



A Letter From The President

September/October 2011

As I write this letter in mid-August, we are experiencing a respite from the intense heat, and we're getting some much-needed rain as well. The summer has been brutally hot, with temperatures consistently over 100 degrees. During one of the July heat waves, my family took a well-timed vacation to Monterey, CA where temperatures in the mid-60s actually necessitated the wearing of a jacket!! We thoroughly enjoyed visiting the world-famous Monterey Bay Aquarium (twice) while we were there, and I was simply blown away by their innovative, highly informative and interactive displays. My three-year-old son especially liked the turtles, but my favorite was the seahorse display.



The importance of teaching children valuable themes such as the conservation of our ocean, the power of compassion or even the importance of pursuing one's dream to become a veterinarian, was touched upon during a recent Rotary meeting. As I mentioned before, I thoroughly enjoy my involvement with the Olathe Rotary Club, partly because their commitment to "Service Above Self" rings very true with me. One of our recent speakers, a 5th grade teacher named Angela Abbott, shared some touching stories about how she has taught her kids to love reading and to love helping others. Two of her stories have been published in different editions of the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* books. It's hard for me to summarize these beautiful stories here, but my favorite was a story entitled, "Esperanza," a story about helping a girl named Hope by raising money for her medical expenses. The students asked their family and friends to pledge a penny for each page of a book they read—a creative fundraiser that succeeded in raising over \$1000 and encouraged students to read more!

I learned of another innovative program for children in the Kansas City area called Science Pioneers. From their website (www.sciencepioneers.org): "The mission of Science Pioneers

is to create innovative and supportive education activities that will encourage the youth of Kansas City to understand and use science and critical thinking in their careers and everyday lives." I received an email from Dr. Elizabeth Evans, a veterinarian who volunteers for Science Pioneers and the Greater K.C. Science and Engineering Fair. She is the chair of the Scientific Review Committee that is responsible for ensuring compliance with all the rules and regulations required of the Kansas City Fair (which will take place in March 2012) in order to be able to send winners to international competition (ISEF).

Dr. Evans contacted me to encourage veterinarians to help support students if approached for assistance, and to let veterinarians know there is support available for navigating some of the rules of the program. She writes, "Science Pioneers is thankful for veterinarians (and others) who mentor students (or teachers) with science projects. Interaction with an individual mentor gets students excited about science and interested in pursuing related careers such as veterinary medicine. Projects involving vertebrate animals and/or microorganisms must follow very specific rules and guidelines to protect the animals and ensure the safety of the students. Rules and related information are available on the Science Pioneers web site (www.sciencepioneers.org). Science Pioneers can also provide individual assistance or answers to questions related to any science project. Please join us as we continue to help students (and future veterinarians) love science!"

We also hope you'll join us for our next Clinic Hop! At the time of this writing the details are still being hashed out, so please visit our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/KCVMA) for the latest information. We are aiming for north of the river in early October. Stay tuned!

President - jburcham@kcvma.com

NEW K-STATE CAMPUS TO MARRY EDUCATION WITH INDUSTRY

BY: JEN NIGRO

Kansas State University cut the ribbon on its Olathe campus on April 26. The new campus, located just east of Kansas Highway 7 on College Boulevard, becomes the third in the K-State system along with Manhattan and Salina. The campus curriculum is geared towards graduate and post-graduate students, and will focus on animal health and food safety through partnerships with industry as well as local schools and the community at-large.

Dr. Dan Richardson is the Chief Executive Officer at the Olathe campus. He says students will have the opportunity to study at the International Animal Health and Food Safety Institute. “We will have research going on that has industry scientists working side-by-side with academic scientists, and the graduate students would get the benefit of being in the middle, working with both,” he says. “It’s a very unique opportunity for our graduate students to work with academia and industry at the same time.”

K-State’s quest to build a campus in Olathe started over seven years ago. Dr. Richardson says the city of Olathe had expressed an interest at that time in building a campus in an effort to draw Johnson County students into the biosciences. At the same time, a report called *Time to Get it Right* was released by a blue ribbon task force charged with creating a strategy for higher education in Kansas City. “That report, amongst many others done by other groups, identified that Kansas’ economic growth was going to be very dependent on having a world-class research university in the Kansas City region,” says Dr. Richardson. Olathe agreed to donate the land, and K-State entered a partnership with the University of Kansas and the University of Kansas Medical Center to form the Johnson County Educational Research Triangle. The JCERT tax passed in 2008 to fund K-State’s Olathe campus, expanded engineering, science and math programs at the KU Edwards Campus and development of a phase I clinical trial facility at the KU Med Center. K-State will rely on multiple sources of funding such as grants, research contracts, and philanthropic gifts to continue to grow the campus and its programs.

Dr. Richardson says working closely with the animal health and food industries will be a key part of the success of the K-State Olathe campus. “We’re being very responsive to industry,” he says. “If companies need their employees to attain master’s degrees, we will have an opportunity to work with them to meet their specific needs and keep their employees in the Kansas City area and on the job.” Dr. Richardson says the campus has already sent out surveys to local animal health and food companies to find out where their needs and interests lie. Those responses led to a seminar on regulatory issues, where K-State Olathe brought in an



expert from the FDA. “That was listening and responding to industry’s needs in a timely manner,” says Dr. Richardson.

In addition, Dr. Richardson says the campus will create several areas of focus. “We’re developing an Urban Water Institute that will bring together K-State’s many areas of expertise in water along with industry and governmental partners to look at how to purify water, how to manage storm water runoff and reuse of water. As you might imagine, water is going to be in the mix when you start talking about animal health and food safety.” A program is also underway to create a better working relationship between U.S. businesses and Chinese businesses, in an effort to move technology back and forth between the two countries safely and efficiently.

The outreach doesn’t stop there. Dr. Richardson says the campus is working with the local school districts to get kids in grades K-12 excited about the life sciences and hopefully get them excited about the possibility of pursuing biotech-related careers. The campus has also hosted its first food safety workshop for teachers, who will be able to use the information to develop teaching materials for their classroom. The JCERT tax funded nine scholarships for the workshop. Instructors included faculty from K-State, the Kansas Health Commission, as well as individuals working on a One Health Kansas grant.

He also sees a strong partnership ahead between the K-State Olathe campus and Kansas City area veterinarians. “Veterinarians play a critical role in animal health and food safety. I think now that we have the Olathe campus we’re going to see more outreach and better communication with the veterinary profession in general; not only to keep awareness going but also to learn from them and develop programs for them.” But Dr. Richardson is quick to point out the campus won’t be in direct competition with area veterinarians. The campus will not have its own veterinary clinic. Instead, Dr. Richardson hopes the K-State Olathe campus can enhance initiatives already in place by providing additional continuing

education and support for programs already in place, such as disaster response plans. “That’s not ours to develop,” he says, “but we’re here to support that initiative.” Dr. Richardson also hopes to be a resource to the community at times when the food supply is at risk. “We’re going to be there for the community, for people to physically come here and ask experts for information and opinions in cases such as an e-coli or salmonella outbreak.”

Dr. Richardson says the K-State Olathe campus is just

getting off the ground, but there’s already a great deal of interest in its initiatives. More than 1500 people attended the ribbon cutting and open house back in April; civic groups and government agencies have booked meetings and events there. “There are a lot of things happening very quickly,” says Dr. Richardson. “As soon as the doors opened, people were there.”

You can learn more about the K-State Olathe Campus’ initiatives and upcoming events by visiting www.olathe.k-state.edu.

NEW PROGRAM ENCOURAGES FOCUS ON PREVENTIVE CARE, COMMUNICATION

BY: JEN NIGRO

Two new studies show preventable diseases are becoming more common among companion animals, while veterinary visits are decreasing. Banfield Pet Hospital, which operates 770 hospitals in 43 states including Kansas and Missouri, recently analyzed medical data from 2.1 million dogs and nearly 450,000 cats. It found a dramatic increase in the number of diabetes cases, dental disease, otitis externa, fleas and ticks and internal parasites like roundworms, hookworms and tapeworms since 2006.

In addition, Bayer released its Veterinary Care Usage Study comparing the number of patient visits for the first nine months of 2010 to the same period in 2009. The results? More than half of veterinarians surveyed reported a decline in veterinary visits. 25.1% said that decline was greater than 5%. And while the number of pet owning households has increased steadily since 1996, the Bayer study showed almost 24% of pet owning households didn’t spend a dime on veterinary care in 2006.

While the recent economic downturn is an obvious factor in decline, Dr. Ron DeHaven, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Vice President of the American Veterinary Medical Association, says it’s not the only one. He notes the trend actually started long before the economy began its downward slide. He sees fragmentation of veterinary services and the growing amount of information available on the Internet as contributing factors to the decline. “A lot of pet owners are going to the Internet looking for information and trying to make a diagnosis or even treatment on their own as opposed to going to a veterinarian,” he says. Dr. DeHaven also cites the fact that many pet products once available only through veterinarians are now widely distributed. He says without veterinary-supported sales, pet owners may choose the wrong product. “We think there’s great value in the advice and insurance that comes when a veterinarian is involved in selecting the right product and ensuring that it’s administered properly,” he says.

Dr. DeHaven also says some pet owners don’t understand the need for preventive care, can’t get past the

“sticker shock” of treatment, or don’t want to deal with the difficulties associated with getting some animals to a clinic. But Dr. DeHaven says veterinarians can overcome these obstacles through a stronger commitment to preventive health and better communication with clients. “We’re delivering less than optimal care to our nation’s pets and they’re suffering for it,” he says. “Those doctors who aren’t focusing as much as they should or could on preventive care, they need to.” He says one important key is to communicate the value of the services provided, as well as find ways to help clients overcome the cost factor through payment plans, financing or wellness programs. “The client needs an understanding that the services, while they are valuable, come with a cost.”

To that end, 16 different organizations, including non-profit and for-profit companies in the pet industry, have formed the Partnership for Preventive Pet Healthcare. Dr. DeHaven, who chairs the partnership’s executive committee, says the group has developed a four-part strategy to help increase preventive care and decrease disease in companion animals.

Step one, raising awareness within the veterinary profession, is already underway. In addition, a task force of representatives from the AVMA and American Animal Hospital Association is working on easy-to-use guidelines, due for publication in early September, for quality preventive care in dogs and cats. Next, the group will work to provide tools for veterinarians to use in their practices. “Not just guidelines but model wellness programs and communication tools,” says Dr. DeHaven. “We want to help veterinarians do a better job of not just practicing preventive care but explaining to the pet owner the value of the services they are providing.” The final step will involve outreach to the pet-owning public. “If we can first change the behavior of the profession, then get the pet owner to go to the veterinarian, we think we can have the complete package,” says Dr. DeHaven. The partnership hopes to effect change within a three-year period. Veterinarians can register for updates by visiting www.pethealthpartnership.org.

BUILT ON THE SHOULDERS OF VETERINARY GIANTS “A FAITHFUL FRIEND”

BY: DR. STEVE JOSEPH, KCVMA HISTORIAN

“There will come a day, and it won’t be long, when all who knew him are gone.” Lawrence Journal World

George took his job seriously.

This story begins at the Lawrence Union Pacific railroad station on a rainy night in the 1940s. There he was, cold and wet, without luggage or a means of paying for a ticket. But, without knowing it, he had found a home.

It was said of George that he never met anyone he didn’t like. This affection was shared by all he greeted with a warm wagging of his tail and a friendly lick on the hand. The Depot Dog, as he soon would be called, was especially fond of soldiers returning from or heading off to WWII. Time has eroded the description of his appearance. There are no pictures. He may have been a white Shepherd or maybe a brown mutt, short-haired and short- legged.

His job was to meet each passenger train as it pulled up at the station. His fame grew as he welcomed travelers and barked farewell to those who were departing. Locals came to the station just to see him work the crowd. He was a politician.

George was taken in by the station’s trainmaster. Each evening John Robinson would take George home. Between trains George would rest inside the station under the ticket counter on a pillow provided by Mrs. Robinson.

Only one person remembered meeting George when the

Lawrence Journal World wrote about him in 2005. Norma Kampshroeder was 94-years-old at the time. She was a clerk at the station from 1942 to 1945. “He was a good dog,” she said. “We all just loved him.”

Railroad crewmen knew George too. One was “Joe Joe the Dog Face Boy”. In those days, trainmen had nicknames. Joe had animal friends up and down the rail line from Denver to Kansas City. I know this because “Joe Joe” was my Dad.

After greeting passengers George would head off to the dining car where meals were always found. Railroaders pooled funds for his veterinary care.

Someplace along the way, higher-ups ordered stations not to keep pets. In the same envelope with the directive was a dollar bill from the superintendent. It was his contribution for George’s well-being.

On October 5, 1950 George’s job came to an end. He was buried on property now occupied by the Lawrence Visitors Center. The railroad family-- George’s family-- placed a stone marker which can be found near the entrance to the station.

When you’re in Lawrence to watch the Cats beat the Hawks drop by and say “Hi” to George.



September 2011 Continuing Education Event

Speaker: Doreen Houston DVM, DVSc, Dipl. ACVIM
Topic: Select Updates on Lower Urinary Tract Disorders in Dogs and Cats
Date: Thursday, Sept. 15, 2011 (Third Thursday of the Month)
Time: Dinner: 6:30pm - 9pm
CE: 2 hours

Fee: No fee to attend this event. Current membership dues cover all CE.
Location: Saint Joseph Health Center
Community Center for Health & Education
Alex George Memorial Auditorium
I-435 & State Line Road
Sponsor: Royal Canin



Dr. Houston will present an overview of common disorders of lower urinary tract disorders in dogs and cats, including Idiopathic Cystitis in Cats, Urolithiasis in Dogs, Urolithiasis in Cats, and Urinary Tract infection in dogs and cats. A question and answer period will follow Dr. Houston's presentation.

Please register for the September CE event at kcvma.com or <http://conta.cc/l8o08P>

October 2011 Continuing Education Event

Speaker: Dr. John Huhn
Topic: Surgical Stapling Devices
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2011 (Third Thursday of the Month)
Time: Dinner: 6:30pm - 9pm
Fee: No fee to attend this event, but RSVP is required. Current membership dues cover all CE.

Location: Granfaloone
608 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, MO 64112
816-753-7850
CE: 2 hours
Sponsor: Covidien



RSVP to Elizabeth Burgess, Covidien Animal Health: Elizabeth.Burgess@covidien.com / 785-393-0798.
Or register online: <http://www.KCVMA.com> or <http://conta.cc/pyuKRR>

November 2011 Continuing Education Event

Speaker: Drs. Karen Cornell and Ronald Cott
Topic: Health Care Communication
Date: Sunday, November 13, 2011
Time: Check-in & breakfast: 7:30 - 8:30am
Lecture: 8:30am - 3:30pm
Lunch (provided): 12:15 - 1pm
CE: 6 hours

Fee: No fee to attend this event. Current membership dues cover all CE. RSVP required to attend.
Location: Bayer Animal Health Headquarters
12707 Shawnee Mission Parkway
Shawnee Mission, KS 66216
Sponsor: Bayer



For more information, visit www.kcvma.com.

Due to enhanced security at the Bayer plant in Shawnee Mission, the KCVMA is required to provide a list of attendees to Bayer security. By October 28, please register for the November CE Event at <http://www.kcvma.com> or <http://conta.cc/owruDB>

A Special Invitation from the Wichita VMA

Speaker: Shawn McVey
Topic: Veterinary Management
Date: Saturday, October 15, 2011
Time: 1pm - 5pm
CE: 4 hours approved by the KS Board of Vet. Examiners

Fee: Veterinarians: \$50, Staff: \$25
Location: La Quinta Inn & Suites - Wichita Airport
5500 West Kellogg Dr
Wichita, KS 67209
Phone: 316-943-2181

For more information, visit www.kcvma.com.

Fall 2011 Human-Animal Bond Conference (Simulcast)

Topic: Natural Disasters... What about the Animals?
Speakers: Greg Eiselein, PhD
Lisa Greenhill, MPA
Pam Muntz, BS
Christen L. Skaer, MS, DVM
Joseph Taboda, BS, DVM
Date: Saturday, September 24, 2011

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Location: Forum Hall
Kansas State University—Olathe
22201 Innovation Dr.
Olathe, Kansas
Fee: There is no cost to attend the simulcast presentation.
CE: This is non-continuing education credit offering.

Program Description: Kansas State University-Olathe will present a live moderated simulcast of the 2011 Animal Human Bond Conference in Manhattan, Kansas. In addition to viewing the conference speakers, moderators will convey questions from the audience to the speakers in Manhattan and lead group discussions during the break periods. For more information go to www.kcvma.com

Veterinarians Honored at KSU

BY: DR. STEVE JOSEPH

Two veterinarians received awards during the 73rd Annual Conference held at Kansas State University in June.
Both awards were presented during Heritage Evening.

Former provost and Dean James Coffman received the Distinguished Alumnus Award. He graduated from the CVM in 1962 and served the university for 28 years.

Receiving the E.R. Frank Award was Dr. Fred Oehme. He graduated from Cornell University CVM in 1958. Oehme is a toxicologist. He retired from the KSU faculty in 2009.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Send your classified ads to: Wanda Geis, PO Box 12468, Shawnee Mission, KS 66282-2468, fax them to her attention at 913-341-4225 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 10/13/11.

Bannister Veterinary Clinic is looking for another **full or part-time vet** to join our fun group. We now have 4 vets. Very busy, fun clinic and business is growing fast, so more help is needed. Please call, email, or fax if interested. Thanks. Fax 816-767-1016. Office 816-765-7979. Email kklmnorris@yahoo.com

Veterinarian with 40+ years experience, former practice owner, **available for full or part time position** in a quality small animal practice. I enjoy mentoring, practice efficiency and customer service as well as medicine and surgery. Licensed in MO & KS. Available September 1. Contact Dennis Weaver, DVM @ dweaverdvm@aol.com

The Anthem College Veterinary Technology Program has an opening for a **veterinary technician instructor** as well as one for a **veterinary technician program assistant** to join our educational team in Kansas City, MO. Instructor qualifications include an active Missouri RVT license (required), an associate degree from an accredited school in Veterinary Technology and four years recent experience as RVT in the profession. The program assistant position requires an associate degree in Veterinary Technology from accredited school, but not an active Missouri license. The responsibilities of the assistant will be helping with animal care as well as contributing to the overall organization and functioning of our facility. Excellent people and animal skills are a must! Our guideline is a passion for excellence in the profession and for our students. Please contact Dr. Jennifer Voss at jvoss@anthem.edu

RELIEF VETERINARIANS...

Kara Ballenger816-256-8680 KS/MO	Lucy Hirsch.....816-830-8816 KS/MO	Elizabeth Anne Phares913-271-8959 KS
Jerome Berkowitz913-515-3917 KS/MO	Kimberly Kessler913-548-1686 KS/MO	Amy Roberts816 205-0077 KS/MO
Amy Bunck816-225-4082 KS/MO	Kathy Kimber.....816-390-2704 KS/MO	Donna Romanzi816-588-2392 KS/MO
Tad Coles913-381-6444 KS	Julie Koupal816-590-0802 KS/MO	Peggy Mary Roth.....785-748-0055 KS/MO
Martin Drey.....785-218-9484 KS	Shelley Lake.....913-533-9905 KS	Alice Shaffer910-261-1577 KS
Erin Evans.....913-339-8733 KS/MO	Tim Lyon.....913-244-9961 KS/MO	Dennis Smith.....913-636-4206 KS
Daniel Frezza816-294-2256 MO	Korb Maxwell913-709-0208 KS	Shana Stelzer.....913-707-0906 KS/MO
Jim Garner.....913-620-8210 KS	Shawn McCracken.....417-399-3932 MO	Paula Vale.....913-484-7012 KS/MO
Maureen Gray913-538-6379 KS/MO	Susan Mikkelson.....913 596-0499 KS/MO	Susan Vodraska816-255-8361 KS/MO
Ryan Guldenpfennig515-451-4329 MO	Suzanne Ostle.....913-400-2059 KS	Dennis Weaver816-210-6769 KS/MO
Kevin Harsha816-898-4530 KS/MO	Terry Patterson816-524-3296 KS/MO	Karen Whitham.....757-506-4006 KS

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Michelle Rhoades, DVM, CVA 816-252-5105
John Rowe, DVM CVA 816-363-4922

Mike Tarrant, DVM, CVA 913-764-9000
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VETERINARY DIPLOMATES...

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913-568-7363

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Susan Keil, DVM, MS, ACVO 913-722-5566

Reuben Merideth, DVM, ACVO

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Loren Shaiken, DVM, ACVR 816-426-9896

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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

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