Mark Your Calendars

The 2008 Winter Meeting is just around the corner. Mark your calendars for February 8-10, 2008 at the Hot Springs Convention Center and the Embassy Suites. We are planning for a great convention. On Saturday night, we will have the awards banquet and following we will have great entertainment. (More details to follow) A schedule with the speakers topics will be posted on the website very soon. www.arkvetmed.org Don't forget to make your hotel arrangements NOW by calling the Embassy Suites at 501-624-9200. Be sure to mention Arkansas Veterinary Medical Association to get the group rate of $139.

ARKANSAS VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
101ST WINTER MEETING
2008 MEETING SCHEDULE
February 8-10, 2008 - Hot Springs Convention Center/Embassy Suites - Hot Springs, AR

FRIDAY - FEBRUARY 8, 2008
11:00 - 5:00 p.m. Registration
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. George Miller (Practice Management)
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Poultry Meeting
5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Exhibits Grand Opening and Welcoming Reception
8:00 p.m.
7:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Board Meeting

SATURDAY - FEBRUARY 9, 2008
7:00 a.m. Exhibits open with coffee and pastries
8:00 - 5:00 Registration
8:00 a.m. - Noon Dr. Robert Kennis – (Small Animal)
8:00 a.m. - Noon Dr. Allen Roussel – (Food Animal)
8:00 a.m. - Noon Dr. Debra Sellon – (Equine)
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Vet Tech Meeting
10:00 a.m.
Noon - 1:00 p.m. Annual Business Luncheon
Dr. Robert Kennis – (Small Animal)
Dr. Allen Roussel – (Food Animal)
Dr. Debra Sellon – (Equine)
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Dr. Robert Kennis – (Small Animal)
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Dr. Allen Roussel – (Food Animal)
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Dr. Debra Sellon – (Equine)
5:45 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. LSU Reception
6:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall Closed
7:00 p.m. Awards Banquet/Entertainment

SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 10, 2008
7:00 a.m.
7:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. Inspirational Service
8:00 a.m. - Noon Dr. Mary Bell Glaze – (Small Animal)
8:00 a.m. - Noon Dr. Allen Roussel – (Food Animal)
8:00 a.m. - Noon Dr. Debra Sellon – (Equine)
Noon - 1:00 p.m. Boxed Lunches Served in the Exhibit Hall
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
President's Message
by Mike Beard

Thanks to Dr. Underwood and Maggie Milligan for a very pleasant Summer Meeting in Eureka Springs. A good time was had by all in attendance. The Awesome Opossums were - well- awesome. The venue was convenient and comfortable. Hills provided the speakers and underwrote the Saturday evening festivities.

Thanks to Dr. Stroderd and District VI for inviting and hosting me at their meeting August 21 in Hot Springs. The meeting was sponsored by Bayer Health Care and was well attended by Southwest Arkansas veterinarians.

We have had good reports from the Southwest Veterinary Symposium. Congratulations to Dr. Tim Woody for being elected Vice-President for the 2007-2008 year. He will assume his role as President at the 2008 Symposium. Congratulations Tim!! We are proud of you.

I attended the coating ceremony at LSU-SVM August 22 in Baton Rouge. The auditorium was packed with students, faculty, staff, and parents. Having not experienced such an event before, I was impressed by the program. I would like to share with you PART of what I shared with the group. None is it is really original as the sentiments expressed have been shared with me by veterinarians I have worked with, visited with, and learned from during my life.

“One of the greatest gifts that I received from the LSU-SVM was the ability to handle data, to think with it, and to know what to do next. This is the core of competence. You will have to supply compassion and caring. I was also challenged to become a lifetime learner, so that I would be a more effective doer. Before I close, I would like to share with you some musings of a dinosaur. Veterinary medicine is not about the money. Nor even about the lifestyle, really, at the end of the day, the week, the year, the career, it is about the life lived. It is about a life lived impacting the lives of others in a meaningful way. To call it Noble is old fashioned, out of style and down right hokey. None of that changes the fact that it is true. As I present career days at schools and when I advise students about career choices - I find that they are often taught how to analyze the various pros and cons of assorted possible careers balancing the financial issues with the lifestyle ones. But their approach assumes that the only role of a job in one's life is economic; the option that generates the most possible money in the least unpleasant manner is what will come out on top every time when looked at this way. But what about Passion? What about doing something with ones life? Life should be about more than work, but work is not just something that we pass through on the way to retirement. Being a veterinarian is our opportunity to make a difference while earning a living. You see, I am not a veterinarian because I thought it would be a good idea. I did not do it because I wanted to. I did not do it because I loved it. I did it because I can't possibly imagine myself being happy doing anything else. It is a beautiful life. Enjoy it.”

I hope you all will mark your calendars to attend the 101st Winter Meeting, February 8-10, 2008 in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Kindest Regards,
Mike Beard

Hashim M. Ghori DVM, Ph.D., is Assistant State Veterinarian and has been serving as the Director of the Poultry Disease Program since Oct. 1979 for the Arkansas Livestock & Poultry Commission. On July 17, 2007, at the 50th anniversary meeting of the American Association of Avian pathologist (AAAP) in Washington, D.C., he received the Lasher - Bottorff award for his significant contributions as an avian pathologist to the poultry health programs in North America. He is a diplomate in the American College of Poultry Veterinarians. Dr. Ghori is a member of the Arkansas Veterinary Medical Association and the AVMA.
Prevent Chargebacks by Imprinting Credit/Debit Cards

It's an important lesson about the necessity of imprinting credit and debit cards when swiping it through a terminal fails. A member recently lost more than $500 because an employee key-entered a transaction without taking a manual imprint of the client's credit card. The client called their bank/credit card company and denied making the purchase of specialty dog food and various medications. Without an imprint, the practice had no proof that the card used was present at the time of sale - a requirement of every processor's card acceptance procedures for “in-store” transactions. While imprinting a credit/debit card will not guarantee that a chargeback will go in your favor, it can help to build a defense against such an accusation.

If your credit card processing terminal is unable to electronically read a swiped card and you must key-enter the sale, always make an imprint of the card. Manual imprinters are available from ArVMA's credit card processing program administrator, RCSC, for $35 each. Businesses with more than one store should ensure that every location has one.

The imprint serves as proof that the credit or debit card was present during the transaction. You'll need this evidence to prove you followed proper procedure in instances of chargeback to get paid for your merchandise or service. Please direct questions about this article or any other concern with regard to credit card processing to Michele, Ken, Mark and Nicholl, ArVMA's experts, at (800) 442-3589.

Follow these steps to properly imprint a credit/debit card when a terminal swipe is unsuccessful:

1. Place the card on the imprinter face up. Make sure the card is properly positioned so that all information embossed on the card and your merchant identification plate is legible on the sales draft.
2. Place the sales draft face up over the card in the imprinter, making sure that the imprinter's guides hold the draft properly.
3. Move the imprinter handle completely across the draft with a quick, firm motion, and return the handle to its original position.
4. Be sure that the printed information is legible on ALL copies of the draft. If not, print the complete information above (not over) the imprinted information.
5. Use a ball point pen (not a soft felt tip), to enter the date, description of the merchandise or services, sales amount, approval code, tax, total and clerk's initials on the draft.
6. Have the cardholder sign the sales draft.
7. Compare the signature on the sales draft with the signature on the back of the card. They must match.
8. Hand the cardholder the customer copy of the sales draft, the customer copy of the printer-generated receipt and the card.
9. Keep your copies of the printer-generated receipt and sales draft for your records.

Source: “Your guide to card acceptance and best practices,” Global Payments Inc. We encourage you to confirm the proper steps for manually imprinting cards with your processor.

The Northwest Arkansas Veterinary Medical Association is proud to present Mark Opperman on January 27, 2008 at the Springdale Holiday Inn. The presentation is entitled “It’s What’s Up Front That Counts and More!” and will take place from 8am-4pm. Attendees will receive 5 CE hours, a CE note packet, and lunch. You can find more information about the presentation at www.vmc-inc.com.

NWAVMA members $150.00
Non-member DVMs $200.00
Office staff $75.00 per person
Please RSVP to Dr. Joel Cottle or Kate at West Oaks Animal Hospital by December 21st. 479.442.4446

Still haven’t joined ArVMA’s credit card processing program?

What are you waiting for?

RCSA has been veterinarians’ first choice for credit card processing for more than 20 years. We provide ArVMA members with low processing costs and outstanding service. Call today for your free, no-obligation savings analysis.
Microchipping and Cancer

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) is very concerned about recent reports and studies that have linked microchip identification implants, commonly used in dogs and cats, to cancer in dogs and laboratory animals. AVMA staff and member veterinarians are actively looking into any potential for this technology to induce tumor formation in dogs, cats, or people but must await more definitive data and test results before taking further action.

Based on the fact that a large number of pets have already been implanted with this microchip technology and there has been a relatively small number of confirmed cases of chip-induced tumors, the AVMA advises pet owners against a rush to judgment on the technology. In fact, there is a concern among veterinary medical researchers that some of the research into chip-induced tumors may be flawed, because the animals used were genetically predisposed to cancer. In addition, removal of the chip is a more invasive procedure and not without potential complications.

It’s clear that there is a need for more scientific research into this technology.

For more information, contact Michael San Filippo, AVMA media relations assistant, at 847-285-6687 (office), 847-732-6194 (cell), or msanfilippo@avma.org.

SWVS Elects Dr. Tim Woody

During the August convention in Fort Worth, Dr. Tim Woody of Fayetteville, Arkansas was elected as Vice-President of the Southwest Veterinary Symposium for the 2007-2008 year. He has contributed his valuable time and knowledge to the SWVS Board for the past four years. He has taken our statewide concerns and issues to a broader audience and represented the Arkansas Association well. Dr. Woody will begin his Presidential term at the 2008 convention in Dallas. At the August convention, there were a total of 2,024 attendees. Arkansas is a partner state and benefits from every Arkansas attendee. If you have never attended the meeting, the Association really encourages you to do so. Dr. Woody will be leading the Symposium next year and we need Arkansas to really make a stand and support our own Dr. Woody.

For more information on the symposium, visit their website at www.swvs.org.

12 State Leadership Conference – November 8-9, 2007
Hotel Santa Fe – Call 800-825-9876

Speakers include:
Ted Cohn, DVM, AVMA District IX Representative
Larry Kornegay, DVM, AVMA District VIII Representative
Sandy St. George of Derring Consulting
Joe Menapace, PhD. NMVMA Lobbyist
Adrian Hochstadt, Asst. Communications Director AVMA
Mark Lutschauning, DVM AVMA Govt. Relations
Linda Ellis, DVM AVMA PLIT

For more information contact: Tamara Spooner, NM Veterinary Medical Association
Summer Meeting Highlights
From Eureka Springs
Relief Veterinarians

Bressett  John  417-679-1244  Gainsville  MO
Core    Romy    479-273-0622  Bentonville  AR
Foster  Newton  870-942-9915  Sheridan  AR
Fryar  Rebecca  479-968-2664  Russellville  AR
Hooks  Karen  501-868-7375  Little Rock  AR
Lombardi Melissa  501-581-0086  Greenbrier  AR
Manning, Jr.  W.  817-295-2963  Burleson  TX
Muller John  479-253-5905  Eureka Springs  AR
Nelson Steven  501-663-1466  Little Rock  AR
Smith Joe  501-821-4991  Little Rock  AR
Smith Lori  501-328-3413  Conway  AR
Ziegenbaig Brett  501-825-8400  Greers Ferry  AR

Executive Director’s Message

Fall is finally here! Hopefully the weather will get cold soon. I have been busy at the office. In August I worked at the Southwest Veterinary Symposium. It was a great meeting. Congratulations to Dr. Tim Woody on his election as Vice-President. He will begin his term as President at the 2008 symposium in Dallas. We are proud of Dr. Woody for his dedication and accomplishments.

The 2008 Winter Meeting is just around the corner. Dr. Underwood has put together an excellent program. Be sure to mark your calendars for February 8-10 in Hot Springs at the Convention Center and Embassy Suites Hotel. It is going to be a fantastic meeting. The registration material will be mailed at the beginning of the year.

The next few months are busy travel months for me. I will be attending the ASVMAE meeting the end of October. That is a great meeting for Executive Directors of VMA’s from all over the country. It is a wonderful opportunity to exchange ideas and learn great information. I will be attending the 12 States Meeting in Santa Fe in November. If you would like a registration form or more information on that meeting, please contact the office. The AVMA Leadership Conference is in January in Schaumburg, Il. I will attend that with several other Board Members.

If you ever have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact me. I will always try to find an answer.

Fondly,

Maggie Milligan

Suffering Animals – A Note From the AR Veterinary Medical Examining Board

The Veterinary Medical Examining Board has been receiving calls from veterinarians asking what they can do about an animal that is suffering and the client can’t be reached. The “Abandoned Animal” law in the Practice Act states that you must wait 12 days from the mailing of a certified letter to the last known address of the owner before you can take any action.

The Board suggests that you ask the owners of severely injured pets to sign a euthanasia release form upon presentation; this will cover you in case the owner cannot be reached or will not return phone calls.

If you do not have a signed release form, and if it is your opinion that the pain cannot be controlled with a reasonable amount of pain medication and the owners are unresponsive, you can use your discretion on how to proceed in the matter.

AR Veterinary Medical Examining Board
#1 Natural Resources Drive,
P.O. Box 8505, Little Rock, AR 72215
PH: 501-224-2836  Fax: 501-224-1100
E-Mail: sherry.glover@aspb.ar.gov
VETERINARIAN WANTED –
Associate needed for a 3 doctor small animal hospital in beautiful Hot Springs, AR. We are well equipped with ultrasound, videoendoscopy, EKG, electosurgery, blood pressure, etc. We offer a competitive salary with paid holidays, vacation, continuing education, professional dues, and 401K. Work week is 4 _ days with minimal emergency duty. Please call Judy Lindholm, Hospital Administrator, 501-624-2351. To learn more about us, visit: www.countrysidehotsprings.com

ASSOCIATE VETERINARIAN JOB OPENING - FORT SMITH, AR
Associate veterinarian needed in a progressive, small animal practice in Fort Smith, Arkansas. Competitive salary with full benefit package offered including health insurance, life insurance, paid continuing education, fees, licenses, vacation, and profit sharing. There is excellent partnership opportunity in this well established hospital. Work week is 41/2 days with no emergency work. This fully equipped practice stresses quality medicine and surgery in a caring atmosphere. Please send resume to:
Dr. Mike Thames
Labahn Veterinary Hospital
4100 Kelley Highway
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72904
Questions? Please call 479-782-1234 or go to www.labahnvet.com

DARDANELLE CLINIC FOR LEASE –
Fully equipped clinic for lease. The clinic has been in operation for 40 years. The clinic includes a reception area, two exam rooms, one surgical room, a combination bathroom and dog washing area, a clipping/grooming area which contains about three stainless steel cages, a break room, a supply room and inside cages. There are also pens in back on concrete pad, some covered some not and a large open area, all of which is penned in with hurricane 5 ft fencing. There is an "addition" which is covered and accessible from three sides with large garage doors, concrete floor. There is also a barn behind the clinic. $1800 per month which includes trash and fire insurance. I have pictures of the clinic that I can e-mail. For more information contact Carla Carlson 479-970-2043 or e-mail carlsonc@centurytel.net


ASSISTANT NEEDED – Part-time clinical assistant needed for specialty surgery practice in No. Little Rock/Maumelle. Hours are from 7:30am to approximately 6:00 pm every Monday, and the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month. Please contact Cheree Miller for more information, or to apply for this position via email cmiller@azzore.com, fax 479-964-4306, or phone 479-964-4300.

CERTIFIED VETERINARY TECH NEEDED – Certified veterinary tech.
full time position available in a fast paced friendly environment. Hours include weekdays, weekends and some holidays. Flexible hours and benefits. 2820 W Dorothy Jeanne St, Fayetteville, AR. West Oaks Animal Hospital, LLC (479) 442-4446. Fax (479) 442-7690 WestOaksAnimal@aol.com

Opportunities TO CHEW ON
Have items to sell? Property to sell? Openings to fill? We'll include it!

To Place articles for sale or job postings, Please contact Maggie at the association office. PH: 501-868-3036 Fax: 501-868-3034 E-Mail: arkansasvma@comcast.net

Spring Park Animal Hospital
D. Scott Smith, DVM
404 Hwy. 201 North
Mountain Home, AR 72653
(870) 425-6201
FAX (208) 379-5598
Cell 870-404-1093
Doc-smith@suddenlinkmail.com
www. Springparkanimalhospital.com
ASSOCIATE NEEDED FOR OUR NEW FULL SERVICE FACILITY
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AREA: Mountain Home is located in north central Arkansas and we offer excellent outdoor activities with golf courses, 2 huge lakes and the best trout fishing in the country. This is a retirement area and is one of the top 3 growth areas in Arkansas. Our public schools are excellent and score above state and national averages. http://www.mtnhomechamber.com/
http://bombers.k12.ar.us/
We have low crime and great quality of life. Spring Park's New Full Service Companion Animal Facility will be complete in 2008. Salary and Hours are negotiable. Practice Manager: Full time Practice Manager handles client issues, personnel and inventory. Staff: Exceptional staffing to allow you to practice your best.

ASSISTANT NEEDED – Part-time clinical assistant needed for specialty surgery practice in No. Little Rock/Maumelle. Hours are from 7:30am to approximately 6:00 pm every Monday, and the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month. Please contact Cheree Miller for more information, or to apply for this position via email cmiller@azzore.com, fax 479-964-4306, or phone 479-964-4300.

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