

news & notes

JULY/AUGUST 2008

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

We've had a lot of active weather this spring. Whether you've only seen the TV coverage from the safety of your living room, headed for cover during threat of a tornado or actually experienced one, you can imagine the havoc these storms can wreak on your life.

In early May, a severe storm produced a tornado in the Northland. We watched the storm go by at around two in the morning. It missed my house, but hit two of my clients' houses about a mile away as they slept.

The first client I spoke with owned a dog currently taking Viokase for maldigestion and malabsorption. They weren't allowed to enter their damaged house to look for the prescription, and called me in a panic. Despite trying other products, Viokase is the only product that will keep the condition under control. I do not routinely carry the product and it appears that not many of my colleagues do either. The client and I called around and could not find anyone with a supply. NLS Animal Health came to our rescue, giving the client the okay to go to the warehouse to pick up the Viokase. In the meantime, the rescue crew found the Viokase in the condemned house's rubble. The dog is doing fine. I would like to thank NLS for their help in this situation.

The second story is a little more dramatic. Just as the storm was about to hit, the pet woke the owners in a panic. The owner thought the dog had to go outside. When the father opened the back door he saw the tornado coming at their house. His wife said he slammed the door and yelled for everyone to take cover. He realized their 3-year-old son was still in the bedroom. The father had to break down the door to get into the room because of the vacuum produced by the tornado. The tornado took the wall from the child's room and of course tore the room up. The mother told me she was amazed by two things: one, the pet warned them about the storm (tornado sirens did not sound); and two, the child slept in his bed as the tornado destroyed his room, and was not pulled into the tornado or even injured. The only thing remaining on the part of the wall that stood was the child's crucifix and his patron saint's (Nicholas) medal. The mother said the child knows nothing of the storm except that something tore his room up and they had to move for a while. With the clients living in an apartment while their home is repaired, I visited the patient for its annual checkup at the grandparents' house. The pet and grandfather are enjoying time together despite the grandfather saying he had lost enough pets and never wanted another.

These stories both had happy endings; but they serve to remind us of two things. First, we all need to make sure our clients understand the importance of disaster preparedness. There are small things they can do to ensure the safety of their furry friends. Second, and maybe most important, we should always remember to be thankful for what we have. I know the families I visited have learned that lesson well. Think about it.

In closing, I have a few pieces of news and notes I'd like to pass along.

- First, I would like to thank Hill's and IDEXX for sponsoring the May and June seminars. A good meal was had by all at both meetings, and the lectures were good reviews of renal disease and chronic coughing in cats.
- The MVMA and the KVMA are asking us to support the state associations by encouraging our colleagues who are not already members to join at the state level. Responsibilities of the state organizations have expanded and the financial support of the membership is important. Several legislative actions are taking significant time and expense in both states.
- I don't have much of an update regarding my letter from the last issue. Although I e-mailed the Croatian Veterinary Association several times, I have not heard back on my question of spay and castration rates in the country. However, you may be interested to know that the spay/castration rate for cats and dogs respectively in the United States is 84% and 70%.
- Please check inside for information on this year's KCVMA social event. We're looking forward to a great evening at Stanford's Comedy House at the Legends.
- On a sad note, the KCVMA lost two life members in April. Please see Dr. Joseph's section in the newsletter for more information about Dr. Otis Grounds (CSU 1945) and Dr. Theodore Higgins (MU 1954).

As we enter the 'dog days of summer,' I hope everyone takes full advantage of the warm weather and is able to spend time with friends and loved ones.

Stay cool!

Larry Kowse, DVM

A GREEN DREAM COME TRUE: ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY VETERINARY CLINIC OPENS ITS DOORS IN LENEXA

BY: JEN NIGRO

Straw houses have gotten a bad rap thanks to the story of the Three Little Pigs. But believe it or not, this material traditionally used for animal bedding and landscaping is the building block of one of the most unique veterinary practices in Kansas. Dr. Michelle Chappell opened the Mariposa Veterinary Center on December 3, 2007 with not only her clients' health in mind, but the environment's health as well. It was a dream come true for this veterinarian who says she's always had an interest in sustainable architecture. Dr. Chappell says she saved articles on conservation methods for years. "When I had my two girls I felt it was even more important to minimize my impact."

The clinic, located at 13900 Santa Fe Trail Drive in Lenexa, features straw bale construction. This method of building uses stacked bales of straw covered in stucco or plaster to create walls. Its use dates back to the late 1800's, but is gaining new popularity today as an environmentally friendly, energy-efficient building option.

In addition to the straw bale construction, the Mariposa Veterinary Center features a ceiling made from recycled materials. Most materials used on the interior are non-toxic. Compact fluorescent lighting, passive solar heating and awnings help cut down on electricity use. Even the building's position is calculated to provide the most energy efficiency. It faces south, allowing the sun to heat the concrete floors in the winter. In rooms where sunlight doesn't do as much of the work, radiant tubing in the floor uses hot water to keep temperatures comfortable. The clinic encompasses about 4,000 square feet, yet Dr. Chappell says so far her electric bills have been between \$300 and \$600—and that includes heating costs.

The building is green right down to the interior décor and outside landscaping. All of the paint used inside is non-toxic and varnishes are made from linseed oil. Dr. Chappell's main cleaning agents are made from natural ingredients and give off virtually no fumes. And native plants and buffalo grass used in the dog exercise area mean less watering and mowing during summer months.

Dr. Chappell's efforts to make less of an impact on the environment are making a huge impact on her clients. "People and the animals seem to love this building. The ceilings are open to the roofline, there are windows everywhere

and I think people and animals feel relaxed and comfortable." Dr. Chappell even believes some of her clients behave better at the office than they do at home.

The changes in her clinic have turned into an unexpected marketing tool for Dr. Chappell. Community groups frequently ask for tours; many who come to see the architecture end up coming back for veterinary care. The changes in the building have also led to some changes in the types of care offered.

"People are wanting more green options for their pets at home so we've focused on different foods and ways to keep

their environment clean and ways to keep fleas and ticks under control. It's drawn a different crowd.

I've had to stay on top of some new options."

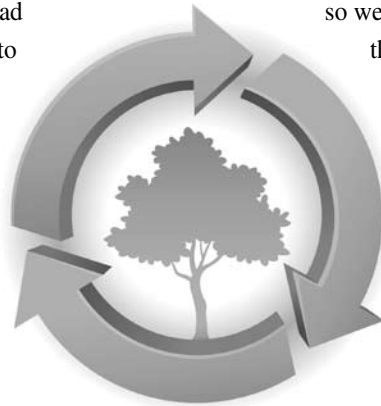
Some of those options include services like acupuncture and chiropractic treatments.

"I originally didn't believe in chiropractic medicine or acupuncture at all, and then things started happening to my patients and my own pets that I couldn't fix and I had to look elsewhere. It's been a terrific blend." Dr.

Chappell says her new clinic has helped her see that a combination of alternative and traditional medicine can often be the most effective way to treat a patient.

In all, the Mariposa Veterinary Center cost \$900,000 to build. But Dr. Chappell says it's not impossible to take on the construction of a green building. "It seems to be the trend in what's happening in society and I think that clients and the community are really open to being more environmentally friendly. And it can save money." She says even if you can't afford to go green all the way, there are small, inexpensive steps you can take to reduce your clinic's carbon footprint. Dr. Chappell recommends starting with full-spectrum compact fluorescent lighting. Not only will it save money, it will improve visibility in the exam rooms. It can also combat conditions like Seasonal Affective Disorder, which could lead to more productive employees. Dr. Chappell says changing to more environmentally friendly cleaners can reduce fumes in the workplace, which keeps employees and clients healthier. She recommends a product called H2 Orange 2. But she says no matter how small, these changes could lead to big impact on the environment.

For more pictures and information about the Mariposa Veterinary Center's green building and the services it provides, visit their website at www.mariposavet.com



KING CALLS FOR COOPERATION OF ANIMAL, HUMAN, AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

BY: DR. TAD COLES

Animal health executives and industry veterinarians were recently treated to an inspiring presentation by a dynamic force in medicine. On April 24, 2008, the Kansas City Animal Health Corridor presented Dr. Lonnie King (Director of the National Center for Zoonotic, Vector-borne, and Enteric Diseases at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) who spoke on One World-One Health, an initiative to increase cooperation among veterinarians and physicians in an effort to decrease the threat of emerging infectious diseases (EID) worldwide and attain optimal health for humans, animals, and the environment.

The facts that King laid out are grim. We are in the midst of the greatest migration of people in history with 90% of human global population growth occurring in the least developed countries, where humans and many other animal species reside in close approximation. This has set the stage for the perfect microbial storm, for an increase in emerging zoonoses that is unprecedented. We have to do better than simply react to disease outbreaks. He said that we need to prepare differently, "not just react to a single event, but prepare for emerging threats of unknown origin. We don't know what this threat will look like," because the situation is not static. Animal and human health are on a continuum of causality and interrelated events. We need to view One Health as an integration of strategies among human, animal, and environmental health and better link their respective scientists.

Implementing a new paradigm of surveillance through case report monitoring, intervention through outbreak investigation, and prevention and outbreak prediction, will require a united front. King sees real potential in the critical mass that is coming together in the KC Animal

Health Corridor, which will help establish links within companies with animal and human health products and between agriculture and public health. These linkages can lead to more rapid development of new drugs, increased use of comparative medicine and animal models to address major chronic diseases, integration of study of the cancers occurring in domestic animals and humans, and enhancements in the education of veterinarians and physicians, resulting in improvements in food safety and health in developing countries, thus improving world health and reducing the potential for future increases in EID. Good animal health strategies for prevention and amelioration of disease are also often good public health strategies and vice versa.

In the question and answer session that followed the presentation, he expressed the hope that the U.S. might consider a new type of diplomacy based on more U.S. assistance to improving health worldwide. Inherent in this strategy is the need to unify healthcare professionals behind the One Health initiative and adopt new technological advances and methods for healthcare delivery for both human and animal health, especially in developing countries. What better way to get the developing world on our side than by truly helping them improve health and resolve new emerging and re-emerging infectious disease problems? What better way to ensure better health and well being for all of us, human and animal? We now exist in a complex and interconnected world and we need to work together as never before - under One Health. Helping others also reduces risk of diseases coming to our shores and will help us achieve the global vision of attaining optimal health in people, animals, and the environment.

THE DOG WHISPERER COMES TO KC

Each year animal health CEOs and industry leaders from across the country gather in Kansas City for the KC Animal Health Corridor Homecoming event. Held in conjunction with CVC Central, the Homecoming event celebrates the successes of the Corridor and looks forward to the coming year. The 2008 Animal Health Homecoming Event will feature Cesar Millan, host of the television show Dog Whisperer, and Courtney Oliver, a 10-year-old veterinary assistant.

Monday, August 25
5:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Hyatt Regency Hotel
Kansas City, Missouri

For more information visit
<http://www.kcanimalhealth.com/homecoming>

THANK YOU KCVMA

Kansas City Veterinary Medical Association -

Thank you so much for awarding me the radiology award. This award will benefit me as I prepare to move to Minnesota to do an internship in small animal medicine and surgery at the University of Minnesota. I am originally from Paradise, Kansas a small town in western Kansas. I completed my bachelors degree in biology at Tabor College in Hillsboro, KS. After my internship, I hope to obtain a residency in either small animal internal medicine or cardiology.

Thank you again for this award

Karen Patton



IN REMEMBRANCE

BY: DR. STEVE JOSEPH

Two prominent Association Life Members passed away since the last edition of news¬es.

Dr. Ottis Grounds was the second most senior Life Member of the Association, graduating from CSU in 1945. He served both the KCVMA and the NWVMA as President. Dr. Grounds practiced at East Woods Hills Animal Hospital, and later established one of the first mobile clinics in the US. Dr. Grounds practiced 43 years.

Dr. Theodore Higgins was a 1953 graduate of MU. In addition to leadership roles with KCVMA and MVMA, he was named Alumnus of the Year in 1972 and Veterinarian of the Year in 1979. His practice was located in Grandview, and he was actively involved in local government. In retirement, Dr. Higgins and his wife moved to Tulsa where both his son and daughter-in-law are veterinarians.

Both men were military veterans.

Reminder!!!

Opt-In for the new FindAVetKC.com! E-Mail findavet@kcvma.com to update your clinic information, including Clinic name, KCVMA member veterinarians, address, phone number, website, and any other information to be displayed on FindAVetKC.com.

Don't miss out on this valuable tool to help promote your clinic!

KCVMA

news¬es

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for its members and guests.

All suggestions and comments are welcomed.
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November Continuing Education Event

Speaker: Robert J. Washabau, VMD, PhD, Dipl. ACVIM
College of Veterinary Medicine, Univ. of Minnesota

Date: Sunday, November 16, 2008

Location: Bayer Animal Health Headquarters
12707 Shawnee Mission Parkway
Shawnee Mission, KS 66216

Fee: FREE! Current membership dues cover all CE.
Sponsor: Bayer Animal Health



Dr. Washabau received his veterinary (VMD) and PhD degrees from the University of Pennsylvania. He performed his internship at the University of Pennsylvania, residency in Internal Medicine at the University of California-Davis, and he was certified in Internal Medicine by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine. Dr. Washabau held the appointments of Assistant, Associate, and Full Professor of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania before being recruited to the University of Minnesota in 2004. Dr. Washabau is currently Professor of Medicine and Department Chair of Veterinary Clinical Sciences at the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine where he practices, teaches, and performs research in gastroenterology and gastrointestinal physiology. Dr. Washabau is a past President of the ACVIM Internal Medicine Specialty and the Comparative Gastroenterology Society, and he is a past recipient of the Norden Distinguished Teaching Award (1990, 1995) and the Ivy League's Lindback Distinguished Teaching Award (1995).

KVMA NEWS

KVMA District Trustee Opening

The District Trustee to the KVMA Executive Board position on the KCVMA Board of Directors has recently opened. The board is looking for interested member veterinarians from Kansas to volunteer for the position. The term of the District Trustee is two years, with one additional two year term possible. The duties include attendance at KVMA executive board meetings as a voting member representing the KCVMA district, reporting state activities back to the district at the KCVMA board meetings, and participation in other activities of the KVMA board. This member is also a voting member of the KCVMA board, and is expected to attend the monthly board meetings. This is organized veterinary medicine at the grass roots level, and a chance to enact real-world change. An election by mail ballot will be conducted by the KVMA, once the nominees have submitted their names.

If you are interested in volunteering for this position, please submit your name to Wanda Grindstaff, KCVMA Executive Secretary, via e-mail: wgrindstaff@kcvma.com. For more information, please contact Dr. Steve Joseph (sjoseph@kcvma.com) or Dr. Curtis Bock (cbock@kcvma.com).

2008 KCVMA SOCIAL EVENT

Mark your calendars for December 6, 2008 as the KCVMA board invites the KCVMA members to join them for a Winter/Holiday social outing at the Stanford Comedy Club at the Legends on December 6, 2008, featuring Greg Warren (Rated PG-13).

Two tickets for the show will be made available for paid members. 70 tickets have been reserved at this time, and they are available on a first-come, first-served basis. There will be a cover charge of \$15 to cover the appetizer buffet, soft drinks and gratuity. A cash bar will also be available. Extra tickets can be purchased for the show and buffet for \$35. The KCVMA will have a private gathering from 6:30 – 7:45pm prior to the show.

If your clinic provides a holiday season outing for employees, the board would also like to encourage its members to combine the two events. With a high level of participation, the KCVMA could potentially have the entire theater. If you'd like to reserve two tickets, fill out the form below and fax it to Wanda Grindstaff at (913) 341-4225. If you'd like to purchase additional tickets, please mail the form and payment to:

KCVMA

Attn: Wanda Grindstaff
PO Box 12468
Shawnee Mission, KS
66282-2468

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

of TOTAL Tickets: _____ Amount Enclosed (Additional Tickets x \$35): _____

Questions: Contact Dr. Larry Kovac at (816) 616-2349 or lkovac@kcvma.com

CLASSIFIED ADS

Send your classified ads to: Wanda Grindstaff, PO Box 12468, Shawnee Mission, KS 66282-2468 or fax them to her attention at 913-341-4225. Ads must not be over 100 words in length. Classified ads will be run at the sole discretion of the editor. Deadline for the next newsletter is 08/13/08.

Blue Springs Animal Hospital & Pet Resort is seeking an **associate veterinarian** to join our established 7 doctor AAHA small animal practice. State of the art 12,000 sq ft facility, 45+ support staff, well equipped with ultrasound, endoscopy, laparoscopy, chemotherapy, orthopedic surgery. Excellent mentorship for new/recent graduates working with an exceptional team of doctors and a well trained staff. Strong commitment to continuing education and development of professional skills. Competitive salary and benefits including insurance, retirement plan, paid CE, etc. Our staff and veterinarians stay long term due to a great work environment and our genuine commitment to high quality, compassionate care! View job description on our website www.bluespringsanimalhospital.com. Contact Dr. Nikki Stark (816) 229-1544; drstark@bluespringsanimalhospital.com or mail resume to 1201 W. 40 Highway, Blue Springs, MO 64015

Associate veterinarian needed to join a busy (Vet Economic's design award-winning small animal hospital) located in Independence, Missouri. Hidden Valley Animal Hospital is a state of the art, full service, primary care hospital with a large active patient base and

a caring team to help you succeed in private practice. For more information contact Dr. Mel Falk, 816-795-7387 or fax your resume to 816-795-9233.

Prairie Village Animal Hospital is seeking an **associate veterinarian**. Please contact Dr. George Gates or Dr. Mark Daly, 4045 Sommerset Dr., Prairie Village, Ks 66208 Telephone 913-642-7060

Associate Veterinarian wanted for a South Kansas City full service animal hospital. Good communication skills a must. Experience preferred, but new graduates will be considered. Competitive salary and benefit package will be offered to the right person. Send resumes to crazydog@kc.rr.com or fax to 816-763-8225.

The Maple Woods campus of Metropolitan Community College has an opening for a **Veterinary Technology Laboratory Specialist**. The selected candidate will be responsible for overseeing the operation of the Veterinary Technology Program laboratory, including care of a live animal colony, and for providing support for the faculty and students in the program. A bachelor's degree in animal

science, zoology, biology, chemistry or a related field plus one (1) year full-time, directly-related work experience is required. Or, an Associate of Applied Science in Veterinary Technology from an AVMA accredited school plus three years directly related work experience, and a current RVT, CVT, LVT or LAHT license in good standing with the ability to become licensed in Missouri within 6 months of employment is required. For more information, visit <http://www.mcckcjobs.com/applicants/Central?quickFind=50767>

Mass Animal Sterilization Clinics M.A.S.H. Once a month SNKC invites you to come tour our MASH clinics. These clinics provide over 150 spay/neuters in one day and serve indigent pet owners. SNKC has partnered with the University of Missouri Columbia Veterinary Program. Each month 15-20 veterinary students and faculty assist us with these clinics. SNKC has full time and or part time positions. We are looking for Veterinarians who are either willing to help provide supervisory support to the Veterinary Students or perform actual spays and neuters. Please call if you would like to tour or help at this clinic. 816-353-0940

RELIEF VETERINARIANS...

Jerome Berkowitz913-515-3917 KS/MO
Amy Bunck816-225-4082 KS/MO
Martin Drey785-887-6921 KS
Bridget Duroche913-488-8249 KS
Daniel Frezza816-294-2256 MO

Jim Garner913-620-8210 KS
Maureen Gray913-538-6379 KS/MO
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Terry Patterson816-524-3296 KS/MO
Peggy Mary Roth785-748-0055 KS/MO

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Acupuncture:

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Sandi Leonard, DVM, CVA 913-706-0411

Eliza Sundahl, DVM, CVA, ABVP 816-361-4888
Mike Tarrant, DVM, CVA 913-764-9000

VETERINARY DIPLOMATES...

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Anesthesiology:

Guy Watney, MA, VetMB, PhD, MRCVS,
ACVA 913-491-4965

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913-722-5566

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913-642-9563

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Susan Keil, DVM, MS, ACVO 913-722-5566
Reuben Merideth, DVM, ACVO
913-381-3937 or 800-776-3937

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