



A Letter From The President

November/December 2012

This is my last letter as your President. My tenure with the KCVMA started four years ago when my friend Kathleen Claussen asked me to attend a board meeting to see if I might want to join. I agreed to go, and ended up becoming a member at large. I then became the district representative to the KVMA.

When my time as district representative ended I took on the role of vice president. One of my duties was to set up all of our continuing education meetings. That was the hardest thing I had to do as a board member until this year when I took on the president's letter for this newsletter. After vice-president I became president-elect, and then president. I was very worried about being president, as I had never been president of anything before. It turned out that it was not as difficult as I had anticipated. I think that was due to my wonderful colleagues on the board of directors this past year. I want to say thank you to all of the current board members for their patience and support. I couldn't have done this without all of your help.

I also want to thank all of the members who have given me words of support and advice this past year. I have enjoyed meeting so many new people these past four years. I hope some of you will consider joining the board. I think you will find it fun and rewarding.

We have had many wonderful continuing education meetings this year. I need to thank Kara Ballenger for her hard work arranging these meetings. Our last CE meeting for this year will take place on November 11. It looks to be a great day of education featuring Dr. Dennis Chew. If you have not attended this meeting in the past, I can tell you it is usually a lot of fun, good food, and a great way to get your CE credits.

We have also had some great social events this past year. The clinic hops were a big success, and they continue to be a great way to meet new colleagues, reconnect with friends, and visit other hospitals and clinics. My favorite social event this past year was at Sporting KC. I had never been to a soccer game of any kind prior to this social. I didn't know the rules of soccer but I had no problem figuring it out while I watched the match. The stadium was

great and there was not a bad seat anywhere. Of course, our seats were great. We were close to the end where the die-hard fans sit and that made it all the more fun. Sporting KC fans are dedicated and wild. I want to give a big thanks to Christi Belew for all of her hard work in setting up all of our social activities.

I often think many of us only see the KCVMA as a way to get CE credits and nothing more.

This year I wanted to do some kind of community outreach but I wasn't sure what we should do. That thought was answered when Dr. Larry Kovac came to the board and challenged us to buy pet oxygen masks for firehouses. The board liked the idea, but it got put on the back burner for a bit. We weren't really sure how to go about it at that moment in time. Then one night, Kathleen saw a news story about a house fire where a firefighter was using a human oxygen mask to give a dog oxygen after it was rescued from the house. Kathleen immediately got in touch with the Olathe Fire Department where Captain Mike Hall put her in contact with Fire Chief Richard Carrizzo. Fire Chief Carrizzo sent out an area-wide request to the firehouses to see who was in need of the masks. We heard back from several, and so far we have received requests for 45 sets. I would like to challenge everyone to make sure their local fire stations have pet oxygen masks, and if they don't, let's see if we can provide them with one. My hope is that every year the KCVMA can continue with some kind of community outreach.

Once again, I want to thank my wonderful board members for sacrificing their precious time this past year to serve the KCVMA.

President - mhughes@kcvma.com

KCVMA MEMBER APPOINTED TO KANSAS BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS

BY: JEN NIGRO

The Kansas Board of Veterinary Examiners has a new member from the Kansas City area. Dr. Candy Layton is a soft tissue surgeon for BluePearl Specialty and Emergency Medicine for Pets in Lee's Summit, MO. Dr. Layton, a graduate from Kansas State University's College of Veterinary Medicine, started her career at a small animal practice in Virginia. Three years later she returned to K-State as a surgical resident. "At that time, it was becoming common to separate surgical services into orthopedic and soft tissue," she says. "I elected to go with soft tissue." After completing her residency Dr. Layton was hired at K-State where she stayed 15 years before joining a surgical referral practice owned by her classmate, Dr. Joe Desch. That practice since merged into what is now BluePearl. "I've been fortunate enough to work with a really great group of people that allows me to continue to do mainly soft tissue," she remarks.

Dr. Layton has served on the board of the Kansas Veterinary Medical Association, and was pleased when Executive Director Gary Reser asked if she would consider serving on the Kansas Board of Veterinary Examiners. She agreed, and Reser submitted her name to Governor Sam Brownback for consideration. She was selected from a pool of three veterinarians nominated for the post. Her term began in September, and though she was unable to attend the first meeting, she has been to a seminar on ethics, and has kept busy learning about the board and its mission.

"The board is charged with promoting public safety, health and welfare as it relates to the practice of veterinary medicine," says Dr. Layton. It's a big job. Executive Director Dirk Hanson, DVM, says the board is responsible for establishing policies, procedures and directives that he and the other two employees, an administrative officer and investigator, must follow. Board members also set the agency's budget. In addition, the board reviews the actions and activities of veterinarians licensed in the state of Kansas. This includes considering applications for licensure and issuing licenses to veterinarians who qualify. "The board's responsibility is to make sure that this license, which is a privilege, is only given to those who have met the requirements and have been deemed worthy of that privilege," Dr. Hanson says. If the board receives a report of possible violations of the Kansas Veterinary Practice Act, they must review that complaint and reach a decision. This is done in conjunction with two attorneys: a general counsel and a litigator. Board members can sanction or fine a licensee, or even revoke, suspend, or restrict a license. This is done not only with the board's mission statement in mind, but with three main objectives: deterring the licensee from violating standards again, sending a message to all licensees that the Practice Act will be enforced, and providing remediation and education to the licensee under investigation.

Performing these duties can be quite the balancing act. "The responsibility is twofold," says Dr. Layton. "On the consumer side we want to assure pet owners that the person they're taking their pet to is a qualified veterinarian that has passed the national boards and state tests." But the board also advocates for veterinarians and for animals. "There are such huge issues facing veterinarians right now," she notes. "One of them has to do with the issue of non-veterinarians practicing veterinary medicine." She also points to the growing practice of human pharmacies prescribing animal medications. "You have a sphere of your veterinarians on one side, but on the other side you have another sphere which contains the consumers of veterinary medicine. In the middle of that is the examiner board." Dr. Layton says protecting everyone's interests involves walking a fine line. "What you're trying to do is balance those very legitimate concerns that are coming from both populations, and sometimes it's not easy to figure out what should be done."

Board members also take an active role in the legislative process. When an issue arises the board will meet to determine whether legislation is needed, then come up with appropriate language for a legislative proposal. Once initiated, they will also seek support for their position, and then promote any new standards that may come out of an issue among both veterinarians and consumers.

Whether the board is dealing with complaints or legislative issues, confusion can abound. The Kansas Board of Veterinary Examiners works closely with the Kansas Veterinary Medical Association. "A legislative effort is most successful when all stakeholders are aware and have discussed it between the organizations," says Dr. Hanson. "But in the end, they may come up with a different position than the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners." Additionally, veterinarians like Dr. Layton who have served on the KVMA board have to adapt to a new role. "Before, their role was always to figure out what was best for the profession," he says. "But they have to change the hat that they wear during their service on the board to promote the role of public health, safety and welfare." That's why Dr. Layton and other new board members go through an orientation that makes the nuances clear. But Dr. Layton was already aware of many of the differences. "When I was on the board of the KVMA it was not at all unusual for someone to bring a concern to the association which was out of [the KVMA's] jurisdiction," she says.

Dr. Layton is excited to tackle the many challenges ahead as a new member of the Kansas Board of Veterinary Examiners. She says serving on the board fits in with her view of veterinary medicine. "It's interesting, challenging, and demanding, but never boring. Being asked to serve is quite an honor."

To learn more about the Kansas Veterinary Examiners Board's current activities and licensing requirements, visit www.kansas.gov/veterinary.

FOCUS ON THE FUTURE: ANIMAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM PART OF BIG 5 INITIATIVE

BY: JEN NIGRO

Kansas City leaders are making big plans for the future, and the animal health industry is at the forefront of their goals. In July 2011, the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce began gathering ideas for its Big 5 Initiatives project. The Chamber started by meeting with business, civic and elected leaders to brainstorm ways to use Kansas City's existing strengths to reinforce and broaden Kansas City's place in the global community. The group, under the guidance of 2011 Chamber Chair Greg Graves, tried to prioritize projects that could provide growth opportunities and make Kansas City a better place to live and work while increasing global recognition. They narrowed the initial ideas down to 20, and in September 2011 announced the Big 5 Initiatives:

- Hosting the Global Symposium on Innovation in Animal Health
- Revitalizing our Urban Neighborhoods through The Urban Neighborhood Initiative
- Making Kansas City America's Most Entrepreneurial City
- Growing Kansas City's Medical Research, From Discovery to Cure
- Moving UMKC's World Class Arts Programs to a New Downtown Location

The group then set to work finding "champions" for each of the five initiatives. Gary Forsee, former Sprint Nextel Chairman and CEO and University of Missouri President, was approached to help. He agreed, and chose to lead work on the Global Symposium on Innovation in Animal Health. Forsee, whose daughter is a veterinarian and who has watched the region's Animal Health Corridor take off, found the initiative interesting both personally and professionally. "We have a concentration that is really unique," he says. "The Animal Health Corridor stretches from St. Joseph to Columbia to Manhattan to Kansas City. If you look at the concentration of animal health companies within that area, you can see it's very high." In fact, according to the Chamber, the Corridor boasts the single largest concentration of animal health and nutrition interests in the world, with 32% of total sales in the global animal health industry. Forsee says it was a natural choice to try to expand on that strength. "They've come up with a strategic plan that includes such things as supporting the National Bio and Agri Defense Facility, establishing a center for animal health innovation, and work force development. The engagement of the animal health industry with the Corridor is important so we can continue this interaction within the industry." That desire to plan for the future inspired the group. "As the Chamber looked at what we can do to ensure that brand sustains into the future we came up with the notion that a world symposium would be

a way of cementing that context that's already been established," says Forsee.

The group hopes to be far enough into planning the agenda by early 2013 to start publicizing some of the details and attracting participants. It would coincide with the Animal Health Corridor's Homecoming event, which is held every August. That two-day gathering traditionally attracts animal health CEOs and industry leaders from all over the world. "This year Homecoming attracted 700 people," says Forsee. "We knew the people that would have an interest in attending, including global interests, may already have some people here. We thought, 'Why not add on to what is already a very successful event?'"

Now, Forsee, industry leaders, and the Kansas City Area Development Council, are focusing on the details. In addition to Forsee in the role of Chamber Champion, the group includes CEVA CEO Craig Wallace as Industry Chair and Kim Young of KCADC as Region Advocate. "Over the next couple of months we'll begin to fine-tune what the agenda would look like, what the modules of that would look like," he says. "We want to focus on innovation so we can be sure we are looking ahead for the industry. We'll be pressure-testing that with some focus group and planning activity over the next couple of months." He says Craig Wallace, CEO of CEVA, will serve as Industry Chair while Kim Forsee hopes to be far enough into the agenda by early 2013 to start publicizing some of the details and attracting participants.

While the Big 5 Initiative's goal is to broaden Kansas City's global recognition, Forsee says elevating the Animal Health Corridor's visibility worldwide will benefit the entire region. "If we can create additional investment we can ensure that the companies that have already invested here are strong," he says. "We can help those companies continue to grow while attracting new companies, and that's really the whole point. It's not a Missouri or Kansas issue, or even a state line issue. It's a regional issue, and I think that's truly one of the successes here."

You can learn more about the Big 5 Initiative, keep up with its progress, and get involved with any of the components by visiting www.big5kc.com.



Gary Forsee

BUILT ON THE SHOULDERS OF VETERINARY GIANTS THE CAT WHO LOVED BOOKS

BY: DR. STEVE JOSEPH, KCVMA HISTORIAN

It is said of Dewey (1987 – 2006) that he was “the small town library cat who touched the world”.

His story begins on a freezing winter morning in Spencer, Iowa, when, as a kitten, he was found stuffed into the return library book slot.

Upon finding him, one description reads: “The kitten looked at me slowly and sadly. Then he lowered his head and sank down into a hole. He was wasn’t trying to be tough or hide and he wasn’t scared. He was just hoping to be saved.”

The library staff adopted him and appropriately named him Dewey Readmore Books. It’s said from that moment on he wanted to thank every person he met for saving his life.

Once Dewey had taken ownership of the library he greeted patrons each morning at the front door with a wave of his paw. He entertained them by climbing into their waiting laps. Dewey was a participant in each staff meeting that took place in the library conference room.

Vicky Myron, the library director and author of the book, *Dewey*, asks the question, “How is it possible for an abandoned kitten to transform a small library, save an American town, and eventually become famous around the world?”

“For 19 years,” Myron writes, “Dewey charmed Spencer with his enthusiasm, warmth, humility (for a cat), and above all else, his sixth sense about those who needed

him.” He touched the hearts of those who had suffered losses or had special needs.

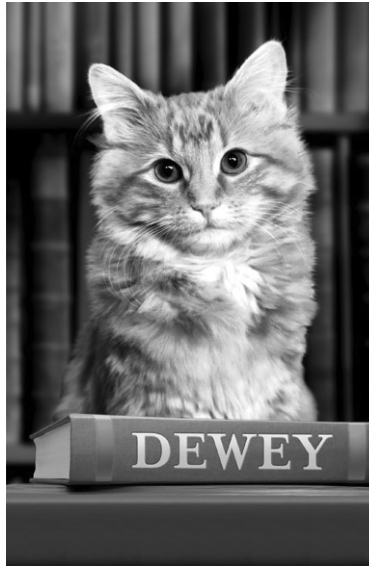
Dewey was a source of pride for a heartland farming town pulling its way back from a devastating fire that destroyed the business community several years earlier.

As Dewey’s presence became better known not only did patrons show up at the library more frequently and stay longer, but people who heard or read about him made trips to Spencer from across the country and the world to see him.

One of Patrick Roberts’ articles titled *Famous Felines* says: “Over the years he provided the Spencer library with plenty of publicity via the local newspaper, national magazines, in books, on postcards and on television. He was also the star of a video about library cats, *Puss in Books: Adventures of Library Cats* (1997). His fame spread throughout America and beyond, especially

after he was chosen as *January’s Cat* on a nationwide calendar.” A Japanese news team visited Spencer and featured Dewey in a documentary.

The library maintains a bio page for Dewey and also a slideshow of images. You can Google *Dewey Readmore Books* to find his website (www.deweyreadmorebooks.com), videos and news articles. Of course, nothing takes the place of reading Myron’s book *Dewey*.



RECORD OF KCVMA CONTINUING EDUCATION SEMINARS FOR 2012

DATE	SPEAKER / TOPIC	C.E. CREDIT
February 26	Various Speakers Specialists in Kansas City 6th Annual Frostbite Seminar	7 Hours
March 15	Tiffany Tapp, DVM, Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Dermatology Pitfalls to Avoid in Veterinary Dermatology: Common errors made in working up dermatology cases and how to avoid them.	2 Hours
April 19	Gerryll Hall, DVM Putting Vaccine Choices into Action	2 Hours
May 24	Lesa Lewis The Formula for Compliance	2 Hours
September 20	Larry Baker, DVM, FAVD, Diplomate AVDC Pain Management in Small Animal Dentistry	2 Hours
October 18	Fritz Wood "2013: Make It Your Best Year Ever!"	2 Hours
November 11	Dennis Chew, DVM, Diplomate ACVIM, Professor Emeritus, Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, The Ohio State University Renal Disease	6 Hours

KCVMA Makes Life-Saving Donations

On Monday, October 22 and Tuesday, October 23, the Kansas City Veterinary Medical Association donated 45 Pet Oxygen Masks to seven different fire departments throughout the Kansas City area. Drs. Mary Hughes and Kathleen Claussen delivered three kits to the Olathe Fire Department October 22, pictured below. Dr. Claussen delivered masks to Consolidated Fire District #2 on Tuesday, October 23. KCTV5 News was on hand to cover the occasion. Visit <http://bit.ly/Pvvuwe> to watch the story.



Missouri News

A new Veterinary Care Gift Card program has recently been made available by the MVMA for its members. The program is a benefit designed to stimulate client traffic at member clinics. Current clients have the opportunity to purchase gift cards for professional veterinary services. The gift cards can then be given to friends, family, rescue groups and animal shelters. \$25.00 is the smallest amount clients may purchase.

There is a one-time \$50 setup fee. If you presently use NXGEN for credit card processing, then the setup fee is waived. The monthly fee is \$15 per month unless you use AVImark or NXGEN processing, in which case the fee is only \$5.00 per month. Depending on the quantity ordered and the card processor, the card price varies from \$0.38 - \$0.50 each.

Pfizer has committed an initial \$5,000.00 investment to offset marketing costs. There is an information webinar about the Veterinary Care Gift Card program on Wednesday, November 7th, from 12:15 – 1pm. Register online at <http://bit.ly/TkiXdY>. Additional information is available on the MVMA website: www.movma.org.



Mel Falk, DVM
KCVMA Rep. to MVMA Exec. Board

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 12/13/12.

Wakarusa Veterinary Hospital is looking for a full-time, experienced veterinarian to join our practice. We are a rapidly growing small animal practice in Lawrence, Kansas. The person we are looking for needs to be an independent self-starter willing to work a flexible schedule and will be excited about helping the practice continue to grow. Please send inquiries to danawvh@hotmail.com or contact Dana Mentzer at 785-843-5577 for additional information.

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) in our wellness and spay/neuter clinic. Preventative veterinary care, vaccinations for pets, spays/neuter and other various duties. Hours are every Friday and/or half day Saturdays. SNKC is a nonprofit, continually growing organization that is making a difference in the Kansas City area with our innovative programs. We serve over 14,000 pets annually. We have a great support team and we offer a rewarding work environment. Email resume directly to michelle@snkc.net. For more information visit www.snkc.net

Part-time associate veterinarian wanted at busy south Overland Park small animal practice. Our team is looking for an experienced, compassionate, communicative veterinarian for approximately 20-25 hours per week. For questions regarding the position or to submit a resume, please email anbrowndvm@yahoo.com. For more information regarding our clinic, please visit www.hawthorneanimalhosp.com.

The KC Pet Project, operating the Kansas City, Missouri, Animal Shelter, is seeking a dynamic, full-time or part-time veterinarian to join our team. The KC Pet Project is a nonprofit, 501c3 charitable organization caring for more than 8,000 animals a year in Kansas City, Missouri. We are an open admission, high-volume animal shelter working collaboratively with Animal Control and other animal welfare organizations to increase the number of homeless pets adopted, and we focus on lifesaving programs promoting pet retention, identification, lost pet reunions, and pet ownership education throughout the community. Experience in an animal shelter setting is preferred but not required. Candidates must be Missouri licensed, have great interpersonal skills, be a team player, and thrive in a fast paced environment. Weekends and/or some evening hours may be required. Email resumes, letters of interest, and salary requirements directly to Teresa.Johnson@KCMO.org. For more information about KC Pet Project, visit our website at www.kcproject.org.

RELIEF VETERINARIANS...

Jerome Berkowitz913-515-3917 KS/MO
Cathy Boyett816-315-9666 KS/MO
Martin Drey785-218-9484 KS
Erin Evans913-339-8733 KS/MO
Andrea Ferrell913-706-2945 KS
Paula Gibson816-689-3453 KS/MO
Sarah Golladay816-726-9471 MO
Maureen Gray913-538-6379 KS/MO

Kevin Harsha816-898-4530 KS/MO
Kimberly Kessler913-548-1686 KS/MO
Kathy Kimber816-390-2704 KS/MO
Shelley Lake913-533-9905 KS
Tim Lyon913-244-9961 KS/MO
Korb Maxwell913-709-0208 KS
Susie Mikkelson913-596-0499 KS/MO
Terry Patterson816-524-3296 KS/MO

Amy Roberts816 205-0077 KS/MO
Peggy Mary Roth785-748-0055 KS/MO
Dennis Smith913-636-4206 KS
Shana Stelzer913-707-0906 KS/MO
Paula Vale913-484-7012 KS/MO
Kenneth VanSickle816-331-7972 KS/MO
Dennis Weaver816-210-6769 KS/MO

CERTIFIED SPECIALISTS

Acupuncture:

Teresa Bradley-Bays, DVM, CVA 816-331-3120
Pamela Deutsch DVM CVA 816-363-4922
Linda Faris, DVM, CVA 816-640-3155

Cheri Jones DVM, CVA 913-381-3272
Leanne Landau Kasitz, DVM, CVA 913-897-5595
Sandi Leonard, DVM, CVA 913-706-0411

Michelle Rhodes, DVM, CVA 816-252-5105
John Rowe, DVM CVA 816-363-4922
Mike Tarrant, DVM, CVA 913-764-9000
Susan Vodraska, DVM, CVA 816-255-8361

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

Dentistry:

Susan E Crowder, Dipl. AVDC 913-742-8686

Dermatology:

David Senter, DVM, DACVD 913-381-3937

Emergency and Critical Care:

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

Internal Medicine:

Tim Allen, DVM, DACVIM 785-979-0227
Jeff Dennis, DVM, ACVIM 913-642-9563
Crystal Hoh, DVM, MS, ACVIM 913-642-9563
Brian Lucas, DVM, Dipl. ACVIM 816-554-4990
Stephanie Pierce, DVM, Dipl. 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 913-381-3937
Heather Kaese, DVM, MS, DACVIM, DACVO
913-381-3937

Susan Keil, DVM, MS, DACVO 785-331-4600
Reuben Merideth, DVM, ACVO
913-381-3937 or 800-776-3937
Rustin Sturgeon, DVM, ACVO 913-381-3937

Preventive Medicine:

Mark E. Gants, DVM, Dipl. ACVPM 816-228-3205

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

Karl Frees, DVM, MS, ACVS
(Equine) 816-322-7722

Candace Layton, DVM, MS, ACVS 816-554-4990
Jayce Lineberger, DVM ACVS 913-722-5566
Steve Riley, DVM, DVSc, ACVS 913-642-9563
Trent Tuttle, DVM, 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

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

P: 816-373-8100 | F: 816-373-8102 | gdenis@leongathalaw.com