids pain and suffering incurred by the pet. When clients realize that our recommendations are based on concern for their pets, they're much more inclined to accept our suggestions.”

**Seeing Results**

All Green Mountain healthcare team members complete a self-evaluation as part of their annual performance reviews. In their comments, some staff members specifically mentioned the impact their Guidelines training experience had on how they perform their jobs. One of the practice's technicians said, “From our preventive health-care meetings, I feel more confident talking to clients and educating them on what I’ve learned.” Dr. Alton considers this voluntary feedback to be a strong validation of the value of the healthcare guidelines training.

Dr. Alton credits the Partners online tools for helping her practice achieve several important outcomes. “We got everyone on our healthcare team to deliver the same preventive care message to our clients and to make that a priority,” she says. “We also achieved greater client understanding of our preventive care recommendations by improving our communication skills. We adapted the AAHA-AVMA Preventive Healthcare Guidelines for our practice and routinely use them as a client education tool. Together, these initiatives have led to better compliance. Using the free, online tools, I’m convinced that any practice can apply the Preventive Healthcare Guidelines in a way that strengthens client relationships, improves compliance, and benefits the health of their patients.”

**Reference**


*Courtesy: Partners for Healthy Pets http://www.partnersforhealthypets.org/*
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Walter G. Haines, DVM, ABVP, (Canine and Feline Practice) Will travel anywhere in Kentucky. Email haahps@aol.com Phone (502) 615-6504 Email contact preferred.

Dr. Justin Howard, Howard Veterinary Services, will work across the commonwealth in small, mixed or large practice and cover emergency call. Call for quotes/available dates. 606-794-0746 or jch0022@auburn.edu

Dr. Tracy Jenkins, Lexington, KY. SA exclusive, 20 years experience, will travel. References available. Phone (859) 797-3888, email tj3600@windstream.net.

Dr. Kristen Jones, SA primarily, spay/neuter clinic, shelter medicine. Please call (270)816-2475 or email shelterpetrule@yahoo.com.

Dr. Stacey Phelps Kimmerer, 214 Jesselin Dr., Lexington, KY 40503; phone (859) 303-8666, cell (859) 699-2411 or email staceyvet@gmail.com. SA. Lexington and surrounding areas.

Dr. Shelley Kirkland, CSU graduate 2008, SA medicine and surgery with interest in exotics, will travel within 90 miles of Lexington, (240) 778-9978, email - wildlifephotovet08@gmail.com.

Dr. Stephen M. Kline, 8109 Bentbrook Place, Pewee Valley, KY 40056, (H) 502-618-3882, (C) 502-689-4702 or email: dvmkline@yahoo.com. Professional interests in SA medicine and surgery, radiology and ultrasound.

Dr. Gerald Lowry, 1205 Glenellen Dr., Danville, KY 40422. Home# 859-236-2933, cell# 407-721-5462. SA, 44 years experience, references, willing to travel. Auburn ‘64, email: gerlow27@aol.com. Lic. KY and FL.

Dr. Mary E. Mattingly, 2000 Auburn University graduate medicine, surgery (soft tissue) and emergency. Willing to travel Fayette and surrounding counties. Any day of the week, willing to do several days in a row. Contact: drmarymattingly@gmail.com, 859-229-1625.

Dr. James Mayer, 395 Mayer Ln., Elizabethtown, KY 42701; phone (270) 351-6722. SA. Louisville & surrounding areas. Now available Monday-Friday.

Dr. Jim McCarney, SA, Avian, willing to travel. 167 Old Georgetown St., Unit 2018, Lexington, KY 40508; phone (903) 603-8585

Dr. Robert Medley, 93 Auburn Graduate, small animal only in northern KY and southern IN. Contact: 502-338-0360.

Dr. Franklin C. Mercer, 6210 Hwy 62 E, Beaver Dam, KY 42320 phone: 270-256-1430 or 270-925-5466 willing to travel Western and Central KY

Dr. Dacelle Peckler, LA & SA Medicine and Surgery. Will cover extended periods of time, entire state of KY, will cover emergency & ambulatory (provide vehicle), evening on call stuff. Walnut Grove Farm Veterinary Relief Services; 115 Butler Street; Paris, KY 40361 ph: 859-338-6247 (leave message) fishingdp@aol.com or wirehorse lady@yahoo.com

Dr. Linda Quirk, SA and EQ. 2150 North Middletown Road, Paris, KY 40361. Please contact me at Phone 254-760-2939, E-mail: Q6Ranch@aol.com. Licensed in KY, LA, TX.

Dr. Tony Sheets, small animal, Central and Eastern KY. Versailles, KY. (606) 483-2645 or (859) 873-6463.

Dr. Lionell T. Smith, 6307 Apex Dr., Louisville, Ky. 40219. Cell# (502) 593-3610, Home# (502) 290-3619. SA. Will Travel.

Dr. Erin Tepe, 938 North Bend Rd., Hebron, KY 41048 Cell/work: (859) 653-2381. Home: (859) 689-9122 SA and Emergency Veterinary Relief, Licensed KY, OH and IN.

Dr. Katie Todd, SA relief services in the Louisville area. Emergency, general practice, spay/neuter. Contact (502) 457-3055 or kttodd@gmail.com

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Dr. Alexis K Wallace, 3976 Lazy Creek Rd., Lanesville, In 47136. 812-987-5661-cell, email - akwvet@hotmail.com SA, EQ, some LA experience Licensed in IN and KY, 1990

Dr. Gina Yeargan, SA medicine and surgery, including thyroidectomies (no orthopedics at this time) 859-327-7199 please leave a msg if no answer

If you are working as a relief veterinarian and would like your name listed, please contact the KVMA at (800) 552-3862, fax (502) 226-6177 or e-mail: kvma@aol.com and we will be glad to add you to our list.

SA - Small Animal, LA- Large Animal, EX- Exotics, EQ- Equine
Mark Your Calendar!

Upcoming Events

Save these for Northern KVMA 2014 CE Dates!
October 1 – NKVMA Business Meeting & Elections, 7pm (Location TBA)
December 3 – Ashley Wiese, DVM, MS, DACVAA, 6-9pm (Location TBA)

October 9-12, 2014  The International Association of Animal Hospice and Palliative Care (IAAHPC) will host its fourth annual conference at the Downtown Embassy Suites in Indianapolis. With presentations by more than 20 nationally recognized animal care experts, the event is the largest of its kind. For details, visit IAAHPC.org

2014 Meetings scheduled for South Eastern Kentucky VMA
November 13 - sponsored by Boehringer-Ingelheim, our last meeting of the fiscal year and the meeting where we elect new officers. Save the date, more information to come.

Medical Acupuncture for Veterinarians  Fall 2014, Fort Collins, CO.
October 10-14 - Equine and Farm Animal Session
October 15-19 - Small Animal and Exotics Session
Sponsored by the Colorado Veterinary Medical Association, Colorado State University and International Academy Veterinary Medical Acupuncture. Phone Number: 303-593-7274.
Contact: Linnea Chruscielski Email: linneachruscielski@colovma.org
Website Address: www.onehealthsim.org

October 23-26, 2014 - Biking, Hiking, Wine Tasting and CE in Sunny Santa Barbara: Santa Barbara is truly the American Riviera - nestled between the Santa Ynez Mountains and the Pacific Ocean it is the home to some of California’s best wineries and a Mediterranean climate and way of life. This conference will feature 15 hours of CE in Small Animal Anesthesia, Emergency Medicine and Cardiology by Drs. Ben Brainard (DACVA, DACVECC) and William Rausch (DACVIM-Cardiology). There will be optional group outings on bike and for wine tasting and full details can be found at vetlectures.com

October 30 – November 2, 2014 19th Annual ABVP Symposium, Nashville, TN. 9 T racks available: Avian, Canine, Equine, Exotic Companion Mammal, Feline, Food Animal, Reptile and Amphibian, Shelter Medicine and AVTCP (Technician Track). To register visit abvp.com Questions: 800.697.3583 or abvp@xmi-amc.com

March 12-15, 2015  - Vet Lectures and The International Union of Veterinary Cyclists are hosting 15 hours of RACE-approved CE in the picturesque high desert red rock landscape of Sedona, Arizona. Top lecturers will be speaking on small animal cardiology and behavioral medicine. The conference will take place at the luxurious Amara Resort. The lecture schedule allows ample time for you to get out for hiking, biking, and generally enjoying the natural beauty of the area. Non-veterinary partners and friends are welcome. Complete info and registration can be found at www.vetlectures.com or by calling (773) CE4-VETS.

Check Your Contact Info!
The KVMA communicates electronically with its membership. It’s faster, cheaper, and more efficient to do it this way, not to mention far more versatile. Please, even if you are absolutely sure that the KVMA has your proper email address, take a moment to double check by logging in to www.KVMA.org and checking your Member Profile in the Member Portal. You can make any necessary changes, to email or any other pertinent information, right on the spot and be connected with your colleagues once again.

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The Fix Foundation, a non profit, low cost spay/neuter clinic in Franklin, KY, is seeking a **veterinarian** to work 2-3 days per week. Surgeries average 25-30 per day. Fast paced environment. Flexibility and being a team player is a must. Call 270-586-6600 or email thefixfoundation@gmail.com for more information. (S14)

Full time Position available for a dedicated **small animal veterinarian** at the Animal Care Clinic in Lexinton, KY. We have a wonderful clientele interested in providing quality care for their pets. We have many “toys” to care for our patients. Top pay with benefits for the successful applicant. Apply to with resume to Gladys@AnimalCareClinic.net (S14)

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Small animal hospital seeking an **associate veterinarian** in Louisville, Ky. Established practice with large clientele. Multiple Doctors and large friendly support staff. For more information, email cwdavis1962@yahoo.com or mail resume to: Dixie Animal Hospital, 9428 Dixie Hwy., Louisville, Ky. 40272 (S14)

**SEEKING POSITION**

Richard Thomas Riney, Recent Auburn graduate seeking a **small animal position** in the Lexington area. Interests include surgery (orthopedic and soft tissue), ophthalmology, and cardiology. Contact: (502) 435-7487, rtriney@gmail.com (S14)

**EQUIPMENT FOR SALE**

Equipment for Sale: Ellman Radiowave unit, mobile stand and scavenger system; VSSI Platform Scale. Contact: cedarwoodvet@gmail.com (F14)

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Every effort will be made to try and print letters that are on topics of the most general interest. The Kentucky Veterinary News reserves the right to edit letters for length and content as necessary. All submissions must contain the author’s name, address, e-mail address (if applicable), and phone number so that we may contact you to be sure of the letter’s authenticity. Only the author’s name and home town will be published. No letter will be published anonymously. Letters may be submitted electronically (Word File please) to: kvma@aol.com or by “snail mail” to: KVMA, PO Box 4067, Frankfort, KY 40604-4067
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