



A Letter From The President

May/June 2009

Dear KCVMA Members and Honored Guests,

With spring finally upon us, a new class of graduates will enter the "real world." The thought really takes me back to a pivotal time in my life as a new veterinarian: passing boards, graduation parties and my first real job with my first "big" paycheck. I welcome this new class to the profession! Enjoy the ride!

I would like to extend congratulations and best wishes to this year's KCVMA scholarship award recipients. The honorees from Kansas State University are Melissa Worhach for radiology and Krista Adamovich for compassionate animal care. The honorees from Missouri will be announced on May 13th at their honors banquet. We do not want to spoil the surprise, but congratulations to them as well. Finally, the Veterinary Technology Program at Maple Woods recognized Jessica Pulliam as its Outstanding Veterinary Technician Student. Congratulations and best wishes to them all!

Speaking of the Veterinary Technology Program, we will also be welcoming a new class of veterinary technicians to the profession! I encourage them and all other technicians to check out the Kansas Veterinary Technicians Association. This group sends out an informative newsletter listing many good continuing education opportunities. The association also has an informative website at www.kvta.net. Thank you for all of your hard work!

Don't forget about the change in dates for the upcoming CE event. The May meeting will be held on Thursday, May 14th, the SECOND Thursday of the month. We will meet that evening at our regular time, 6:30 to 9:00, for an interactive review of chronic renal disease with Dr. Nancy Taylor. I hope to see you all there!

I recently received an education in lobbying and legislation. I attended the KVMA Legislative Day at the Capitol in Topeka, Kansas. Before this visit I would briefly glance at the KVMA e-mails regarding legislative issues, then file them away. I have always taken it for granted that the people we elect to Topeka would always have my best interests at heart. I found out that it takes all of us reaching out to our Senators and Representatives to let them know what those best interests are. Dr. Mary Hughes, her technician, Sarah Armstrong and I enjoyed an informative lunch and learn with lobbyists and lawmakers. I was quite impressed with Dr. Steve Abrams. He spends his week working

as a Senator in Topeka, and then travels home to Arkansas City on the weekends to practice veterinary medicine at his clinic, Cottonwood Animal Clinic! Dr. Hughes, Sarah and I then journeyed the short but cold walk to the Capitol to call on



Dr. Kathleen Claussen, Dr. Mary Hughes and Technician Sarah Armstrong with Kansas Senator Julia Lynn

our legislative representatives. We managed to make contact with five of our officials! Those KVMA e-mails now have a lot more meaning! They are something to be read and acted upon, not just filed away for a later day! I hope more KCVMA members can get involved next year and attend the festivities.

This final item is short notice, but it is such an important cause, that I hope interested KCVMA members will be able to rearrange schedules to attend. The next County Animal Response Team (CART) meeting will be held at 12:30 p.m. May 9 at the Johnson County Administration Building located at 111 South Cherry Street in Olathe, Kansas. This meeting will be hosted by the Kansas State Animal Response Team. The Kansas Animal Response Team (<http://www.kssart.org/>) responds on request to disasters of all kinds, natural or manmade, that overwhelm local resources. Dr. J. C. Burcham has been assisting Dr. Christian Skaer to organize this meeting. Please mention this meeting to anyone on your staff that you think might like to be involved in the process. The CART would like to see Red Cross, Animal Control, veterinarians/staff, Salvation Army, CERT, animal shelter professionals and others who could help involved in a well working team. Lunch will be provided. To register visit <http://ks.train.org/> and search for course number **1017220**

Respectfully,

NEW FACILITY MEANS MORE SUCCESS FOR MILITARY DOGS

BY: JEN NIGRO

The war in Iraq has placed thousands of U.S. servicemen and women on the front lines. But they're not alone. Joining them in battle is an elite group of service dogs. But long before these animals are deployed, they are put through rigorous training at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas. This "boot camp for dogs" readies nearly 300 canines for duty each year. And working right along with the trainers are veterinarians at the Department of Defense Working Dog Veterinary Service.

Colonel Robert Vogelsang is the Director of the veterinary hospital, which just opened a brand new state-of-the-art facility on October 21, 2008. Even though it is located on an Air Force base, the Army is in charge of all veterinary care. "We're sort of like the mechanics," says Colonel Vogelsang. "The Air Force is the branch of the service that has overall responsibility for the dog program." That includes acquiring service dogs, training them and assigning them to their units. "Not only is this location the boot camp for dogs, but it also acts as the installation to train people as handlers," he says.

While the Air Force heads up training, the Army is in charge of all medical care for the dogs. With between 750 and 800 canines on the training campus at any given time (not all dogs that are accepted to the program will make it through), the 12 veterinarians and 25 technicians at the hospital have plenty to keep them busy. The hospital staff is in charge of the dogs' preventive care. This includes two routine exams each year, dental prophylaxis and the administration of monthly heartworm, flea and tick prevention. But Colonel Vogelsang says the training itself can create other problems that need

veterinary attention. "Most of the dogs are what we call dual purpose, meaning they can serve two functions: one being detection, and that detection is usually either explosives or drugs, and then they also have what we call the patrol capability. That means that they're sort of like the guard dog, if you will." Because of the physical demands placed on the animals, Colonel Vogelsang says the veterinary service probably sees more lumbosacral disease than civilian practitioners. "They

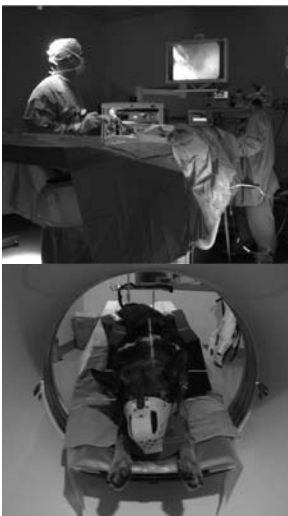


tend to have to jump in and out of vehicles a lot, they tend to have to be in a vertical orientation a lot because they have to get on their back legs to search higher locations," says Colonel Vogelsang. He says his veterinarians end up performing a fair amount of decompression surgery to relieve the pain. In addition, the dogs are taught to bite on command; this can lead to broken canine teeth that require a root canal.

Colonel Vogelsang says the new \$15 million hospital has really boosted the Army's ability to treat the dogs going through training at Lackland. It occupies 38,000 square feet and includes two large operatories with laparoscopic towers, a full surgical gamut and full electro-diagnostic capabilities; the diagnostic imaging suite has full color Doppler ultrasound, digital radiography and a 64-slice CT machine. Telemetry allows veterinarians to monitor dogs in intensive care from another room. And the hospital has a full range of rehabilitation treatments, from an underwater treadmill to therapeutic ultrasound, shock wave therapy and massage. Before this facility was constructed, Colonel Vogelsang says many dogs couldn't get full rehabilitation and had to leave the service. "Now, we can keep dogs here for long periods of time and get them back into shape so they can get back into the field."

Colonel Vogelsang says the Army is always in need of new veterinarians. He says of the 12 veterinarians on staff at Lackland, four are interns who will leave within a year; 5 will likely move on to other assignments within three years; and only three, who are civilian, will remain indefinitely. "We have to have a mix of civilian and military just because of the nature of the military," says Colonel Vogelsang. "You get rotated to different positions and so you still need to have some nucleus that knows how things work and they can keep things going when the new person comes in to learn the flow." To that end, he says recruiters visit veterinary schools at least once a year to share their experiences. The Army also advertises for military veterinarians in trade journals.

For more information on becoming an Army veterinarian, go to <http://vetopportunities.amedd.army.mil/index.html> or <http://www.goarmy.com/amedd/vet/index.jsp>



“FIRST IMPRESSIONS: A VETERINARIAN’S FIRST YEAR ON THE JOB”

BY: SARAH KAUFMAN, DVM, MBA

Graduating class: Colorado State University, Class of 2008

Hometown: Springfield, VA

Current position/location: I am employed by Hill’s Pet Nutrition as a Veterinary Business Associate. I am spending my first year of employment working as an associate doctor at Cherokee Animal Clinic in Overland Park, but will return to Hill’s corporate offices in Topeka in August 2009 to take a position in the marketing department.

What do you find most rewarding about your current position?

I love my position with Hill’s because I get to have such a variety of experiences early in my career, which is very unique. I get to have a traditional practice experience, along with spending time in a corporate environment in sales and marketing. This gives me a very broad perspective on the veterinary industry and different roles vets can play within that industry.

What is the toughest part about being new to the profession?

Everyone has to make an adjustment to “real world” practice after coming out of the teaching hospital environment, and it took me a few months to adjust to practice! One of the hardest things for me was learning how to work through an outpatient case from beginning to end in 20 minutes. In school, you are used to having hours to write up a case and come up with your differentials, but in an exam room, you have very limited time, and you have to talk intelligently in front of the client! I found myself taking animals in the back to do blood draws during the first couple of months, and secretly taking a few minutes to check VIN or 5 minute consult for differentials!

What do you wish you learned in school but didn’t? I wish I had more hands-on experience with dentistry and extractions coming out of school, because dentistry is a mainstay of most general practices.

What sort of information from vet school do you call upon the most often? My dermatology notes have been invaluable; I keep them at work with me all the time. I am also very thankful that I had some training in communication in vet school; it has helped me in many situations dealing with difficult or grieving clients. Also it is extremely helpful to have a basic internal medicine textbook and a surgery textbook on hand, because you will use those on a regular basis!

How could the veterinary profession better help new graduates acclimate into their new careers? I was lucky enough to have communication training, but I know this is not standard at all vet schools yet. You can have all the technical knowledge in the world, but if you don’t know how to talk to people, they will

never know what a great vet you are! New grads also need the skills to deal with difficult clients and situations -- my first day on the job I had to do a very difficult euthanasia, and if I hadn’t had formal training on dealing with grief, it would have been a disaster. I think the profession could help new grads by providing everyone with communication training.

Do you have any free time, and if so, how do you spend it? Most of my free time is either spent gardening, or taking care of our ever-expanding family of animals. We have started a small flock of laying hens. We also adopted a Great Dane through the clinic, and we spend a lot of time exercising with her to keep her happy!

Share an example of a memorable case you’ve had within the last year. I had a client bring in their 115-pound Rhodesian Ridgeback for a checkup after escaping from their yard the night before. The dog was gone less than half an hour, but he just hadn’t been acting right at home. His physical exam was pretty unremarkable, but there was a BB wound in his left flank. I pushed the owners to do an abdominal x-ray, just because he seemed lethargic...I told them I thought it was unlikely that a BB could penetrate the abdomen in a dog that big, but it would be safest to check. I was shocked when the radiographs showed an entry wound in the left flank...and a metal pellet in the right flank, along with abdominal effusion. We took the dog to surgery later that day, and had to resect two lengths of the small intestine where the bullet had penetrated. We were all shocked that this happened in a residential neighborhood in Johnson County! But luckily the story had a happy ending and the clients took home a healthy dog. And I earned a place for my picture on their family Christmas card!

What advice do you have for new veterinary school graduates? Don’t get discouraged if your first few months are frustrating -- it happens to everyone, and it will get better! Also, don’t be afraid to talk to your boss(es) about new things that you learned in school. New grads have access to the latest information, especially on new medications and methods for pain control. You may have knowledge that could improve the quality of care for patients in your clinic.

New grads should also remember that there will be generational differences with other vets who were trained during a different era. Vets who came out of school 20-30 years ago didn’t have access to specialists, so they are used to doing everything on their own. Now, we are taught to refer to specialists whenever they are available in your area. I think new grads need to strike a balance, because you really can learn to handle some of those more complex things on your own!

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

BY: STEVE JOSEPH, DVM

Organized Veterinary Medicine in Kansas City began and flourished when the Kansas City Veterinary College (KCVC) opened its doors in October 1891.

The College had a modest start with only three students in two rooms of the Schutte Building located on Grand Avenue.

Twenty-seven years later when the College closed, 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. How did this happen and why did it happen in Kansas City? Let's explore.

In the summer of 1892, the KCVC moved from Grand Avenue to 312 East 12th Street, the second of four locations the College would call home. The requirement for graduation was changed from one to two terms of six months each with an optional third term without fee. Three years later, the College had 24 graduates or an average of four per year.

In July 1896, the College moved to a two-story building at 1404-1408 Holmes Street. The new facility had a hospital and

clinic and expanded classrooms and laboratories. The course of instruction grew to a two year course, and seeing the need for more training, a three year program was inaugurated.

Two years later, ground was purchased and the final KCVC facility was erected at 15th Street and Lydia Avenue in 1903. This

was a proud facility with several classrooms, a spacious library, a judging arena, a four story auditorium and a large gymnasium. In fact, the College even had a football team. Guess who they played? More about the game and further information about the KCVC and two other Kansas City veterinary institutions in the next edition of *News and Notes*.

During the KSU CVM Annual Conference in June, Dr.

Erickson has organized a day long series of lectures regarding veterinary history on June 9th. He has prepared a lecture about KCVC. My thanks to him for helping with this article.

Please visit www.kcvma.com and click on "About" to read more about the history of our Association and see a special article from 1948 within the pages of *Town Pictorial Kansas City*. Our most senior Life Member, Dr. Richard Buchli (1943 KSU) is pictured. At age 21, he is one of the youngest veterinarians to graduate from the College.



May Continuing Education Event

Speaker:	Nancy S. Taylor, DVM	Location:	Saint Joseph Health Center's Community Center for Health & Education, Community Meeting Room
Topic:	Chronic Renal Disease and Therapies for Chronic Renal Disease		I-435 & State Line Rd., Kansas City, MO
Date:	Thursday, May 14th, 2009	Fee:	No fee to attend this event. Current membership dues cover all CE.
	Note: Second Thursday of the Month	Sponsor:	Vétoquinol
Time:	Dinner: 6:30pm, Seminar: 7pm		
CE:	2 Hours		



Dr. Taylor will present an engaging and interactive lecture on the diagnosis and treatment options for chronic renal disease in dogs and cats, including guidelines of the International Renal Interest Society (IRIS). She is a 1992 graduate of Tufts University and has been published in *Compendium*, *Secrets of Emergency Medicine*, and others.

June Continuing Education Event

Speakers:	Drs. Susan Crowder and Gary Modrcin	Location:	Maple Woods Comm. College
Topic:	Dentistry: More than Meets the Eye		2601 NE Barry Rd.
Date:	Thursday, June 18th, 2009		Kansas City, MO 64156
	(Third Thursday of the Month)	Fee:	No fee to attend this event. Current membership dues cover all CE.
Time:	Dinner: 6:30pm, Seminar: 7pm		
CE:	2 Hours		

Dr. Susan Crowder graduated from Kansas State in 1998. She has been a member of the American Veterinary Dental Society since 2002, in a mentor-reviewed dental training program (to achieve Board certification in Veterinary Dentistry) for over 4 years, and she is a national speaker on veterinary dentistry. She offers full-time referral dental services at Companion Animal Dentistry of Kansas City.

Dr. Gary Modrcin received his DVM degree from Kansas State University. He has provided general practice care and referral dentistry for 20 years at College Boulevard Animal Hospital and is currently completing a training program to achieve Board certification in Veterinary Dentistry, under the mentorship of a board-certified veterinary dentist. In 2008, he joined VSEC and offers full-time referral dental services.

Directions to Maple Woods Community College:

Johnson County: I-35 North to Broadway Bridge which will take you North on 169 Highway North on 169 Highway to Barry Rd. East (right) on Barry Rd. to Maple Woods Community College. The College will be on the right going East.

Jackson County: North on I-435 to 152 West. Get off at North Indiana and Antioch exit. Go North or right to stop sign. Turn left on Barry Rd. and go to Maple Woods Community College on the left about 1 mile.

St. Joseph: South on I 29 to 152 East to North Indiana and Antioch exit. Turn left and go to stop sign. Turn left on Barry Rd. to college about 1 mile.

The meeting is in the theatre in the first building on the left as you enter the campus and parking lot.

September Continuing Education Event

Speakers:	Kevin Christiansen, DVM, ACVIM	Location:	Saint Joseph Health Center's Community Center for Health & Education, Community Meeting Room
Topic:	Diagnostic & Therapeutic Approaches to All Heart Disease		I-435 & State Line Rd., Kansas City, MO
Date:	Thursday, September 17, 2009	Fee:	No fee to attend this event. Current membership dues cover all CE.
	(Third Thursday of the Month)	Sponsor:	Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica
Time:	Dinner: 6:30pm, Seminar: 7pm		

Heartworm University at KSU Annual Conference for Veterinarians

Speakers:	Byron Blagburn, PhD and Matt Miller, DVM, MS, DAVIM	Time:	8am - 5:30pm
Topic:	The prevalence and epidemiology, disease pathology, treatment, prevention, and controversies surrounding heartworm disease.	Location:	Kansas State University Student Union
Date:	Tuesday, June 9th, 2009		17th & Anderson Ave
			Manhattan, KS
		Sponsor:	American Heartworm Society

More information: <http://www.vet.ksu.edu/ce/2009/AnnConf09> or VMCE@vet.k-state.edu

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 6/13/09.

Immense opportunity to begin your own **veterinary practice** or establish a satellite location. One man practice, owner wishes to retire but would assist through transition if necessary. Fully capable staff already in place. Great location not far from Plaza area. Sale would include building and equipment. New furnace, air conditioner, roof and parking lot. Contact 913-706-9336 or 913-236-7202.

The Animal Care Clinic of Shawnee, KS is looking for a **part-time or relief veterinarian** to work Thursdays on a regular basis. Also some Fridays or Saturdays may be available. Please send your resume and cover letter to: Dr. Doug Brodius, Animal Care Clinic, 55576 Hedge Land Terrace, Shawnee, KS 66226 or fax your information to (913) 441-0145.

Wanted: **Associate Veterinarian** for AAHA small animal hospital, located in Kansas City, Missouri Northland. Position is for a full time or part time veterinarian. Please contact Ron Armstrong, DVM at Platte Woods Animal Hospital, (816) 741-8600, fax (816) 741-7322, email rondvet@sbcglobal.net

Full or part time associate veterinarian wanted for South Kansas City Veterinary Hospital. We are looking for a good veterinarian with matching people skills for our full service veterinary hospital. We are a primarily small animal hospital with a heavy emphasis on medicine and surgery. Competitive salary and benefit package to match your experience. Come practice fun veterinary medicine in a relaxed environment. Contact John Lyle, DVM at crazydog@kc.rr.com or fax resumes to (816) 763-1313

RELIEF VETERINARIANS...

Jerome Berkowitz913-515-3917 KS/MO	Kimberly Kessler913-548-1686 KS/MO	Terry Patterson816-524-3296 KS/MO
Amy Bunck816-225-4082 KS/MO	Kathy Kimber.....816-390-2704 KS/MO	Peggy Mary Roth785-748-0055 KS/MO
Martin Drey785-218-9484 KS	Shelley Lake.....913-533-9905 KS	Alice Shaffer910-261-1577 KS
Daniel Frezza816-294-2256 MO	Tim Lyon.....913-782-1503 KS/MO	Dennis Smith.....913-636-4206 KS
Jim Garner.....913-620-8210 KS	Susie Mikkelson.....913-648-3920 KS/MO	Paula Vale.....913-484-7012 KS/MO
Maureen Gray913-538-6379 KS/MO	Suzanne Ostle.....913-400-2059 KS	Dennis Weaver816-210-6769 MO/KS

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

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

2009 KCVMA OFFICERS...

President	Dr. Kathleen Claussen.....	913-897-2080/kclaussen@kcvma.com
President-Elect	Dr. Davinne Glenn.....	816-781-0778/dglenn@kcvma.com
Vice President	Dr. J.C. Burcham.....	913-764-1415/jburcham@kcvma.com
Immediate Past President	Dr. Larry Kovac.....	816-616-2349/lkovac@kcvma.com
Secretary Treasurer	Dr. Amy Hunkeler.....	816-554-4990/ahunkeler@kcvma.com
MO State Rep	Dr. Allyson Cook.....	816-380-7270/acook@kcvma.com
KS State Rep	Dr. Mary Hughes.....	913-829-7387/mhughes@kcvma.com
Board Members	Dr. Sheila Dodson.....	913-742-7302/sdodson@kcvma.com
	Dr. Susie Mikkelson.....	913-648-3920/smikkelson@kcvma.com
	Dr. Mel Falk.....	816-795-7387/mfalk@kcvma.com
	Dr. Keith Placke.....	816-623-3960/kplacke@kcvma.com
Historian	Dr. Steve Joseph.....	913-488-3844/sjoseph@kcvma.com
Exec. Secretary	Wanda Grindstaff.....	913-381-7823, Fax: 913-341-4225 wgrindstaff@kcvma.com
Public Relations	Darin Nadler.....	913-859-9588/dnadler@kcvma.com