

news & notes

A Letter From The President

January/February 2014



Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a good holiday season. My family and I were sick the entire week of Thanksgiving but luckily Christmas was much better.

I'd like to start my first President's letter by introducing myself. My name is Matt Peuser and I work at Olathe Animal

Hospital. I graduated from K-State in 2007 and have worked in Olathe for all but about a year of my career thus far. When I joined the board a few years ago I didn't imagine I would work my way up to President, but here I am. I have JC Burcham to thank for encouraging me to join the board. For those of you who know her, you know that JC has a way of twisting your arm to get you to do things that you might not otherwise have done. Without that twisting though, I wouldn't have met so many great people or been involved in the organization to the extent that I currently am. Thanks JC!

In my professional life I am passionate about pain management. I became certified in acupuncture this past spring and if all goes well I will be one of the first certified veterinary pain practitioners (CVPP) in the area by the end of the year. This is a certification available via the International Veterinary Academy of Pain Management. If you are not a member, the IVAPM is a great resource for all things pain-related.

In my personal life, I'm a father of two young boys who are quite a handful. It's been great so far seeing them grow up but it's all gone by much too fast. My wife does a great job keeping us all in line even when she complains that she has to take care of three kids instead of just two.

I am very fortunate to take over the KCVMA as president in a time when the organization is running smoothly. We have done a great job providing quality continuing education and will continue to do so along with the great support of our sponsors. You can look forward to a few more CE events this year to add to the benefit of being a member. If anyone knows local veterinarians who are not members, let them know about the benefits of joining too!

There are two things I'd like to bring to the attention of our members this year. First, we will be working towards moving more and more of what we do online. This includes dues and CE registrations among other things. More on this will follow. The second thing is our budget. Because of the great support from our sponsors over the past few years, we have obtained a surplus of funds. Over the next weeks and months we will be presenting our budget on the website and sending out surveys to the membership to determine how best to use these funds.

I'll wrap up my first President's letter by issuing a challenge to our membership. Think about ways our organization can better serve not only our membership but also the communities in which we live. Two years ago we donated pet oxygen masks to dozens of local fire stations, and I'd like to see the KCVMA provide some form of support to the local communities each year if possible. If anyone has any thoughts or suggestions about what we can do, please reach out to me or anyone else on the board. Thank you and have a great 2014!

President - mpeuser@kcvma.com

Online Membership Management is Here!

The KCVMA is moving toward an online membership application/renewal process. Membership dues may still be paid by credit card or by check. However, we are now providing access to an online database, allowing our members to update their contact information. In the coming week we will begin sending emails to KCVMA members with instructions for using the website, as well as login credentials. If you do not receive an email, please visit www.kcvma.com, and click on Membership. You will be guided through the process of setting up an account. Alternately, you may email Darin Nadler (dnadler@kcvma.com) to provide a working email address with which we may contact you. 2014 Membership is not activated until you have confirmed your account on our membership page, and we have received 2014 dues. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Darin.

KCVMA www.kcvmg.com

MU, K-STATE RESEARCHERS TEST NEW TECHNOLOGIES FOR CANCER TREATMENT

Research underway at both the University of Missouri and Kansas State University shows promise for animals and humans battling cancer. Researchers in both states have received grant funding to develop technology designed to detect, treat, or remove cancer from patients.

Dr. Tony Mann, Professor of Small Animal Surgery at MU's College of Veterinary Medicine, will soon be testing goggles designed to ensure cleaner removal of cancer tumors. The \$2 million research project, funded by the National Institutes of Health, is a partnership with Washington University and will begin by focusing on mammary tumors. "MU got involved because the researchers at Washington University needed an animal model to test this technology and perfect the process before it goes to clinical trials in people," says Dr. Mann. "Dogs have frequent instances of mammary cancer and so dogs are a good natural model to study the disease."

Dr. Mann says patients undergoing tumor removal surgery in which the goggles are used will be injected with a fluorescent chemical that will dye the tumor cells. A surgeon wearing the goggles would then be able to see the infected cells and remove them more effectively. "Traditionally what we do is remove the entire tumor and mark the edges with ink. The pathologist examines those edges and looks to see if they're clean or dirty," he says. "But with just gross observation with the naked eye, you really can't tell whether the entire tumor has been removed. The combination of the fluorescent substance and the goggles allows you to see to remove the entire tumor, and know at the time of surgery that you got it all," he says.

Not all canine mammary cancers are like those found in humans. However, Dr. Mann says that won't matter. "What we're testing is the excision of the tumor, so the tumor type, even if it's not specifically the same as in people, would still be applicable." Dr. Mann says eventually, he hopes the technology could help with other types of cancer as well. "It's usually pretty easy to get wide margins on mammary tumors because they're mostly in the mammary fat, but there are tumors in other parts of the body that dissect through fascial planes, and I think these goggles will be a big breakthrough in getting those margins."

Before the research team begins taking test subjects, they must perfect the goggles—something that Dr. Mann says will likely take about six months. "The first version was very cumbersome and heavy, so they're refining them so they're comfortable enough the surgeon will be able to use them effectively." Once that process is complete clinical trials will begin, with publicity to recruit canine patients potentially

starting late next year. "How long the trial goes will depend on how many dogs we can accumulate, but I anticipate a year or two of clinical trials," says Dr. Mann. If testing in dogs is successful, researchers will move on to human patients.



Meantime, Dr. Stefan Bossmann, a professor of chemistry at K-State, is part of a research team using a \$1.3 million grant from the National Science Foundation's Major Research Institute to develop a thermal imaging biomedical device that will treat cancer and other



infectious diseases in animals and humans. The device, a modified wide-bore 600-megahertz magnetic resonance imaging spectrometer, has two functions. "First of all, we use it on animals to combat cancer or other infectious diseases," says Dr. Bossmann. The technique, called thermal cell therapy, works in the same way as a fever to fight infections. "You apply heat, then the tumor fights the effects of the heat. As a consequence the immune system is activated against the tumor," says Dr. Bossmann. At the same time, the device will be able to image the whole animal. "It has been done only discontinuously before," says Dr. Bossmann. "So it will allow us to look at the effect of heat in real time in animals. If you do it later you have to draw conclusions about what happened when you couldn't see it. With this device, we will be able to see how the blood flows in the area, where the tumor is growing or shrinking." Dr. Bossmann says combining the two techniques will allow doctors to speed up diagnosis and treatment.

The idea started with researchers' desire to see how living tissue responds to heat therapy—something that is not currently possible. The team, made up of researchers from K-State's chemistry, anatomy and physiology, electrical and computer engineering, and diagnostic medicine and pathobiology departments, is now working to build the device. "We forecast the instrument will be assembled in six months, and by the end of next year it should be working," says Dr. Bossmann. Once it is, the team will put out a call for study participants.

In addition to cancer, the technology will be used in hyperthermia nanoparticle research as well as a potential treatment for Fusobacterium necrophorum infections and tuberculosis in cattle. It may also play a role in discovering how to stop and prevent bacterial infections that don't respond to antibiotics, as well treating heart and other cardiovascular diseases.

EUTHANASIA: YOU, THE CLIENT AND THE PATIENT

BY: GREGORY M. DENNIS, M.SC., J.D.1

A common occurrence at a veterinary clinic is a client presenting a healthy animal for euthanasia. The clinic accepts the animal and then the veterinarian thinks of another client who has just lost a similar dog or cat who would "love to have this animal". Or, an employee says: "Doctor, please don't put this animal to sleep, I want her, I will take care of her." What is a veterinarian to do in this situation?

First, speak with the animal owner and ask her or him if they would be willing to allow another person to have or adopt the animal. Then, speak with the other person to see if she or he would like the animal. If the answer to both questions is "yes", then the better—but not regulatory required—approach would be to have the animal owner sign a consent form transferring ownership to the other person.

Second, if the animal owner's answer is "no", then the veterinarian has no choice but to proceed with euthanasia, even if she or he is not charging a fee.

Third, interestingly, neither Kansas nor Missouri requires written consent for euthanasia or transfer of ownership—though the better practice is to have such a prior consent. Kansas requires client consent, not specifying written, only before "placing an animal under anesthesia, performing any surgical procedure, or transporting the animal to another facility except in emergency situations." K.A.R. § 70-8-1(dd)². Missouri has virtually the same regulatory language but mandates that the consent be in writing. 20 Mo.C.S.R. § 2270-6.001(19)³.

Fourth, not only can veterinarians possibly receive a disciplinary sanction from their state's board for not euthanizing an animal, they can also be subject to a civil lawsuit. If the animal owner's claim is that the veterinarian acted <u>intentionally</u>, rather than negligently, then the veterinarian might be shocked to learn that her or his malpractice policy does not cover her or him.

Fifth, for your consideration:

*Freden v. Stride*⁴ — animal owner successfully sued Oregon veterinarian after he accepted a dog for euthanasia but then gave it to an employee.

*Pennsylvania Bd. of Vet. Med. v. Thayer*⁵ — public reprimand; six month license suspension; three years probation; and \$2,000.00 fine for not euthanizing an animal.

Indiana Bd. of Vet. Med. Examiners v. Johnson⁶ — indefinite license suspension; personal appearances before the board every six months; and \$1,000.00 fine. Reinstated in two years.

Saffran v. Fairfield Equine Associates, P.C.⁷ — animal could not be considered abandoned by client, even though client refused to pick up animal, when client was still in contact with veterinarian. Therefore, court ordered veterinarian not to euthanize animal.

Sixth and last, no private practice veterinarian is required to set aside her or his personal beliefs about euthanasia. However, if she or he accepts an animal for euthanasia their personal beliefs are no longer predominate and she or he must proceed to euthanize.

- 1. Editor's Note: Gregory M. Dennis is Legal Counsel for both the Kansas and Missouri VMAs. He is a founding member of the American Veterinary Medical Law Association and a past-president of that organization. Mr. Dennis is with Leongatha Law, L.L.C. / Veterinary Law Center, 14801 East 42nd Street, Suite 600, Independence, Missouri 64055-4776, Tel: 816-373-8100 / Fax: 816-373-8102 / E-mail: gdennis@leongathalaw.com / www.leongathalaw.com
- 2. Note: Kansas also requires client consent if a veterinarian might have a conflict of interest between clients. See K.A.R. § 70-7-1(c)—"When representing conflicting interests, including representation of both the buyer and seller of an animal to be inspected for soundness, the veterinarian shall make full disclosure of the dual relationship and shall obtain express consent from all parties to the transaction." (Underlining added.) See also K.A.R. § 70-8-1(o).

Kansas regulations are at: www.kansas.gov/veterinary/KS_Administrative_Regulations.pdf

- 3. Missouri regulations are at: www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/20csr/20csr.asp#20-2270
- 4. 269 Or. 369, 525 P.2d 166 (banc 1974).
- 5. Docket no. 0994-57-06 (2008).
- 6. Cause no. 2005 VB 0019 (2006).
- 7. 46 Conn. L. Rptr. 98 (2008).



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All suggestions and comments are welcomed. Please write or call Wanda Geis. PO Box 12468 Shawnee Mission, KS 66282-2468

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Built on the Shoulders of Veterinary Giants: Herb

BY: DR. STEVE JOSEPH, KCVMA HISTORIAN

There's an old saw that reads: "The apple doesn't fall far from the tree". Dr. Hubert Sebolt's son, Larry, is a good example. In conversations with Larry and his wife they were respectful of his parents and his father's profession. Based on meetings I had with Dr. Sebolt, I got the impression Larry was much like his father. This speaks well of the qualities the senior Sebolt and his wife developed in their son. Fellow practitioner Bud Hertzog described Herb as a "class act".

Dr. Sebolt passed away before Christmas 2012 at age 88. At that time he was the second most senior KCVMA Life Member. He graduated from MU CVM in 1951.

Dr. Sebolt practiced from his home. He appreciated the proximity of the practice but he was always on call. That type of practice, especially in an urban setting, is shrinking today.

Dr. Sebolt practiced in Richmond, MO, from 1951 to 1957. He moved his practice to Buckner, MO, and practiced there until his retirement in 1993. At first

he worked with large animals, then moved to a mixed animal practice. Later he focused on small animals, but when he was called on he gladly cared for large animals.

On one occasion he was called to revive two cows suffering from milk fever at the same time. The problem: one animal was several miles north of his practice and the other about the same distance south. Both cows responded to treatment and



Dr. Sebolt was treated like a hero by the owners. Once, he greeted a caller on his front porch who had an injured white owl clinging to his arm. Another time he was called to a dairy that had a cow suffering from what appeared to be choke. He didn't believe the situation looked right. Following diagnostic work at the Jefferson City laboratory he was told the animal had tested positive for rabies. Having been exposed, Dr. Sebolt was administered the appropriate treatment.

During World War II Dr.
Sebolt served in the Army Signal
Corps from 1943 to 1946 in Africa
and the Middle East. In recent
years he travelled to Washington,
DC, as part of an Honor Flight to
visit war memorials.

KCVMA's most senior life member is Dr. Richard Buckley, who graduated from Kansas State in 1943.

Both veterinarians reminded me of an article Robert M. Miller wrote in 2010 and published in his monthly column in *Veterinary Medicine*. He called it "Reminiscing". He

wrote of a time in the 1950s when monthly veterinary meetings were attended by nearly every member of his local California association, regardless of the distance they had to travel. "If someone was absent you'd hear, 'Hey where's Mackey?' or, 'Why isn't Josh here?""

Times change an ever-changing profession. It's good to look back and remember where we came from.

CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENTS

January CE

Richard E. Goldstein, DVM, DACVIM, DECVIM CE: Speaker: 2 hours

> Chief of Medicine, The Animal Medical Center Lagnaippe - Nica's Cajun Kitchen Location:

Topic: Canine Leptospirosis and Lyme 320 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City, MO 64108 Date: No fee to attend this event, but RSVP is required. Thursday, January 16, 2014 Fee:

Check-In: 6:30pm, Dinner and Presentation: 7pm Boehringer-Ingelheim Vetmedica Time: Sponsor:

Please RSVP by Monday, January 12 by registering at KCVMA.com

February CE

Speaker: Gregory F Grauer, DVM, MS, DACVIM (SAIM) Fee: No fee to attend this event, but RSVP is required. Professor of Small Animal Internal Medicine, KSU CVM Fiorella's Jack Stack Barbecue - Freight House Location:

Topic: Staging to Better Tailor Diagnostic and

Kansas City, MO 64108 Therapeutic Efforts in CKD Patients

Thursday, February 27, 2014. ** Please Note: This meeting CE: 2 hours Date: is on the FOURTH Thursday of the month. Sponsor: Vétoquinol

Time: Check-In: 6:30pm, Dinner and Presentation: 7pm

Please RSVP by Monday, February 24 by registering at KCVMA.com

8th Annual Frostbite Continuing Education Symposium

7 hours KS/MO (Pending Approval) Sunday, February 23, 2014 CE: Overland Park Convention Center Time: 8:00am - 3:00pm Location:

Fee: Seminar and parking are complimentary, thanks to

several generous partners.

6000 College Blvd., Overland Park, KS 66211

101 W 22nd

Boehringer

Ingelheim

Vétoquino

TIME	RM.	TOPIC	SPEAKER	
8:00am – 8:30am		Registration; Meet with Sponsors; Continental Breakfast		
8:30am – 9:05am	Α	Helpful Practical Ophthalmology Tidbits	Susan Keil	
	В	The Do-Do's and Don'ts of Gastrointestinal Surgery	Kara Forsee	
	С	Nutrition for the Veterinary Cancer Patient	Heather Heeb	
9:10am – 9:45am	Α	Practical Approach to Antiemetic Therapy	Chad Johannes	
	В	Newer Therapies in Veterinary Dermatology	David Senter	
	С	Reproductive Emergencies	Kim Gugler	
9:45am – 10:15am		Break and Meet with Sponsors / Snacks		
10:15am – 10:50am	Α	Bad Hips: Treatment Options	Steve Riley	
	В	Sudden Weakness in the Dog, Neuromuscular Disorders	Katherine Spry	
	С	What's New with Lymphoma and Leukemia	Rachel Venable	
10:55am – 11:30am	Α	Mammary Tumors, What's New	Josh Bruce	
	В	Aging Gracefully, The Importance of Physical Activity	Connie Schulte	
	С	Done Scaling Teeth? Now What? Boost Patient Care and Revenue	Gary Modrcin	
11:35am – 12:10pm	Α	Ultrasound of the Lower Urinary Tract	Loren Shaiken	
	В	Review of Dysautonomia	Cheryl Wood	
	С	Understanding What You Are Seeing, Improving your Retinal Exam	Rustin Sturgeon	
12:10pm – 1:45pm		Sponsor Presentations (Lunch)		
1:45pm – 2:20pm	Α	What's Up Doc? Small Mammal Cases	Teresa Bradley Bays	
	В	Vestibular Disease in the Dog	David Weinstein	
	С	Legal Risks Associated with Animal Remains, Ashes and Animal Escapes	Greg Dennis	
2:25pm – 3:00pm	В	Complementary and Alternative Cancer Care	Cathy King	
	С	Feline Urinary Obstruction	Ryan Bragg	

CLASSIFIED ADS

Send your classified ads to: Wanda Geis, PO Box 12468, Shawnee Mission, KS 66282-2468, or email them to classifieds@kcvma.com. Ads must not be over 100 words in length. Classified ads will be run at the sole discretion of the editor and may be edited for content. Deadline for the next newsletter is 02/13/14.

Associate Veterinarian position is open at Blue Valley Animal Hospital. We have two offices in South Overland Park and Leawood. This position could lead to full-time employment, but we are offering part-time employment that would include Saturday and an additional two days per week. Our office has a dedicated, well-informed, supportive staff. Our success has been based on above average quality medicine, surgery, and anesthesia for our patients. Our offices offer digital radiography, Idexx Inhouse diagnostics, CO2 laser, Companion therapy laser, and our senior doctor does specialty orthopedic procedures. Associated pay based upon experience and possibly production. Please send letter of intent, resume, and references to dockeffer@yahoo.com.

Hidden Valley Animal Hospital, a high-quality, AAHA accredited, small animal hospital, is seeking a full-time veterinarian with practice ownership a goal. Located in Independence, Missouri, Hidden Valley is a state-of-the-art facility, including digital dental x-ray, laser therapy, surgical laser, ultrasound, full-service, primary care hospital with a large active patient base and a great team to help you succeed and enjoy private practice! Competitive salary offered with numerous benefits. 17501 Hidden Valley Rd., Independence, MO 64057. 816-795-7387.

Looking for a associate veterinarian to join our practice. Either part-time or full-time position. Raytown area. Excellent support staff and very nice work environment. 3 veterinarian practice. Competitive salary. No after hours emergencies. We focus on high-quality medicine and great customer service. Highly equipped with lots of nice equipment. Email if interested kklmnorris@yahoo.com.

Spay & Neuter Kansas City is seeking a veterinarian to join our team. We currently have a part-time opening (willing to discuss full-time options as well) in our wellness and spay neuter clinic. Preventative veterinary care, vaccinations for pets, spay/neuter and other various duties. Part time hours are every Friday and optional half-day Saturdays. (Closed Saturdays during major holiday weekends) Also would consider flexible part-time to full-time hours. SNKC is a nonprofit, continually growing organization that is making a difference in the Kansas City area with our innovative programs. We serve over 15,000 pets annually through all of our programs. We offer a rewarding work environment with an incredible support team. Email resume and letters of interest directly to michelle@snkc.net. For more information about Spay & Neuter Kansas City visit www.snkc.net.

Cavanaugh Pet Hospital in Blue Springs, MO, is looking to hire a registered veterinary technician. We are a multi-doctor small animal practice seeking a technician who is comfortable with surgery, radiology, lab work, restraint, blood draws, and client education. Exceptional teamwork and customer service are a must. If interested, please email a cover letter and resume to applycph@gmail.com or fax to 816-220-2238. No phone calls, please.

We are seeking a veterinary assistant or a veterinary tech. Raytown area. Full time position. Pay based on experience. Fun atmosphere, great supporting staff members. Would like to start asap. Call or email if interested, kklmnorris@yahoo.com or 913-206-2964.

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Gregory Dennis has served and represented the KCVMA and Kansas City area veterinarians for 25 years. To reach Mr. Dennis, contact: Leongatha Law, LLC | 14801 E 42nd Street, Suite 600 | Independence, MO 64055-4776