



A Letter From The President

July/August 2009

Dear KCVMA Members and Honored Guests,

Wow! Where has the time gone? I can't believe the year is half over. As we approach the "dog days of summer," have you ever wondered where the term came from? According to some quick online research (www.wikipedia.com), the phrase dates back to the Greeks and the Ancient Romans. They used the term for the hottest days of summer when Sirius, the Dog Star, rose about the time of the sunrise. Who would have thought?

Speaking of hot topics, Veterinary Specialty and Emergency Center (VSEC) is hosting the First Annual "Heatstroke" Seminar for Technicians. They hope to make this an annual fixture just like the "Frostbite" Seminar. The meeting will take place July 12th at St. Joseph Health Center's Community Center for Health and Education at I-435 and Stateline, Kansas City, Missouri. Veterinary technicians need to register by calling Jenny Beers at VSEC (913-642-9563) due to limited seating.

We invite you to celebrate the dog days of summer with other KCVMA members with a hot dog at the Royals game! The KCVMA Summer Social will be held Saturday, September 26th at 6:10 pm. Come check out the Royals as they take on the Minnesota Twins at the newly updated Kauffman Stadium! KCVMA will provide two view box level tickets (section 431) to paid members until the purchased tickets run out. Parking (\$9) is on your own. See the insert for further details, or contact Wanda at wgrindstaff@kcvma.com.

KCVMA will take a break from Continuing Education for July and August, but we are proud to host An Evening of Veterinary History with Dr. Steve Joseph on Tuesday, August 18th at 6:30 pm. The talk, "Built on the Shoulders of Veterinary Giants -- A History of Veterinary Medicine in Kansas City," will be presented in the large meeting room at the Plaza Branch of the Kansas City Public Library, 4801 Main Street, Kansas City, MO. Refreshments will be provided. All are welcome!

This fall, we will get back to an exciting schedule of CE topics including cardiac disease and wound management. Please watch the CE Calendar at <http://www.kcvma.com/events/events.html> for further details! The fall schedule will conclude with our annual Sunday at Bayer. Bayer has once

again agreed to host our Sunday Continuing Education Event in November at their Animal Health Headquarters in Shawnee Mission. Thank you Bayer!

Speaking of the November meeting, we will also vote on the new slate of KCVMA officers, so please plan to attend! If anyone is interested in becoming a first-year board member, please contact me at klaussen@kcvma.com. We need the help of volunteers to keep our organization going!

Finally, I have a few people to thank. First I want to recognize Dr. Sheila Dodson and her staff at No More Homeless Pets KC for including the KCVMA Find a Vet magnets in the goody bags they handed out to the public at the recent Pet Expo. Also, thank you to all who attended the County Animal Response Team (CART) meeting! I heard it was a very informative meeting. Hopefully we never have to put these resources to the test! For those who may have missed the last newsletter, the Kansas State Animal Response Team (KS SART) held a regional meeting (May 9th) to assist in the development of county-level teams (CARTs). KS SART is a statewide initiative aimed at prevention, response and recovery for animal-related disasters in Kansas. CARTs are the most critical aspect of a state's response to disaster. Each county within the state is encouraged to form their own CART, which will offer public education about disaster preparedness and coordinate resources and volunteers to help respond in the event of a disaster involving animals. KCVMA Vice President J.C. Burcham (jcburcham@yahoo.com) is helping establish a CART for Johnson County, Kansas. She welcomes volunteers to join the effort. KS SART would like to develop CARTs for other counties in our area. You can contact Dr. Christen Skaer, clskaer@aol.com, if you want to see a CART created for your Kansas county. A Missouri SART has not been established, and therefore there are no CARTs in Missouri.

Respectfully,

TELLING THE TAIL

BY: JEN NIGRO

A veterinarian is with a pet and its family every step of the way: from those first vaccinations, through injury and illness and annual exams, to their final moments on earth. While it's nice to focus on the happy times in a pet's journey through life, the truth of the matter is, a veterinarian is often a part of one of the saddest moments—a pet's death.

There are several services in the Kansas City area specializing in pet cremation and burial. Pet Cremation Services is a part of FC Industries, which sells cremation systems all over the country. Pet Cremation Services handles dogs, cats and other small animals, and is the only cremation service in the area that can accommodate horses. There are also two pet cemeteries in the Kansas City area partnering with veterinarians to help pet parents through the loss of their pet. Nancy Piper is the President of Rolling Acres Memorial Gardens for Pets. She and her staff help thousands of families cope with the deaths of their pets each year. But she says the grieving process begins before a client comes to her. "The vets and their staff are the first line of grief therapy with the family."

The Wayside Waifs animal shelter also operates a pet cemetery, called Wayside Waifs Pet Memorial Park. All proceeds from the fees associated with their pet burial and cremation services go to the shelter to help care for living animals. Patti Glass, President of Wayside Waifs, believes the arrangement helps families heal. "They understand that even through their loss, their beloved pet is caring for other animals in need."

Wayside Waifs, Rolling Acres and Pet Cremation Services have been helping ease the grief associated with losing a pet for decades. Joe and Linda Crawford started Pet Cremation Services in 1996 as an extension of FC Industries' work in the cremation business. Wayside Waifs added their Memorial Park in 1947. "Wayside founders recognized the need for Kansas City residents to have a final resting place for their beloved pets," says Glass. Rolling Acres has been in business since 1973. Piper took over in 1978. She says as time goes on, more families are turning to pet cemeteries when their pet dies. "It used to be people didn't talk about how they felt about their pets because it wasn't widely accepted," says Piper. "Not everybody accepts it now, but it's certainly more widely accepted than it was 36 years ago." Glass agrees pet memorials are an important part of a family's grieving process. "The Wayside Waifs associates are often the unofficial counselors for the individuals when clients do not have access to close family or friends with whom they can share their loss."

Pet Cremation Services, Wayside Waifs and Rolling Acres all offer full cremation services. Wayside Waifs and Rolling Acres also offer burials. All three facilities provide pick-up from

veterinary offices or homes. Pets can be cremated individually or communally. All offer a wide range of urns; Rolling Acres and Wayside Waifs sell headstones and will even organize a visitation and memorial service where family members can say their final goodbyes. "We believe in giving the families options where they can be as simple or elaborate as they choose," says Piper. "Only they know the right thing for their pet."

All three businesses will meet with many families who want to pre-plan their pet's final arrangements. "In today's economy, it's even more important that people pre-arrange because they can make monthly payments," says Piper. "They don't have to take something less than what they want because they don't have the money at the moment." Burial at Rolling Acres starts at \$419, which includes the burial space and interment for a small pet. Individual cremation starts at \$145, which includes a basic urn; communal cremation starts at \$42. Wayside Waifs burial prices start at \$640, which includes burial space, casket, ceremony, opening and closing of the grave and headstone. Individual cremation, which includes a velvet pouch for the ashes, starts at \$135; communal cremation costs \$60. At Pet Cremation Services, individual cremation starts at \$120; communal cremation starts at \$45. The price includes a complimentary urn.

As families continue to treat their pets like members of the family, these cemetery owners anticipate their businesses will grow. "Everybody has a story," says Piper. "It's important for us to tell these stories when we have a loss, a death in the family. That's part of our grieving mechanism to tell the story of what happened."

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Pet Cremation Services

13508 Oak Street
Kansas City, MO 64145
(800) 345-0847
www.petcremationkc.com

Rolling Acres Memorial Gardens for Pets

12200 N Crooked Road
P.O. Box 12073
Kansas City, MO 64152
(816) 891-8888 or 1-888-891-0988
www.visitrollingacres.com

Wayside Waifs Pet Memorial Park

3901 Martha Truman Road
Kansas City, MO 64137
(816) 761-8151
www.waysidewaifs.org

CASE STUDY: ACUPUNCTURE

BY: SANDI LEONARD, DVM, CVA

As a house call acupuncturist, most of the phone calls I receive come from pet owners seeking information on the effectiveness of acupuncture for condition “X”. While every patient is unique and I can never guarantee results, I usually reply that it is worth trying. Scientific reports have proven acupuncture an effective treatment for nausea in chemotherapy patients. It is also shown to help control pain relating to the release of endorphins in the brain. Other physiologic effects on the body aren’t as well documented but they may include segmental effects in the spinal cord and changes related to the gate control theory. And even when acupuncture doesn’t succeed, I am often able to improve my patients’ quality of life through other holistic treatments, including diet consultation, nutraceuticals, homeopathy and herbal supplementation.

One success story that sticks out in my mind involves a spayed female German Shepherd. The dog was born in 2002 and diagnosed with epilepsy by a local neurologist in early 2006. The neurologist told the owners a Shepherd going at least three weeks between seizures would be considered well-controlled. She was on 150 mg phenobarb BID and 750 mg potassium bromide SID, with 10 mg diazepam to be administered when seizure activity occurred. At the time the owners contacted me, the dog was still having cluster seizures every ten to 14 days, with a reported intensity of seven or eight on a scale of one to ten. Blood tests indicated therapeutic medication levels. The owners, who were already coming to me with another dog suffering from arthritis, wanted to see if acupuncture would help control this dog’s seizures.

We began with weekly treatments in June of 2006. After six successful treatments, we increased the interval to biweekly. Around December of that year, we tried to increase to three weeks, but she had a seizure at 17 days. At that point the owners elected to stay on a biweekly schedule, partly for the dog’s benefit and partly because their other dog was receiving monthly treatments and this eased scheduling issues.

We continued the same treatments until April of 2008, when the dog had seizure episodes within a day or two following treatment. I decreased the number of needles used, suspecting her nervous system might be over-stimulated by more needles than she could handle. Once I made this change, what seizures she had occurred only a few days before her next biweekly treatment.

After treatments began in 2006, this dog had seizures seven times, with an average interval of four weeks in between. The shortest time between clusters was 14 days. (Some of the clusters spanned two days, but all seizures in a 24- hour period are considered one episode). The longest time between clusters at this point was 43 days. In 2007, the number of seizures decreased to six with an average interval of seven weeks. The shortest period between episodes was 25 days and the longest was 115 days (from



mid-December 2006 to mid-April 2007). In 2008 she had just four seizures with an average interval of 12 weeks. The shortest interval was 55 days and the longest 164 days (nearly 6 months). As of mid-March 2009, she has had no seizures for five months. Of the seizures this dog has been having since beginning acupuncture treatments, none have been reported with severity higher than four on a scale of one to ten. In fact, most were considered a two or three. A few were described as simply “zoning out.” These results seem to indicate that acupuncture has indeed been beneficial in this patient and I would not hesitate to recommend it for other epilepsy patients.

If you are interested in finding out more about acupuncture for your patients, you may contact me at (913) 706-0411 or e-mail me at vetalternatives@earthlink.net.

BUILT ON THE SHOULDERS OF VETERINARY GIANTS Early Veterinary Colleges in Kansas City (Part Two)

BY: STEVE JOSEPH, DVM

Organized veterinary medicine in Kansas City began and flourished when the Kansas City Veterinary College (KVCV) opened its doors in October 1891.

Over its 27 year history, the College grew from modest beginnings with only three students in two rooms of the Schutte Building on Grand Avenue near 12th Street. Two other locations in Kansas City were occupied by the College until the final facility was erected at 15th Street and Lydia Avenue (now Paseo) in 1903. By 1909, the proud college was equipped with several classrooms and laboratories, a spacious library, a judging area, a four story auditorium, a large gymnasium and a football team.

The KSU Sports Information Guide reported the Cats beat the College 32 to 0 on October 19, 1907. The KVCV Quarterly said “The game was an ideal one with regard to wrangling and slugging.” The KSU team was coached by the legendary Mike Ahearn.

During the start of the 1908 session, 470 students were enrolled in three classes. A few years later in 1916 the College offered a four year program. When the College closed in 1918, 1,857 veterinarians had graduated and the facility had developed into one of the finest veterinary institutions in America and the world, according to Dr. Howard Erickson, President-elect of the American Veterinary Medical History Society and Professor of Physiology at KSU CVM.

At the time of its closing, the College was fully accredited by the AVMA and the US Bureau of Animal Industry. The degree of Doctor of Veterinary Science was conferred upon graduates until 1911. After that time, the DVM degree was awarded.

Many faculty members and students are listed among “Who’s Who of the Veterinary Profession”. They were leaders in private practice, government, industry, the AVMA and state and local association.

Nearly all income went into construction and addition of new equipment. Most of the men who managed operations of the College and served on the faculty did not receive compensation. They earned their livelihood from other enterprises. Their sacrifices and dedication continue to affect our professional lives today.

Little is known about two other private institutions in Kansas City. Western Veterinary College located at 1121 Holmes graduated 178 veterinarians and operated between 1897 and 1908. University Veterinary College at 1902 East 19th had 53 graduates during its four years from 1902 to 1906. Across the US, there were 41 private veterinary institutions between 1882 and 1947. None exist today.

Visit kcvma.com and click on “About” to read more history of our Association. The next issue of *News and Notes* will have an article about Dr. Richard I. Buchli, the KCVMA’s most senior Life Member.



Published by the
Kansas City Veterinary Medical Association
for its members and guests.

All suggestions and comments are welcomed.
Please write, call or fax Wanda Grindstaff.
PO Box 12468
Shawnee Mission, KS 66282-2468
P 913-381-7823
F 913-341-4225

Design and Production By:
Nadler & Associates, Inc., Lenexa, KS

Printing By:
Shawnee Copy Center, Shawnee Mission, KS.

September Continuing Education Event

Speakers: Kevin Christiansen, DVM, ACVIM
Topic: Diagnostic & Therapeutic Approaches to All Heart Disease
Date: Thursday, September 17, 2009
(Third Thursday of the Month)
Time: Dinner: 6:30pm, Seminar: 7pm
CE: 2 hours

Location: Saint Joseph Health Center's Community Center for Health & Education, Community Meeting Room I-435 & State Line Rd., Kansas City, MO
Fee: No fee to attend this event. Current membership dues cover all CE.
Sponsor: Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica

Dr. Christiansen is a board certified Diplomate (Cardiology) in the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine. He graduated from Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine. He spent 4 years in general practice prior to completing his residency in cardiology at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Christiansen joined VSEC in 2006.



1st Annual Heatstroke Seminar (*Provided for Technicians Only*)

Topic: Various
Speakers: Various
Date: July 12, 2009
Time: 7:30am - 1:30pm
CE: 5 hours (MO & KS)

Location: St. Joseph Medical Center Auditorium
1000 Carondelet Dr.
Kansas City, MO 64111-4673
(Located right off I-435 and State Line)
Presented By: Veterinary Specialty and Emergency Center

For more information, go to www.kcvma.com/events/events.html to download a detailed PDF. RSVP is required for this event. To RSVP contact Jenny Beers at Veterinary Specialty and Emergency Center; (913) 642-9563 by July 6, 2009



Historical Presentation

Topic: Built on the Shoulders of Veterinary Giants: A History of Veterinary Medicine in Kansas City
Presented by: Steve Joseph, DVM
Historian, Kansas City Veterinary Medical Association
Date: August 18, 2009
Time: 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Location: Kansas City Public Library - Plaza Branch
(Large Meeting Room)
4801 Main, Kansas City, MO
Fee: No fee for this event. All members and their guests are welcome to attend. Refreshments served.

Dr. Joseph will present insightful information about the history of private veterinary institutions in Kansas City and other historical information regarding veterinary leaders, links to U.S. Presidents, veterinary art and authors, and KCVMA Life Members.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Take Me Out To The Ball Game!

Come join the KCVMA Board for a night at the "new" Kauffman Stadium to watch your Kansas City Royals take on their division rival Minnesota Twins. Mark your calendar for a 6:10 start on Saturday, September 26th for the final homestand of the regular season and fan appreciation weekend. Two view box tickets will be provided for members at no charge, and additional tickets can be purchased for \$10 each through the KCVMA. First come, first served, and parking is on your own (\$9.00). Fax this form to 913-341-4225 or mail to Wanda Grindstaff, PO Box 12468, Shawnee Mission, KS 66282-2468 before August 15th. If purchasing additional tickets, please make checks payable to KCVMA. Tickets will be sent via mail once your fax/payment has been received, so please be sure to fill out the form in its entirety.



Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

of Complimentary Tickets (Max. 2): _____ # of Additional Tickets (@\$10/each): _____

Total Amount Due = \$ _____

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 and may be edited for content. Deadline for the next newsletter is 8/13/09.

Mission Road Animal Clinic is a full-service small animal veterinary hospital. We are seeking a **part-time/full-time experienced veterinary technician** to assist in all aspects of the hospital including but not limited to: surgical preparation, monitoring, and post-op care, management of hospitalized animals, medication administration, laboratory duties including obtaining and reading samples, radiology, dental procedures, vaccination administration, client communications both in-clinic and via phone, phone duties and kennel help when warranted. Hours and Compensation Negotiable. Please email or fax resume to Melissa: melgeffert@kc.rr.com or (913) 649-0552.

The University of Kansas Medical Center's Laboratory Animal Resources is recruiting a **clinical veterinarian** to provide medical and surgical care in support of a robust research program. Responsibilities include provision of high quality medical and surgical care to a variety of species, maintenance of electronic medical records, population health management, and supervision of 4-5 research assistants who support the animal health program. The successful candidate will work with two other graduate veterinarians. Interest and experience in laboratory and/or exotic species is preferred. Recent graduates are encouraged to apply. The position includes a comprehensive benefit package provided by the state of Kansas. Contact David Pinson, DVM, PhD at 913-588-7351, 913-568-7363 or email dpinson@kumc.edu. Applications may be submitted online from the KU Medical Center Website www.kumc.edu.

Technician Wanted: Full-Time LVT/RVT for AAHA-Accredited, fully-equipped, tech savvy small animal hospital in Johnson County. Highly competitive salary, health coverage, 401k, paid vacation, CE allowance, etc. If interested call Wendy 913-268-0900, fax resume 913-268-3591, or email: mcac@att.net Check us out on the web: www.millcreekanimalhospital.vetsuite.com

SENIOR VET STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS SAY, "THANK YOU," TO THE KCVMA

Please accept my deepest thanks for choosing me to be the recipient of the KCVMA Award. It was truly an honor to be recognized for offering compassionate animal care throughout the duration of my senior year at Kansas State.

I appreciate the generous contribution your organization has made to my education.
~ Krista Adamovich

Thank you very much for the wonderful KCVMA award for proficiency in Radiology! Your generous gift is very much appreciated, and will be extremely useful for the upcoming events in my life. After graduation my husband, my daughter and I plan to move to North Carolina where I will begin work in a small animal clinical practice. It is truly an honor to receive this award. Thank you again!

~ Melissa Worhach

RELIEF VETERINARIANS...

Jerome Berkowitz913-515-3917 KS/MO	Kimberly Kessler913-548-1686 KS/MO	Peggy Mary Roth785-748-0055 KS/MO
Amy Bunck816-225-4082 KS/MO	Kathy Kimber.....816-390-2704 KS/MO	Alice Shaffer910-261-1577 KS
Martin Drey.....785-218-9484 KS	Shelley Lake.....913-533-9905 KS	Dennis Smith.....913-636-4206 KS
Daniel Frezza816-294-2256 MO	Tim Lyon.....913-782-1503 KS/MO	Paula Vale.....913-484-7012 KS/MO
Jim Garner.....913-620-8210 KS	Suzanne Ostle.....913-400-2059 KS	Dennis Weaver816-210-6769 MO/KS
Maureen Gray913-538-6379 KS/MO	Terry Patterson816-524-3296 KS/MO	

CERTIFIED SPECIALISTS

Acupuncture:

Michelle Chappell, DVM, CVA 913-825-3330

Linda Faris, DVM, CVM 816-640-5729, 913-341-4372

Sandi Leonard, DVM, CVA 913-706-0411

Mike Tarrant, DVM, CVA 913-764-9000

VETERINARY DIPLOMATES...

Anatomic/Surgical Pathology:

David Pinson, DVM, PhD, ACVP, ACLAM
913-568-7363

Anesthesiology:

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

Cardiology:

Kevin J. Christiansen, DVM, ACVIM
913-722-5566

Dermatology:

David Senter, DVM, ACVD 913-722-5566,
913-642-9563

Emergency and Critical Care:

Mark Brady, DVM, DACVECC 800-548-8387
Robin Wall, DVM, ACVECC 913-722-5566

Internal Medicine:

Tim Allen, DVM, DACVIM 913-647-2805

Lisa Cellio, DVM, ACVIM 913-642-9563

Jeff Dennis, DVM, ACVIM 913-642-9563

Michael Wasmer, DVM, ACVIM 913-722-5566

Neurology:

Brian Cellio, DVM, Dipl. ACVIM 913-642-9563

Oncology:

Heather Heeb, DVM, ACVIM 913-642-9563

Ophthalmology:

Amy Hunkeler, DVM, ACVO 816-554-4990
Susan Keil, DVM, MS, ACVO 913-722-5566
Reuben Merideth, DVM, ACVO
913-381-3937 or 800-776-3937

Radiology/Ultrasound:

Joanne Burns, DVM, ACVR 785-221-0390
Loren Shaiken, DVM, ACVR 816-426-9896

Surgery:

D.A. Allen, DVM, PhD, ACVS 913-722-5566
Joseph P. Desch II, DVM, MS, ACVS 913-642-9563

Robert Dudley, DVM ACVS 913-642-9563

Karl Frees, DVM, MS, ACVS

(Equine) 816-322-7722

Candace Layton, DVM, MS, ACVS 913-642-9563

Jayce Lineberger, DVM ACVS 913-722-5566

Steve Riley, DVM, DVSc, ACVS 913-642-9563

Eric Wilson, DVM, MS, ACVS 913-722-5566

Veterinary Practitioners:

Vern Otte, DVM, ABVP 913-381-3272

John S. Bradley, DVM, ABVP 785-843-9533

Thomas McKee, DVM, ABVP 816-341-9191

Richard Smith, DVM, ABVP 913-299-0010

Eliza Sundahl, DVM, CVA, ABVP 816-361-4888

Steve White, DVM, ABVP 913-432-7611

Zoological Medicine:

Wm. Kirk Suedmeyer, DVM, ACZM
816-513-4669