



American Association of Corporate and Public Practice Veterinarians Newsline

The voice of corporate and public practice veterinarians

January 2008

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Dates to remember:

Pay your AACPPV 2008 Member Dues Now!
Get Your AACPPV Lapel Pin and Wear It Proudly!
January 1, 2008

AACPPV's Networking Breakfast at NAVC
Orlando, FL
Monday, January 21, 2008
8:00 AM

AACPPV's Networking Breakfast and Board at WVC
Las Vegas, NV
Monday, February 18, 2008
8:00 AM Breakfast
10:00 AM Board Meeting

AACPPV's Annual Membership Luncheon and Meeting at AVMA
New Orleans, LA
Monday, July 21, 2008

AACPPV's Networking Breakfast at CVC—Central
Monday, August 25, 2008

AVMA Launches New Food Supply Veterinary Medicine Website

Solving a critical shortage in Food Supply Veterinary Medicine -- that is one of the headers on AVMA's new website — the **AVMA Food Supply Veterinary Medicine** website, found at www.avma.org/fsvm.

According to AVMA Scientific Activities Division Assistant Director, Dr. Lynn White-Shim, the website was developed as a food-supply “clearinghouse” to address, and to work to solve, the shortage of food-supply veterinarians in the U.S.

Industry organizations, as well as colleges of veterinary medicine and state associations can promote training and externship opportunities for students, have the opportunity to mentor students on food supply medicine, and to learn what other organizations and state partnerships have available to recruit students and veterinarians into food-supply veterinary medicine.

According to Dr. Lynn White-Shim,

“This site is new, and we seek contributions of materials from stakeholders so that it truly becomes a “clearinghouse” for food-supply veterinary medicine.”

Dr. White-Shim goes on to note that the site already contains some excellent information on opportunities and tools that exist for organizations, to promote

food supply veterinary medicine. There is also an interactive map that shows the number of veterinarians per county related to the number of large food animals per county throughout the United States. This is a great visual aid showing the need for veterinarians in food supply veterinary medicine throughout the country.

Finally, Dr. White-Shim notes that the AVMA is evaluating an opportunity to facilitate development of a food-supply interactive job search engine site for stakeholders, which would be on the FSVM site. The job search engine would likely be co-founded by the stakeholders, who would encourage job applicants and provide job postings, which has the opportunity to create new revenue for the stakeholders.

In response to the AVMA's request, AACPPV is adding a link to its website for the FSVM site. Because it is important that all partners in food supply work together for this clearinghouse site to thrive, we also share this news with you through this electronic newsletter.

As the FSVM site notes:

A shortage of food supply veterinarians is putting our nation at risk.

Stay informed and be a part of the solution.

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CAE, CMP, CMM

President's Message

B. Joe Dedrickson, DVM



Happy New Year to all and best wishes to our members for a prosperous and enjoyable 2008!

For those who have already paid their 2008 dues, we thank you for your support and hope you are enjoying your **AACPPV lapel pin**. If you have not yet paid your dues, please do so — this is going to be an exciting year for our association.

In December we made an attempt to launch a series of **webinars** in order to provide relevant continuing education for our members. What we found out was that some of your companies have fierce firewalls. Rest assured we are working on this issue and once it is resolved, will reschedule Dr. Bob Larson's webinar. More webinars are on the drawing board as well. If you have an idea for one that would be appreciated by our members, please contact Dr. Scott Nordstrom at Scott.Nordstrom@intervet.com.

It is time once again for AACPPV's **biennial compensation survey**. Growing in stature, the biennial survey asks relevant questions regarding compensation and benefits for those in our industry. This year's survey, based on 2007 data, will be conducted entirely online. Watch your email for a link to the survey in January.

2008 is an election year for AACPPV. AACPPV seeks individuals with leadership qualities to serve on AACPPV's board and its committees. If you are interested in learning more about these opportunities, please email us at info@aacppv.org and we will forward your inquiry on to the appropriate person for response. While the time commitment is not great, AACPPV is seeking individuals who are willing to contribute quality time to the growth and future of our wonderful organization. Get involved today!

Finally, AACPPV hopes you will find time to participate in our networking events at NAVC, WVC, AVMA, and CVC-Central this year. Take these unique opportunities to network with colleagues and hear from interesting and dynamic speakers. Bring non-member colleagues and encourage them to join *your* association!

Sincerely,

2007-2008 AACPPV President

INDUSTRIAL VETERINARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

It's time to start thinking about this prestigious award. Established in 1975, the Industrial Veterinarian of the Year award is intended to recognize outstanding members of our Association. Recipients are members who have advanced corporate and/or public veterinary medicine, and has shown exemplary dedication to the veterinary medicine profession.

The nominee's achievements can be in any area, and the accomplishment may be based upon a sustained effort or an extraordinary single achievement.

WHO CAN NOMINATE?

Nominees are solicited from the current AACPPV officers, Board of Directors, and the general membership. Nominees from the general membership are solicited through publication in the AACPPV newsletter and other methods of communicating with the AACPPV membership.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

This is an official call for nominations for the 2007-2008 award year. Email or fax your nomination to AACPPV (info@aacppv.org or 916-722-8149). Include your contact information as the nominator, as well as the contact information for the nominee. Submit a brief statement of the nominee's qualifications and why you believe s/he is deserving of this award. Once nominated, the nominee will be contacted and asked to submit additional information. Submit your nomination **on or before June 1, 2007.**

HOW OFTEN IS THE AWARD PRESENTED?

AACPPV solicits nominations on an annual basis. No award will be given unless *two or more nominees* are submitted for the year by the annual deadline. If only one nomination is received, that nomination will be updated and carried over to the next year for consideration. Since 1975, 24 awards have been given.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Nominees must be either an active or life AACPPV member in good standing. All members in good standing are eligible to be nominated for the award. Nominees are asked to provide a biography that discusses their education, their career in veterinary medicine (including industrial/public veterinary medicine), accomplishments they wish to share, their participation in veterinary medical organizations, such as AACPPV, local, state and/or national associations, any public and community service involvement, and any work with charitable organizations.

How is the recipient selected?

Selection of an individual as recipient of the Industrial Veterinarian of the Year is the responsibility of the Awards Committee. The nominee selected by the Awards Committee is then presented to the AACPPV Board of Directors for approval. The award, if any, is presented at the AACPPV Annual Business Meeting, held in conjunction with the AVMA Annual Convention.

Know anyone deserving of this award? Nominate them!

AACPPV Newsletter Editorial Staff

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TASK FORCE BEGINS WORK ON ONE-HEALTH INITIATIVE

Thirteen forward thinkers from academia—including student representatives—and from government, industry, and the health science professions came together Nov. 27-28 at AVMA headquarters for the first time as the AVMA One Health Initiative Task Force.

Chaired by Dr. Lonnie J. King, the task force first discussed its charge and methods of achieving progress. It was in April 2007 that the AVMA Executive Board approved its establishment, a recommendation from Dr. Roger K. Mahr, who is now immediate past president. In his address to the 2006 House of Delegates as incoming president, Dr. Mahr had outlined his vision for a national one-health initiative uniting veterinary, human, and ecosystem health.

"A nucleus of the most visionary individuals was selected for their expertise and not necessarily as a representative of a specific group," Dr. Mahr noted. There is, however, a member representing the American Medical Association, nominated by the AMA and appointed by the AVMA Executive Board chair. In addition to the 13 members, there is one representative each from the AMA, American Public Health Association, and AVMA who serves as a liaison to the task force.

At the task force meeting, AVMA President Gregory S. Hammer noted, "We are looking for concrete, implementable recommendations from this. The stars are coming together, and we certainly have the stars around the table today."

The task force developed a working definition for, and examined the scope of, one health. It addressed the first four of the five points it was charged with by the Executive Board: (1) to articulate a vision of one health that will enhance the integration of animal, human, and environmental health for the mutual benefit of all; (2) to identify areas where such integration exists and where it is needed; (3) to identify potential barriers or challenges to such integration; and (4) to identify potential solutions to overcoming barriers or meeting challenges.

Task force members each discussed their vision of one health and its impact on global human and animal health and the environment. The group discussed a unified approach for moving the initiative forward.

A brainstorming session provided many potential recommendations that will be studied between now and the next task force meeting, Jan. 31-Feb. 1, 2008. Task force

members discussed concrete and aspirational goals, what success will "look like," and how to achieve the goals. They also discussed a potential communication plan for the initiative. The fifth and final point of the entity's charge is to prepare a comprehensive written report for the Executive Board detailing its findings and recommendations. The task force will provide those to the board for consideration this spring.

Source: AVMA Update December 14, 2007

TRAVELOGUE SHOWS OFF NEW ORLEANS, TRUMPETS AVMA CONVENTION

The lively sights and sounds of New Orleans, site of the 2008 AVMA Annual Convention, are the subject of a snappy video travelogue now available at www.avmaconvention.org. Dr. Gregory S. Hammer, AVMA president, narrated the video in New Orleans along with Dr. David P. Hesse, a native of the city and the alternate delegate from Louisiana to the AVMA House of Delegates. The two-minute travelogue gives a glimpse of the city's vibrant culture.

"As a native of New Orleans, I may be more than a little bit biased, but I don't think you'll find a more exciting, colorful, or interesting city anywhere," Dr. Hesse said.

"Mardi Gras, Bourbon Street, jazz, fine restaurants, the Garden District, and even a streetcar named Desire—they're all here and waiting for you and your family."

The travelogue also touts the educational sessions and other events of the 145th AVMA Annual Convention, July 19-22, 2008.

"New Orleans is open, ready, and waiting for the AVMA," Dr. Hammer said. "We look forward to seeing you in the Crescent City."

Registration starts Jan. 15, 2008, but attendees can start planning now by checking the convention Web site for New Orleans updates and visitor information. The section for general information provides maps, links to restaurants and attractions, discount coupons, and transportation details.

Source: AVMA Update December 14, 2007

BEGIN YOUR AVMA CONVENTION EXPERIENCE WITH A VIRTUAL VISIT TO NEW ORLEANS

AVMA members can get a head start planning their trip to the 2008 AVMA Annual Convention, July 19-22 in New

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Orleans, by visiting the Association's special convention Web site, www.avmaconvention.org.

Online registration will open Jan. 15. In the meantime, the general information section provides maps, links to New Orleans restaurants, tours, discount coupons, and transportation information so visitors can begin mapping out their plans.

A new feature this year is the FAQ page, where users can browse through the frequently asked questions for answers to common convention and registration questions.

By clicking on the fleur-de-lis link in the upper-right-hand corner of the home page, visitors can view a brief video from the New Orleans Convention Bureau welcoming the AVMA and addressing the "state of the city." New Orleans is open for business and eager to welcome the AVMA. The Morial Convention Center has undergone a \$62 million total renovation. From Bourbon Street to the Audubon Botanical Gardens, this fascinating city has something for everyone.

Journalist Cokie Roberts, a New Orleans native, will keynote the Opening Session of the 2008 convention. Roberts' credentials include her current position as a senior news analyst for National Public Radio.

Visitors to the convention Web site can also enjoy a series of rotating photos from the 2007 convention in Washington, D.C.

New information is being posted on the convention site almost daily. In addition, AVMA members can use the Contact Us function to sign up for the Convention Updates E-Newsletter.

Source: AVMA Update November 27, 2007

AVMA STAFF HAS NEW SECOND IN COMMAND; NEW DIRECTOR OF ANIMAL WELFARE

Dr. Lyle P. Vogel was elected by the AVMA Executive Board Nov. 15 as the Association's assistant executive vice president. Dr. Vogel had been serving in an interim capacity since August when Executive Vice President W. Ron DeHaven appointed him to the position after Dr. Janet D. Donlin resigned to work for Hill's Pet Nutrition.

Prior to his appointment, Dr. Vogel had been serving as the first director of the newly formed Animal Welfare Division, since May 2006. After 26 years in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps as a food safety and public health specialist, Dr. Vogel began his career at the AVMA in 1993 as an assistant

director of the Membership and Field Services Division. He was later named the first director of the new Scientific Activities Division, a position he held for a decade.

"Dr. Vogel brings a wealth of knowledge, experience, and common sense to the job," Dr. DeHaven said. "The AVMA is truly fortunate to have Dr. Vogel as assistant executive vice president, and I have no doubt that he will continue to serve the Association and our members well."

Dr. DeHaven announced Nov. 19 that he has named Dr. Gail C. Golab as director of the Animal Welfare Division, succeeding Dr. Vogel. Dr. Golab has been with the division since it became operational, starting out as associate director. "Dr. Golab is globally recognized for her expertise and experience in animal welfare issues," Dr. DeHaven said. "She has served the AVMA exceptionally well in this area, most recently as the interim division director for the past three months."

Dr. Golab joined the AVMA staff in 1995 as an assistant editor in the Publications Division. Soon, she began serving as the AVMA staff consultant for issues relevant to human-animal interactions. She moved to the Education and Research Division as an assistant director in 1998, and she transferred to the Communications Division in 2001.

Source: AVMA Update November 27, 2007.

AVMA EXECUTIVE BOARD APPROVES 2009 SYMPOSIUM, NEW POLICIES

On Nov. 17, the AVMA Executive Board approved several items impacting state legislative and regulatory affairs. It provided funding for a third State Public Policy Symposium in Tampa, Fla. in the fall of 2009 to assist veterinary medical associations with managing their public policy issues. The Executive Board approved a policy statement that state governments, rather than local governments, are the appropriate entities to regulate the practice of veterinary medicine, including allowing or restricting specific procedures. This policy was adopted in large part as a response to the California Supreme Court's recent ruling upholding the City of West Hollywood's ban on animal declawing.

The Executive Board also approved a recommendation to discontinue the use of the term "informed consent" and replace it with "owner consent" in all AVMA documents and references. According to the backgrounder prepared by the Council on Veterinary Service, the concept of informed

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consent evolved from human medicine as a cause of action for unauthorized touching or invasion of the body and does not reflect the legal status of animals.

Source: AVMA Legislative Update December 14, 2007

VETERINARIAN EXECUTIVE WINS ELECTIVE OFFICE

We congratulate Dr. E. Mac Huddleston, Executive Secretary of the Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association, for winning a seat in the Mississippi House of Representatives. The veterinarian received 58 percent of the votes cast in District 15, defeating two other candidates. Dr. Huddleston was instrumental in getting the Mississippi Veterinary Practice Act of 2005 passed. We wish him the best in his new opportunity to serve the citizens of his community. He joins 24 other veterinarians serving in state legislatures across the country.

Source: AVMA Legislative Update December 14, 2007

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

District of Columbia—Department of Health/22 DC ADC s 1900-1999.

Revises pharmacy regulations including a new requirement for registration of nonresident pharmacies that dispense or distribute prescription drugs or medical devices into DC. **Proposed on 10/12/07.**

Idaho—Board of Veterinary Medicine, 46-0101-0601; 46.01.01.005.

Revises CE requirements, allows online or correspondence courses, updates practice standards, clarifies code of conduct, establishes timeframe for filing of complaints, and other housekeeping changes. Accepts PAVE requirements for licensure eligibility of foreign veterinary graduates. The second proposed rule would accept PAVE and adopt the most recent version of AVMA Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics. **Second rule change proposed on 2/7/07.**

Minnesota—SF 346*, HF 2241*.

Recognizes PAVE. **HF 2241 passed Finance Comm. on 3/30/07. Adjourned, carries over to 2008.**

New Jersey—A 4171*.

Prohibits any manufacturer from selling any pet food unless

it has been certified by the manufacturer to the Dept. of Agric. that the pet food does not contain harmful byproducts or chemicals and is safe for consumption by a pet. Provides for civil action for damages. **Introduced on 5/14/07.**

New Jersey—A 1468*.

Regulates Internet pharmacies. Requires registration with the NJ Board of Pharmacy. Internet pharmacies must ensure that prescriptions are filled by pharmacists who are licensed and in good standing in the state where the prescription is filled. Requires Internet pharmacies filling prescriptions for NJ patients to ascertain that prescription is legal and valid. **Referred to Assembly Health and Senior Services Comm. on 1/10/06. This bill carried over from 2006.**

Source: AVMA Legislative Update December 14, 2007

RESEARCHERS EXAMINE CONTAMINANTS IN FOOD, DEATHS OF PETS

The evidence is building that a combination of two adulterants in pet foods, melamine and cyanuric acid, contributed to the deaths of hundreds of cats and dogs earlier this year while manufacturers were recalling the products.

The American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians released results of the "AAVLD survey of pet food-induced nephrotoxicity in North America, April to June 2007" and presented a preliminary case definition during the group's annual meeting from Oct. 18-24 in Reno, Nevada.

The AAVLD survey found 347 cases that met diagnostic criteria for "pet food-induced nephrotoxicity" from April 5-June 6. The cases involved 235 cats and 112 dogs, with 61 percent of the cats and 74 percent of the dogs having died. Dr. Wilson Rumbleha, associate professor at the Michigan State University Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health, organized the AAVLD survey and presented the results. He said melamine and cyanuric acid can combine to form crystals in animal bodies, and the crystals apparently can impair renal function.

According to the Food and Drug Administration, melamine and cyanuric acid were present in wheat flour from China that went into pet food in the United States. Adding melamine could throw off a test for the protein

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concentration of an ingredient, allowing flour to pass for a costlier high-protein ingredient such as wheat gluten.

Dr. Rumbelha said the prevailing theory for how cyanuric acid, ammeline, and ammelide adulterated pet food is that they were co-contaminants. Incomplete reactions during melamine production could lead to the formation of these co-contaminants.

Four cats and one dog from the AAVLD survey formed the basis of the preliminary case definition, while a much larger sample of cases is still under review.

All five animals ingested pet food that manufacturers recalled because of adulteration with melamine. Results of kidney or urine tests from each animal were positive for the presence of one or more of the four contaminants. All animals had markedly high concentrations of BUN and creatinine. Urine was isosthenuric.

Casts, leukocytes, erythrocytes, and yellow-to-brown crystals with radial striations were often, but not always, in the urine sediment. Histologically, the most common finding was characteristic yellow-brown crystals in the renal distal tubules and collecting ducts—with or without microscopically visible tubular necrosis, degeneration, or sloughed epithelium.

Also at the AAVLD meeting, Dr. Birgit Puschner of the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory presented results from a pilot study on the effects of adding melamine and cyanuric acid experimentally to the diet of several cats. The study found that neither melamine nor cyanuric acid alone had an observable effect on renal function, but the combination caused acute renal failure.

Dr. Steve Ensley of the Iowa State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory summarized preliminary results from a similar study in pigs, which also suggested that the combination of melamine and cyanuric acid is a more potent nephrotoxin than either is individually.

Dr. Barbara Powers, AAVLD president and director of the Colorado State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, said the adulteration of pet food demonstrated a broader need for veterinarians to create a system for evaluating any toxins that may contaminate the food supply in the future. The AAVLD formed a work group that wrote a white paper in May proposing to expand the focus of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network beyond infectious disease to include toxins.

Dr. Stephen Hooser, assistant director of the Purdue University Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, chaired the work group. He said the white paper proposed

additional federal funding for existing NAHLN veterinary toxicology laboratories. Funding would go toward equipment, personnel, and information technology.

Source: AVMA Update November 27, 2007.

PRESIDENTIAL PANEL, FDA PRESENT PLANS FOR SAFETY OF FOOD IMPORTS

Two new plans for import safety emphasize preventing problems rather than relying only on border inspections to detect dangers such as adulterants in food ingredients.

The Interagency Working Group on Import Safety presented its action plan Nov. 6 as the product of extensive coordination among federal agencies, hands-on information gathering, and feedback from the private sector. President Bush established the working group in July following massive recalls of pet food and other goods because of concerns about import safety.

The Action Plan for Import Safety proposes focusing resources on critical points in the importation process to maximize the effectiveness of public and private safeguards.

According to the working group, attempting to inspect all imports would bring trade to a standstill.

In addition, the working group proposes authorizing the Food and Drug Administration to issue mandatory recalls of food products that pose a serious threat when the producer or importer does not issue a voluntary recall with sufficient speed.

The FDA makes the same proposal in its new Food Protection Plan, which the agency developed in conjunction with the Action Plan for Import Safety. The FDA Food Protection Plan covers food from domestic and foreign producers. The FDA's plan aims to prevent harm, intervene at key points in the food production system to verify safety, and respond immediately to any problems.

One recommendation of the Action Plan for Import Safety is to strengthen programs for certifying that foreign goods meet U.S. safety standards. According to the interagency working group, the FDA needs the authority to require that producers of certain high-risk foods in other countries—under agreements with those countries—certify that the products meet FDA standards before exporting to the United States. Foreign manufacturers of other products could complete voluntary certification to expedite entry of their goods.

The working group suggests making public the names of

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foreign producers that complete certification and U.S. companies that import only from those producers. The action plan also recommends providing incentives for importers to maintain the best safety practices for products that carry the greatest risks. Another recommendation is to increase information sharing among importers, federal agencies, and foreign governments. The working group suggests that product safety should be a guiding principle of U.S. cooperative agreements with foreign governments. Furthermore, the working group suggests that Congress should give import safety and inspection agencies the ability to strengthen standards. The action plan recommends that the federal government strengthen penalties against entities that violate U.S. laws.

The Food Protection Plan provides for the FDA to work with industry and local, state, and foreign governments to identify vulnerabilities. The agency will look to industry to

mitigate vulnerabilities. The FDA's plan emphasizes that manufacturers, processors, and inspectors should focus their sampling and inspections on the basis of risk. The plan also calls for enhancing FDA information systems to improve response and communications when threats arise.

Details about the Interagency Working Group for Import Safety and the full text of its action plan are available at www.importsafety.gov.

The FDA Food Protection Plan is available at www.fda.gov/oc/initiatives/advance/food/plan.html.

Source: Excerpted from AVMA Update November 27, 2007. Truncated due to space considerations.



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