Executive Vice President’s Report
By Gary Reser

The arctic blast has resulted in sixty-five percent of the U.S. being under snow and record low temperatures have become common this winter. KSU men’s basketball is entertaining and has created excitement for the future in what was generally considered to be a rebuilding year. The KC Royals are also generating enthusiasm in Arizona at spring training.

Make Plans Today for KVMA Day at the Capitol

The KVMA Board and Legislative Committee cordially invite you to the sixth annual KVMA Day at the Capitol on Tuesday, March 18 at the KVMA office in Topeka, starting with a 12:00 noon lunch and concluding with a legislative reception at 5:00 p.m.

The event will include presentations on lobbying strategies, the status of veterinary legislative issues, an update on the 2013 Kansas legislative session and the opportunity to visit with lawmakers.

Another highlight of this year’s KVMA Day at the Capitol is the chance to observe in person the newly refurbished and remodeled Kansas State Capitol building. Each and every Kansan should be extremely proud of this state showcase.

Registration for the KVMA Day at the Capitol is free for members. Send in the registration form in this issue of The Kansas Veterinarian and see you on March 18 in Topeka.

KVMA Trade Show Again Set for June Conference

The KVMA will continue the very popular and innovative changes in venue and programming initiated last year when the 2014 KVMA Trade Show comes to Manhattan in June. The KVMA Trade Show will again be an important part of the 2014 June Conference for Veterinarians on May 31-June 3 at the Hilton Garden Inn and Conference Center.

The Conference and KVMA Trade Show moved to the Hilton Garden Inn last June after calling the K-State Student Union home for a number of years. Trade show participants praised the new location last year for the exhibits close proximity to educational sessions and for the ease in setting up displays.

Veterinarians enjoyed the switch to the Hilton for the location’s free parking and access to downtown Manhattan and the Flint Hill’s Discovery Center. The Conference has historically attracted 400-500 veterinarians. Forty vendors and suppliers to the veterinary profession participated in the KVMA Trade Show last year.

Mark your calendars and plan to be in the Little Apple on May 31-June 3 for the June Conference for Veterinarians and the KVMA Trade Show at the Hilton Garden Inn and Conference Center.
Greetings! As the days continue to get longer and the temperatures begin to warm, I hope this message finds everyone in bright spirits and full of optimism. Spring always gives me a feeling that a new start is underway and I hope 2014 is a prosperous year for all of you.

By the time this newsletter reaches you, Ms. Megan Kilgore will be transitioning into her new role as the KVMA executive vice president. Megan was most recently the director of alumni affairs and events for the Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine. The KVMA board of directors has agreed to allow Megan to work part time, beginning March, at the KVMA office and part time for the College of Veterinary Medicine until the KSU CVM June Conference is finalized.

The board is extremely grateful to Gary Reser for his years of dedicated service to the Association and for his assistance in Megan’s transition into the role of executive vice president. Please make Megan welcome as she begins her new career with the KVMA.

The KVMA Day at the Capitol is scheduled for Tuesday, March 18, 2014. Please see the executive vice president’s report for more information.

Please make plans to attend the KSU CVM June Conference scheduled for May 31-June 3. The conference will be held once again at the Hilton Garden Inn and conference Center in Manhattan. The conference never fails to deliver first class continuing education and provides opportunities for fellowship and networking with other veterinarians. I urge all Kansas veterinarians to consider attending the conference and show your continued support for the KSU college of Veterinary Medicine.

Nominees are being sought for the following KVMA annual awards: KSU Distinguished Service, KVMA Distinguished Service, KVMA Lifetime Service, Veterinarian of the Year, Hero Pet of the Year, Professional Pet of the Year, and Companion Pet of the Year. Nominations can be forwarded to the KVMA office.

Nominations are also being sought for the KVMA trustee at large. The trustee at large position is elected to represent the sum of all individual districts on the KVMA executive board and its executive committee. If you have ever considered serving the Association in a leadership role this is a great opportunity. Feel free to contact the KVMA office or one of the executive committee members for more details.

Kindest regards,
Rick

Executive Vice President’s report continued...

KVMA Trustee at Large Candidates Needed

KVMA member candidates are being sought to run for KVMA trustee at large for the 2014-2015 membership year in an officer election to be held in April and May. The trustee at large is the first position held in working through the KVMA officer rotation.

Please contact the KVMA office if you would like to run for this important Association spot or if you know of someone who would make a good officer candidate.

Talk to you again in the next The Kansas Veterinarian.
Pet of the Year Nominations Sought

Dr. Rick Tanner, KVMA president, urges KVMA members, veterinary clients and citizens across Kansas to submit nominations for KVMA Pet of the Year recognition in several categories.

Animals that have demonstrated distinguished service, companionship or valor or have performed in an exemplary manner for an individual, community or organization may be nominated.

There will be pet of the year honors bestowed in hero, companion and professional categories. Those chosen will be featured at the KVMA annual business lunch on Monday, June 2 during the June Conference for Veterinarians at the Hilton Garden Inn and Conference Center in Manhattan.

Send a description of excellent service (100 words or less) for each pet nominated by Monday, April 28, 2014 to KVMA Awards Committee, 816 SW Tyler, Suite 200, Topeka, Kansas 66612 or FAX 785-233-2534.

Please Submit Names for KVMA Annual Awards

Deadline for Nominations is April 28, 2014

Now is the time to suggest a veterinary friend, colleague or acquaintance for one of the KVMA annual awards to be presented at the June Conference for Veterinarians on Monday, June 2 in Manhattan.

Veterinarians will be honored for veterinarian of the year, distinguished service, life time service and KSU distinguished service. A spouse, pet, and sales rep will also be honored.

Please forward the name of your nominee, along with the category and a 100 words or less written description of his or her service, contributions, or accomplishments, to KVMA, 816 SW Tyler, Suite 200, Topeka, Kansas 66612, FAX 785-233-2534, kvma@sbcglobal.net

Veterinarian of the Year. The KVMA Veterinarian of the Year is chosen based upon his or her contribution to the veterinary profession, the KVMA and the community.

Spouse of the Year. This award is based upon the individual’s extraordinary support of veterinary medicine.

Distinguished Service. The recipient of this honor can be an individual or group who may or may not be a veterinarian. Selection is based upon the recipient’s service to the KVMA and/or organized veterinary medicine.

Pet of the Year. Pet of the year is presented to any animal providing a noteworthy contribution to humanity. Hero, companion, and professional animals will be recognized.

Life Time Service. The KVMA Life Time Service Award is for an individual who has significantly given to the KVMA, veterinary profession, and community during his or her entire professional career. Nominees must be 60 years of age and a KVMA member for 20 years.

Sales Rep of the Year. This person is chosen based upon noteworthy assistance and service to organized veterinary medicine and individual veterinarians and practices.

KSU Distinguished Service. This recipient is a faculty member at the KSU College of Veterinary Medicine and selection is based on outstanding clinical/diagnostic service to KVMA members.
KVMA Supports Merger Recommendation

The 2013 Kansas Legislature passed S.B. 171, establishing a task force to study a possible merger of the Kansas Board of Veterinary Examiners (KBVE) with the Kansas Dept. of Agriculture (KDA).

The task force was directed to identify performance benchmarks, study and make recommendations for organizational structures that optimize KBVE agency efficiencies, determine the best location for the KBVE and remain unbiased and objective in its deliberations, among other assignments.

The task force was composed of representatives of the KDA, KBVE, Kansas Animal Health Division, American Assn. of Veterinary State Boards, and the KVMA. After six meetings and one conference call, the task force developed the following recommendations for the 2014 Kansas Legislature.

The KBVE voted unanimously to approve and support a two year trial merger with a sunset provision.

The KVMA Board took action to support the trial merger on Thursday, January 16.

* a merger of the KBVE and the KDA will be implemented on a two year trial basis beginning July 1, 2014
* the trial period will allow the agencies to determine if the merger should be permanent
* the trial merger will end with a June 30, 2016 sun set
* legislative action would still be needed after the sun set if the agencies agree on a permanent merger
* the current KBVE staff will remain in place during the two year period
* current KBVE goals designed to address its statutory mission will remain intact
* the KBVE would remain an authority board and would not be an advisory board
* all KBVE functions designed to protect the public health, safety and welfare would stay the same
* all KBVE licensing, disciplining, inspecting and investigating authorities would stay the same
* the KBVE would keep ultimate legal authority in regard to veterinary medicine
* the KBVE would be the ultimate authority on all veterinary medicine rules and regulations
* only the KBVE would make recommendations for statutory changes in regard to veterinary medicine
* all veterinary fees would be established by the KBVE
* all powers established in statute and veterinary regulations would be retained by the KBVE
* KDA legal staff would not review complaints prior to being processed by the KBVE
* the appeal process on complaints would remain the same as it is currently
* the KDA would provide fiscal, legal, recordkeeping, communications, and IT services to the KBVE
* a percentage of the KBVE budget would be devoted to the above services
* the 10 percent of the KBVE budget that goes to the State General Fund would be eliminated

Visit www.ksvma.org for a one page synopsis of additional recommendations from the task force.

S.B. 278, enacting the trial merger with a two year sunset, was passed 38-0 by the Senate on Thursday, February 28.
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KVMA Fall Conference Draws Record Crowd

The KVMA Fall Conference on Saturday, Nov. 9 at the KSU College of Veterinary Medicine drew a record number of veterinarians and vet techs.

The morning agenda at the KVMA Fall Conference was devoted to a review and synopsis of an October, 2013 foreign food animal disease outbreak exercise conducted across Kansas by federal and state food animal health professionals, including the KVMA.

A presentation on the importance of planning for disasters and emergency preparedness was presented by U. S. Army Adjutant General for Kansas Lee Tafanelli.

“Partnerships in Preparedness: RIP STOP 2013,” presented by Sandy Johnson, MPA, Kansas Dept. of Agriculture, covered the October statewide foreign animal disease outbreak exercise, including a description of the exercise planning process, the manner in which it was conducted, lessons learned and the direction emergency management preparedness will go in the future.

Part of the afternoon was devoted to small animal presentations on cardiology with Dr. Justin Thomason and critical care presented by Dr. Clay Hallman and Dr. Sasha Thomason.

Dr. Justin Thomason covered subjects such as comorbid heart and renal failure, pulmonary arterial hypertension and atroprine response tests.

Drs. Sasha Thomason and Hallman discussed canine anemia, heat stroke, organ failure, and sepsis cases.

Dr. Brian Archer of the USDA also spoke in the afternoon on animal health emergency response and foreign animal disease detection in dogs and cats.

The KVMA extends a great deal of gratitude to the following sponsors of the KVMA Fall Conference in Manhattan on November 9. Thank you so much.

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ATTENTION!

As of June 1, the KVMA phone number is changing from (785)-233-4141 to (785) 234-0461.

Please update your records accordingly. Thank you.