

WINTER 2022 NEWSLETTER



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear MVMA members,

I hope you are enjoying the cooler weather and not getting too far behind with all the fall work that needs to be done before winter hits. I have kept busy doing spay/neuter clinics for SpayMontana, providing a much-needed service to under-served areas, primarily Indian reservations.

In August, I had the opportunity to represent the MVMA and participate in the "White Coat" Ceremony at Washington State University in Pullman, Wash., to welcome the College of Veterinary Medicine Class of 2026. Our newest veterinary students are an excited and enthusiastic group. As I helped the Montana students put on their white coats, I asked each of them to consider coming back to Montana when they graduate. These encounters were brief, but hopefully I "planted a seed" and they will know that Montana needs them.

With our Summer 2022 Meeting back on its June schedule, I think we are adjusting to coexisting with COVID and the "new normal" that is brings. One good thing that happened is the improved ability for on-line meetings. We will be continuing to conduct our committee meetings virtually prior to our main in-person meeting. This provides for the opportunity for all MVMA members to attend to all the committee meetings even if they are not traveling to the in-person main meeting. **YOUR VOICE MATTERS!!!** The MVMA is only

as strong
as the
members
who
participate.

Be watching your email for more information on committee meetings in the coming months.

The winter meeting is fast approaching and our President-Elect Scott Damby has some great speakers lined up for us to increase our knowledge on Ophthalmology, Anesthesia, Reproduction, along with updates from the Department of Livestock.

The legislature meets in January and our Executive Director Stuart Doggett is very active in monitoring legislative bills and bringing them to our attention. It is of utmost importance that no laws are passed that will have an adverse effect on veterinary medicine. Generally our legislators don't intend to cause a problem, but sometimes a detail is overlooked and there are unintended consequences that can be difficult to manage. By bringing the overlooked detail to the attention of the legislators we can avoid these situations. Our participation in the legislative



Nancy Belk, DVM
2022-23
MVMA President

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MVMA ASSOCIATION NEWS

MVMA members gather at 2022 Summer Meeting in Billings

A large gathering of MVMA members convened at the DoubleTree Hotel in Billings June 24-25

for the 2022 Summer Meeting. Dr. Cara Voss, MVMA Past President, planned an abundance of relevant Continuing Education options of benefit to attendees.

In addition to obtaining 16 hours of continuing education, MVMA members attended the trade show featuring valued allied business partners, were entertained by Little Joe and the Cartwrights, and participated in the general membership business meeting where state and national Association leadership, as well as the Montana Board of Veterinary Medicine and Montana Board of Livestock leaders, provided updates on happenings within the veterinary profession.

MVMA would like to extend special recognition to Boehringer Ingelheim and AmerisourceBergen-MWI Animal Health for sponsoring a steak fry dinner at North Park Thursday evening of the Meeting. A complete listing of all the 2022 Summer Meeting sponsors and trade show exhibitors can be found on page 5. The support of these business partners is essential for MVMA to host quality meetings. Please be sure to thank their representatives when conducting business with them.

Meeting Highlights

Winnett Veterinarian Nancy Belk, DVM, assumes MVMA presidency.

During the Summer 2022 Membership Meeting, Nancy Belk, DVM, was elected MVMA president for the 2022-23 term. Dr. Belk succeeds Cara Voss, DVM, of Dawson Veterinary

Clinic in Glendive, who will now serve as past president on the MVMA Executive Committee.

Dr. Belk was born in Wolf Point and moved to the Flathead Valley at age three. Regular visits back to the family farm, a diversified wheat and livestock operation near Wolf Point, were a major factor in her pursuit of veterinary medicine. Upon graduation from Flathead High School, Dr. Belk attended Montana State University-Bozeman before being accepted to the Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine in Fort Collins. Her veterinary career spanned nearly three decades as employee and eventually owner of Lockwood Veterinary Service, until she sold the practice to her partner and "semi-retired" in 2015.

Today, Dr. Belk and her husband Dan ranch near Winnett. She continues to assist at her former clinic in Lockwood, as well as at other clinics, and dedicates much time to serving at spay and neuter clinics in under-served areas around the state and on Montana's Indian Reservations for SpayMontana. Dr. Belk and her husband also enjoy helping daughter Emily's family with planting and harvest on their farm near Lincoln, Neb., as well as traveling internationally.

In addition to Dr. Belk's appointment to president, Scott Damby, DVM, Lewistown, will serve as president elect, Linda Kauffman, DVM, Stevensville, will assume the vice president position, and Barr Gustafson, DVM, Browning, enters the secretary/treasurer role. Julie Oghigian, DVM, Bozeman, and Alan Goldhahn, DVM, have been appointed as directors on the Executive Committee.

Meet the newly elected MVMA Board member:

Alan Goldhahn grew up in Geraldine, Mont., and attended Montana State University as an undergraduate. With the aid of a scholarship



**Boehringer
Ingelheim**

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MWI Animal Health*



Nancy Belk
MVMA 2022-
2023 President



Alan Goldhahn
MVMA New
Board Member

from the MVMA, Alan received his DVM from Colorado State University in 1982. Alan and his wife then traveled to northern California for a 6-month internship, which turned into a job at a large equine practice. He stayed in the area and continued his veterinary career as a solo ambulatory equine practitioner for more than 30 years, working for many cutting and reining horse clients. Alan finally returned to Montana and has been teaching in the WIMU program for the last nine years. Dr. Goldhahn said, "I look forward to serving on the MVMA board and giving back to our great state and profession."

2022 Honor Roll Recipients Recognized

During the Summer Meeting's Friday evening festivities, Dr. Ed Peretti, 2020-21 MVMA President, recognized the 2022 Honor Roll Recipients. Each year, MVMA pays tribute to three Montana veterinarians who hold historic license numbers. Congratulations to this year's recipients, pictured to right.



Robert Cornelius,
DVM - #525
Butte, Montana



Roy Herren,
DVM - #547
Billings, Montana



Don "Doc" Woerner, DVM - #538
Laurel, Montana

New MVMA Members Approved

The full and student membership applications listed to the right were approved during the 2022 Summer Membership Meeting. The MVMA Board, staff and membership extends a sincere welcome to all of these valued members!

Register Now for the 2023 MVMA Winter Meeting

The 2023 MVMA Winter Meeting will be held January 26-28 at the Best Western Plus GranTree Inn in Bozeman. Dr. Scott Damby, MVMA president-elect, has gathered a variety of outstanding speakers from both Montana and across the United States to present 14 hours of pertinent continuing education. See details starting on page 13 in this newsletter for all of the meeting details and registration information.

You can easily register online by going to the MVMA website - www.mtvma.org.

Please note, given the increase in Bozeman area tourism, please make your hotel room reservations as soon as possible. There are a limited number of rooms available at the reduced rate of \$99/night plus taxes. Discounted rates will be honored until sold out or December 26, 2022. Call 406-587-5261 and request the MVMA block, group code: 2792-1.

Future MVMA Meetings – Mark your calendars!

2023 MVMA Summer Meeting
June 22-24, Hilton Garden Inn - Missoula

2024 MVMA Winter Meeting
January 25-27, GranTree Inn – Bozeman

2024 MVMA Summer Meeting
June 27-29, Heritage Inn – Great Falls

MVMA's Online Job Board

Are you looking to fill a staff position or are you looking for a new job? If so, be sure to use the

MVMA Updates continued on page 4

FULL MEMBERS

April Adams
Dillon
Nicholas Bauer
Missoula
Ben Bennett
Wilsall
Katlyn Bennett
Wilsall
Thomas Gidlewski
Laporte, Colo.
Caitlyn Root Goggins
Billings
Emily Gosda
White Sulphur Springs
Brooke Hall
Lame Deer
Alyssa Komac
Three Forks
Kelsey Martin
Bozeman
Spring McKee
Polson
Aurora Lambert
Pfundkuch
Kalispell
Rebecca Armstrong Roth
Darby
Cassidy Temple
Bozeman
Rachel VaAusdol
Bozeman
Rene Wrenn
Bozeman

STUDENT MEMBERS

Markee Dupea
Michigan State
University
Tylynn Rettig Malek
Washington State
University
Palmer Moylan
Colorado State
University
Morgan Potton
Oregon State
University

MVMA Updates continued from page 3

MVMA Online Job Board through our website to post clinic position openings or resumes. The service is free to members, but members will need their website login information to post a job opening. In addition, there is a "featured posting" upgrade option which costs \$50 to move the posting to the top of the board and allow the posting to be published on the Google Jobs Network. Office staff may also post ads for MVMA members for free using a discount code.

If you have questions regarding the service or your staff would like to use the discounted code to post for you, please contact MVMA Association Coordinator Beth Emter at bemter@montana.com. Please note, relief services, practice sales or equipment sales notices are still posted through the MVMA office and those submissions should be emailed to bemter@montana.com.

MVMA Staff Updates: MVMA bids farewell to Jenny Bloomquist

MVMA wishes to thank Jenny Bloomquist for her service to the association over the past 2½ years. Jenny has diligently worked to ensure

the continued success and strong presence of MVMA around the state. She and her husband John are retiring and relocating to Saratoga, Wyo. We sincerely thank Jenny for her hard work and all she has done to move MVMA forward during the last several years!

Beth Emter of Clancy was hired in August to serve as the new staff person for MVMA. Beth joins the staff with extensive experience in association services. She recently served as associate director of membership with the Montana Stockgrowers Association in Helena. Before taking time off to help raise children for a few years, she worked for the Montana Stockgrowers as communications coordinator. Her experience with those positions included executing membership campaigns, producing member communications, developing association marketing and other tasks. Beth and her husband Cornel have two children, Rebecca, 19, and Michael, 17.

Beth will work with Stuart Doggett in providing association management services for MVMA and can be reached by e-mail at bemter@montana.com.



Jenny Bloomquist
Outgoing
MVMA Coordinator



Beth Emter
Incoming
MVMA Coordinator

President's Message continued from page 1

process reminds me of a saying from Rabbi Hillel:

"If I am not for myself, who will be for me?
When I am only for myself, what am I? If
not now, when?"

I look forward to seeing you on-line at the committee meetings and in-person at the Winter Meeting January 27-28 in Bozeman.

Nancy Belk DVM

Thank you!

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Exhibitors



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MONTANA 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION TO CONVENE IN JANUARY - MVMA READY TO ADVOCATE



Stuart Doggett
MVMA
Executive Director

The 2023 Montana Legislative Session will convene on Monday, January 2, starting with the swearing in of 100 members in the House and 50 elected or holdover members in the State Senate. It is anticipated both houses will have strong Republican majorities and both chambers will be tasked with electing new leaders since both the previous Speaker of the House (Wylie Galt) and the previous State Senate President (Mark Blasdel) are out due to term limits.

What's ahead for MVMA at the session?

As of early November, more than 900 bill draft requests had been made by lawmakers for the upcoming session, and we anticipate by the start of the session well over 3,000 bill requests will be made. Of those, likely less than half will actually be introduced as official bills.

So far MVMA staff is building the "MVMA Bill Preference List" to identify bills we sense may impact our members. To date, we have nearly 20 draft bill ideas on the list and traditionally we have monitored nearly 60 pieces of legislation each session. Once the bill contents are available, they are reviewed by MVMA lobbyists and shared with the MVMA board and Legislative Committee to help establish a MVMA position: monitor, oppose, support, or offer amendments.

Beginning in January, the MVMA office will also be sharing weekly – and sometimes more frequent – Legislative Bulletins to keep you aware of happenings at the State Capitol. On occasion we will also be asking members to directly contact legislators in support or opposition to specific bills.

Ways to access and provide input to Legislators

The Montana Legislature has developed and enhanced a very user-friendly website for

MVMA and all members of the public to gather information and submit comments during the 2023 session. It can be found at www.leg.mt.gov and we urge you to take a look. You can also call and leave a message for legislators during the session at (406) 444-4800.

Similar to last session, we understand MVMA members will have the option to testify for or against bills in-person or by Zoom. The policy last session for testifying by Zoom included the following which we anticipate being similar in 2023:

- You will be able to select from the bills that are scheduled for hearing 3 days in advance.
- By 5PM the day before the hearing, you will be able to submit your written testimony, write a brief message, or request a Zoom link to testify in the bill hearing the next day.
- Fill out the form with the pertinent details and submit. You will receive an email confirmation.
- Rules of decorum must be followed, and the Chair of the Committee you are testifying before will call on you when it is your turn to speak. Follow the Zoom directions and raise your hand to let the Remote Committee Coordinator know when you want to speak, and be aware there may be limits on long you can speak and who can speak.

MVMA will update our members via email of any 2023 Legislative news and updates as the Session draws closer. Please let us know if you have questions or suggestions on specific bills.

MVMA AWARDS 2022 SCHOLARSHIP TO TROY MORD

MVMA is pleased to announce Troy Mord, a third-year student at Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine, as the 2022 Recipient of the \$2,000 scholarship. A native of Chinook, Troy was on hand to receive the recognition at the Summer Meeting in Billings.

Troy is the son of longtime MVMA Member Tari Mord of Havre, and the late Mike Mord.

In accepting the award, Troy shared the following:

“Thank you so much for choosing to award me with the MVMA scholarship. Throughout our veterinary education, my colleagues and I are so grateful to have support, particularly from organizations with which we are so familiar and strive to join someday soon. The importance of your generosity and commitment to supporting future veterinarians cannot be overstated, as it embodies the spirit of giving back that this industry has become so revered for. I am extremely fortunate and appreciative to be a beneficiary of your support.

“As I enter my career in veterinary medicine, this will help provide me with a jumping

off point to seek opportunities to gain the experience to become a trustworthy, competent, and effective practitioner. Striving toward these qualities will be my primary goal upon graduation, and I plan to seek opportunities to maximize my experience in order to build a foundation upon which I may excel.

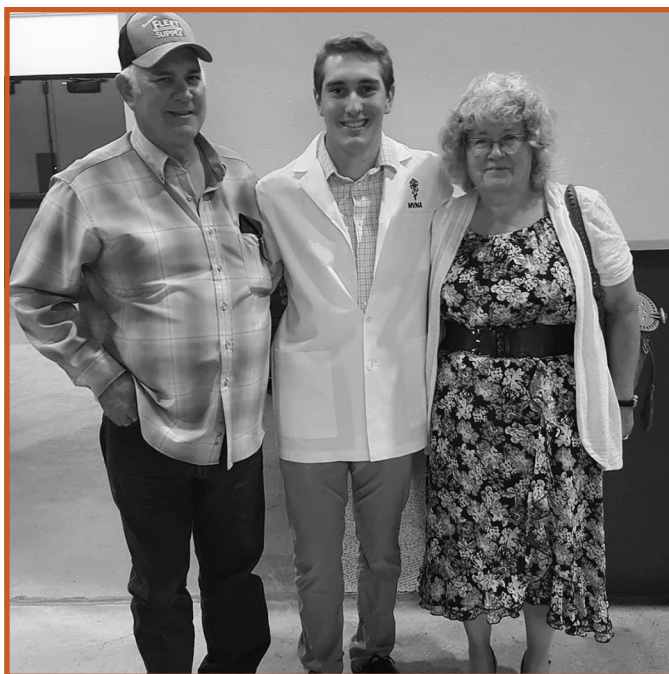
“Ultimately, my goal is to return to Montana and open a mixed animal practice to provide veterinary care to a

rural community similar to the one that raised me. With this in mind, recognition from the talented professionals that I strive to one day call my peers and colleagues is truly a marvelous feeling. Thank you so much for your generous gift, and I look forward to utilizing it to reach my fullest potential.”

Sincerely,



Troy Mord
Washington State University College of
Veterinary Medicine
DVM Candidate, Class of 2023
Chinook, Montana



Troy is pictured with his late father Mike and mother Tari.

*Each year
the MVMA
Scholarship
Award Program
grants \$2,000
to a deserving
veterinary
student. Any
Montana
student who has
completed at
least one year of
veterinary school
is welcome to
apply. For more
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the application
process contact
Beth Emter
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WIMU PROGRAM UPDATES

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WIMU
REGIONAL PROGRAM in VETERINARY MEDICINE

The innovative and highly successful program known as the Washington-Idaho-Montana-Utah Regional Program—or WIMU—serves students in the Northwest and northern Rockies. It is a partnership between Montana State University

and Washington State University in its Regional Program in Veterinary Medical Education.

WIMU provides the opportunity for up to ten new Montana college graduates each year to enroll in this Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program. MSU student participants spend their first year on the MSU-Bozeman campus, taught by MSU faculty. Classroom and clinical study continue in years two and three on WSU's Pullman campus. Students then have the opportunity to gain experience through a wide network of clinical placements in the four-state region during their fourth and final year.

In cooperation with an anonymous donor, MVMA recently established an endowed scholarship to help offset the rising costs of students participating in the MSU-WIMU program.

The scholarship may grow through additional earnings and gifts as well, further benefiting more students. If you would like to personally support the Montana Veterinary Medical Association WIMU Scholarship, you can do so be giving online or sending a check via mail. If you would like to support this effort, you can do so in one of the following avenues:

Giving online:

1. Visit the website msuaf.org
2. Click "Give to MSU"
3. Click "Make a gift online" (about ¾ of the way down the page, under "Annual Giving")
4. Search for "Montana Veterinary Medical Assoc."
5. Click "Montana Veterinary Medical Assoc. WIMU Scholarship"
6. Finally, click "Proceed to Gift Details" in the upper right corner where you will be prompted for the remaining information.

Giving via mail:

1. Mail to: MSU Alumni Foundation, P.O. Box 172750, Bozeman, MT 59717
2. Make the check payable to: Montana State University Alumni Foundation
3. Memo: MVMA WIMU Scholarship

If you would like to create your own named endowed scholarship fund, contact Austin O'Neill, MSU Alumni Foundation Director of Development at 406-994-4508 or austin.oneill@msuaf.org.

WIMU White Coat Ceremony launches Montana students into veterinary education

Washington State University's College of Veterinary Medicine hosted its annual White Coat Ceremony—which included 10 Montana students—on August 18 in Pullman, Wash. MVMA President Nancy Belk, DVM, was on hand for the ceremony to welcome the Class of 2026.

Unlike other veterinary colleges that provide white coats to students in their fourth year, WSU's first-year veterinary students have

received their clinical white coats at the ceremony for more than 20 years.

The White Coat Ceremony was established by Dr. Arnold Gold at Columbia University Medical School in 1993. WSU's College of Veterinary Medicine became the first veterinary school to adopt the ceremony in 1999.

The ceremony highlights the veterinarian-patient-client relationship and acknowledges among graduate veterinarians that these students are now becoming peers in the profession. Upon taking the Veterinarian's Oath, the ceremony encourages veterinary students to accept the obligations inherent in the practice of veterinary medicine: to be excellent in science, compassionate, and lead lives of uprightness and honor.

Ten Montanans graduate with WIMU Class of 2022

May of 2022 saw 10 Montana students graduate with their WIMU class. Congratulations to the following students who are now embarking on their Doctor of Veterinary Medicine careers!

Madison Comes Austin Gabelt



| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Kaylee Kountz | Miriam Larson |
| Katherine Madsen | Allyson Quigley |
| Caitlyn Root | Marissa Soderberg |
| Kasey Sweeney | Cassidy Temple |

Washington State University is proud to report that 100% of the graduates who wanted to go directly to work had jobs in their chosen fields.

See page 10 to read more about one of the 2022 WIMU graduates, Madison Comes.

Montana White Coat Recipients 2022 *(pictured above)*

Back row:

Dr. Nancy Belk
Paige Dull
Bozeman
Susanna Kielley
Hall
Morgan Fraley
Bozeman
Anna DeCan
Florence
Nolan Nansel
Colstrip
Grace Scrafford
Whitefish

Front row:

Savannah
Schneider
Helena
Erica Alfiero
St. Ignatius
Bailey Bailey
Big Timber
Rachel Trudell
Billings

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WIMU CLASS OF 2022 SPOTLIGHT

Maddie Comes joins Double Arrow Veterinary clinic in Choteau



Maddie Comes, DVM
WIMU Class of 2022 Graduate

Arrow Veterinary Clinic in Choteau has welcomed Montana native and recent WIMU graduate Dr. Maddie Comes as the newest veterinarian on staff.

She joined Dr. Robert Lee's practice on May 31 and has hit the ground running, seeing large and small animal patients while doing after hours emergencies.

"So far Choteau has really fit well for me. Growing up in Lewistown, I always knew I wanted to come back to Montana after school and work at a rural mixed practice clinic," said Comes. "Teton County is a gorgeous area and I'm excited to be practicing in a town where production agriculture is such a big part of the community."

Comes discovered her interest in animal science while growing up on her grandparents' cattle ranch in the Lewistown area, where her parents still live. She said, "I feel very fortunate to have grown up in a community like Lewistown surrounded by animal agriculture. I see a lot of similarities between the Lewistown and Choteau communities and I'm looking forward to making it home."

She still remembers veterinarians coming to the ranch during her childhood. "I thought they [the vets] were larger than life and I knew it was something I wanted to do," she said. A career in veterinary medicine was a way she could give back to the industry that she cherishes.

Comes attended public schools in Lewistown where she was active in FFA. She credits her high school ag teacher for her continued interest in animal sciences and veterinary medicine.

She then attended Colorado State University in Fort Collins, majoring in animal science. While at CSU she was a member of the meat judging, livestock judging and meat animal evaluation teams.

During her year on the meat judging team, she traveled to different processing plants all over the country to grade and judge cattle, hog and sheep carcasses based on muscle, fat thickness and marbling.

While on the livestock judging team, she traveled to stock shows all over the Midwest, Texas and Colorado, judging market and breeding classes of livestock. Comes said her team was able to visit seed-stock producers from around the U.S. and learn about the genotypic and phenotypic components of livestock they feel are valuable in meat animal agriculture.

As a senior, she was on the meat animal evaluation team, where they first assessed the live animal from a feedlot perspective and then evaluated the same animals' carcass composition on the rail.

Through her participation on judging teams, she gained valuable insight into raising healthy, productive animals and the process that takes an animal from ranch to feedlot to harvest to grocery store. "It was a unique experience that allowed me to tie all the levels of production together," she said.

During her undergraduate years at Colorado State, Comes spent summers working for Horizon Veterinary Clinic in Lewistown, under the mentorship of MVMA Member Dr. Greg Carlson. She credits Carlson with encouraging her to complete her veterinary medicine degree. "He's the reason I went through with being a vet," she said, explaining that he gave her

real-world experience while teaching her about compassionate and professional care.

As a senior year at Colorado State, she worked with a nonprofit small animal veterinary clinic in Fort Collins that specialized in providing veterinary care for the pets of low-income and senior citizen clients. “It was a beneficial program that allowed all people access to veterinary care without the big city prices,” she said.

She completed her bachelor’s degree in 2018 and then was accepted at Washington State University’s veterinary school through the Washington-Idaho-Montana Utah (WIMU) regional student exchange program, which allowed her to do her first year of veterinary school at Montana State University in Bozeman before completing the final three years at Washington State University in Pullman.

During her first three months on the job, Comes said, she has found the clients and the people in Choteau to be very welcoming. “Everyone I’ve met has been beyond friendly,” she said.

Providing medical services to everything from kittens to Quarter Horses brings a lot of variety to her day. Each season of the year brings something different.

When she started veterinary school, she said, “I knew I wanted to work with both large and small animals. Mixed practice has always been incredibly appealing to me because I enjoy doing something different every day.”

Comes said animal reproduction is a facet of veterinary medicine she really enjoys. She credits that interest to her ranching background and professors at WSU.

“Canine reproduction is vastly different than equine or bovine reproduction, but the results are always incredibly rewarding no matter the species,” she said.

This summer, she said, she has enjoyed seeing small animal patients, but is really looking forward to moving into fall where she will stay busy pregnancy testing cattle.

Comes said Dr. Lee has been a fantastic mentor for her, particularly as she treats large animals, and has enjoyed working with the Double Arrow staff and meeting new clients. “Overall, it has been fantastic and I am looking forward to continuing to meet more of the community,” she said.

Comes is welcoming new clients and can be reached at the clinic at 406-466-5333. Double Arrow is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is closed on weekends and during the lunch hour from noon to 1 p.m. She is also providing after-hours emergency services on weeknights and weekends. She said that people can call the clinic phone number after hours and on weekends for medical emergencies.

Others on the Double Arrow team with Dr. Lee and Dr. Comes are: Addie Lohman, vet tech; Lea Yeager, vet tech and receptionist; Terri Boom and Susan Snyder, receptionists; Beth Ann Hodgskiss, office manager; Adelen Long, vet assistant and building maintenance; and Jim Salmond, who has been a member of the Double Arrow staff for almost 20 years working one afternoon a week doing laundry, cardboard recycling and other important tasks.

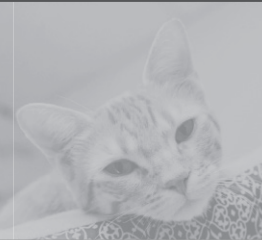
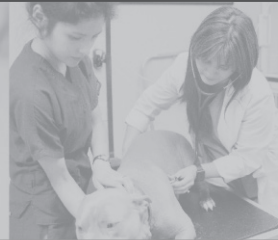
[Reprinted with permission from the *Choteau Acantha*.]

“I knew I wanted to work with both large and small animals. Mixed practice has always been incredibly appealing to me because I enjoy doing something different every day.”



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2023 WINTER MEETING

JANUARY 26-28, 2023

BEST WESTERN PLUS GRANTREE INN BOZEMAN, MONTANA

REGISTRATION

- **14 Continuing Education Credits**
- **Pre-Registration - before January 9**
 - MVMA Member - \$355
 - Non-MVMA Member - \$485
 - Technician/Office Staff - \$180
- **After January 9 or On-Site Registration**
 - MVMA Member - \$395
 - Non-MVMA Member - \$525
 - Technician/Office Staff - \$220
- **Free for CVM Students or Life Members**
 - pre-registration is required; meal tickets must be purchased

Online: Quickest & easiest – pay by credit card at mtvma.org

Mail: Complete the enclosed registration form and mail with payment to: MVMA, P.O. Box 6322, Helena, MT 59604

Questions? Contact Beth Emter, MVMA Association Coordinator, at 406-447-4259 or email at bemter@montana.com

Proceedings will be available online one week prior to the meeting. Printed proceedings will not be made available at the meeting. Once attendance is verified, CE certificates will be mailed within two weeks after the meeting.



... AGENDA ...

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26

3:00 – 6:00 pm MVMA Board of Directors Meeting

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

7:00 – 8:00 am Registration/Breakfast Buffet

8:00 am - Noon Large Animal Session – 4 CE

Kathryn L. Wotman, DVM, DACVIM (Large Animal), DACVO – Colorado State University

EQUINE OPHTHALMOLOGY

Dr. Wotman will present equine ophthalmology, which will focus on the common ocular diseases dealt with in the field including corneal disease, equine recurrent uveitis (ERU) and ocular squamous cell carcinoma.

8:00 am - Noon Small Animal Session – 4 CE

Rachel Hector, DVM, MS, DACVAA – Colorado State University

SMALL ANIMAL ANESTHESIOLOGY

Dr. Hector will present frequently asked questions, common myths and misconceptions, and recent evidence-based practice in veterinary anesthesia. She will be covering multiple small animal species from cats to rabbits and everything in between.

Noon – 1:00 pm Membership Lunch Buffet

Note: The MVMA committee meetings will be conducted via Zoom prior to the Winter Meeting rather than during this luncheon. Details were emailed to all current MVMA members.

1:00 – 5:00 pm Large Animal Session – 4 CE

Tom Geary, PhD, MS – USDA-ARS Fort Keogh Livestock & Research Range Laboratory

BOVINE MALE REPRODUCTION

Dr. Geary will present information related to bull development and management that impacts fertility as well as recent research to improve bull fertility assessment. Efforts to develop a quantitative bull fertility index are ongoing and the role of the veterinarian for facilitating this index will be included. Such efforts provide potential for selection for fertility in our cowherds and Montana Veterinarians may be leading this charge.

1:00 – 5:00 pm Small Animal Session – 4 CE

Carl Pew, DVM, MRCVS – South Mountain Canine Reproduction & Pet Care (Draper, Utah)

CANINE REPRODUCTION

6:00 pm Social Hour – Hosted Bar and Hors D'oeuvres

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

7:00 – 8:00 am Registration/Breakfast Buffet – Hotel Atrium

8:00 am – Noon Large Animal Session – 4 CE

Rachel Hector, DVM, MS, DACVAA – Colorado State University

LARGE ANIMAL ANESTHESIOLOGY

Dr. Hector will present frequently asked questions, common myths and misconceptions, and recent evidence-based practice in veterinary anesthesia. She will be covering multiple large animal species from pigs to horses and everything in between.

8:00 am – Noon Small Animal Session – 4 CE

Kathryn L. Wotman, DVM, DACVIM (Large Animal), DACVO – Colorado State University

SMALL ANIMAL OPHTHALMOLOGY

Dr. Wotman will present small animal ophthalmology, which will focus on the diagnosis and treatment of corneal disease and uveitis. She will also provide helpful hints for doing a fundic examination in dogs and cats.

Noon – 2:00 pm Lunch Buffet/MVMA General Membership Meeting

2:00 – 4:00 pm Joint Large and Small Animal Session – 2 CE

CANINE BRUCELLOSIS TESTING AND MANAGEMENT

Merry Michalski, DVM – Program Veterinarian

Erika Schwarz, DVM, MPH, PhD – Microbiology Section Head, Montana Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS UPDATE

Marty Zaluski, DVM – State Veterinarian

Tahnee Szymanski, DVM – Assistant State Veterinarian

DSA AND BRUCELLOSIS UPDATES

Brad DeGroot, DVM – Brucellosis Program Veterinarian, Montana Department of Livestock

Marty Zaluski, DVM

TUBERCULOSIS UPDATE

Tahnee Szymanski, DVM

HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA

Merry Michalski, DVM

Tahnee Szymanski, DVM

ROOM RESERVATIONS

A block of MVMA hotel rooms has been reserved at Best Western Plus GranTree Inn-Bozeman, at the rate of \$99/night plus taxes. **This discounted rate will be honored until sold out or December 26, 2022.** Call 406-587-5261 and request the MVMA Room Block, group code 2792-1.



Best
Western
PLUS

... SPEAKERS ...



Kathryn L. Wotman, DVM, DACVIM (Large Animal), DACVO

*Equine Ophthalmologist
Assistant Professor, Comparative Ophthalmology -
Department of Clinical Sciences
College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences,
Colorado State University
Johnson Family Equine Hospital, Fort Collins, CO*

Dr. Wotman is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmology and the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (Large Animal). She is also a member of the International Equine Ophthalmology Consortium and the American Veterinary Medical Association. She is originally from Chicago and graduated from Purdue University with a degree in Animal Sciences, and obtained her DVM degree from the University of Illinois. She went on to do a rotating equine internship at Mid-Atlantic Equine in Ringoes, New Jersey.

Dr. Wotman completed her Large Animal Internal Medicine residency, followed by a residency in Veterinary Ophthalmology, at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Veterinary Medicine- New Bolton Center.

Dr. Wotman is currently with the Ophthalmology team at Colorado State University, where she is an Assistant Professor in Comparative Ophthalmology. Her clinical interests and research center around equine ophthalmology and neoplasia with a focus on equine ocular squamous cell carcinoma (SCC), equine sarcoids, equine recurrent uveitis (ERU), ocular pain management, corneal disease, glaucoma and ocular manifestations of systemic disease.



Rachel C. Hector, DVM, MS, Dipl. ACVAA
*Asst. Professor – Anesthesia & Pain Management
Colorado State University Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Fort Collins, CO*

Dr. Hector received her DVM from Oregon State University in 2012 and spent two years as an equine veterinarian in a surgical referral hospital near Vancouver, British Columbia. She completed her residency in Anesthesia and Analgesia at Colorado State University and became board certified in 2017.

She is currently an Assistant Professor of Anesthesia and Pain Management at the Colorado State University Veterinary Teaching Hospital and focuses her research primarily on improving equine anesthetic management.



Tom Geary, PhD, MS
*Research Scientist
USDA-ARS Fort Keogh – Livestock & Research Range
Laboratory, Miles City, MT*

Dr. Geary received his B.S. in Animal and Range Sciences from Montana State University in 1985. He spent two years on a family ranch in Helmsville, Mont., before returning to school to complete his MS (1989) and PhD (1994) in Animal Science at Washington State University. Tom served as an Assistant Professor

in the Animal Science Department at Colorado State University before returning to Montana in 1999. He is currently a research scientist with the USDA-ARS Fort Keogh, Livestock and Research Range Laboratory in Miles City.

Tom's research focuses on reproductive efficiency in beef cattle by evaluating strategies to improve pregnancy establishment and maintenance. He directs research toward understanding early embryonic loss and applications that minimize these losses.



Marty Zaluski, DVM
*State Veterinarian, Montana Department of Livestock,
Helena, MT*

Zaluski graduated from Butte High School in 1987 and holds a doctorate in veterinary medicine from Michigan State University. His background includes several years as a large-animal veterinarian in private practice. In 2000 he joined the Michigan Department of Agriculture to work on the problem of tuberculosis in deer and cattle. In 2002, Zaluski went

to the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services as a public-health liaison, and became director of the North Carolina agency's emergency programs in 2005. He has been state veterinarian since 2007.



Tahnee Szymanski, DVM
*Assistant State Veterinarian
Montana Department of Livestock, Helena, MT*

Dr. Szymanski is a Montana native and 2004 graduate from the Oregon State University College of Veterinary Medicine. Prior to joining the Department of Livestock in 2008, Dr. Szymanski worked in a large animal ambulatory practice. As the Assistant State Veterinarian, Dr. Szymanski is responsible for the Animal Health Bureau. This includes the

state trichomoniasis program; traceability; import requirements; disease reporting; public health issues; as well as other cattle, equine, and poultry disease programs. Outside of work, she enjoys hiking, kayaking, snowshoeing, and camping with her daughter Campbell.



Erika Schwarz, DVM, MPH, PhD
*Microbiology Section Head
Montana Veterinary Diagnostic Lab, Bozeman, MT*

Dr. Schwarz is a Clinical Veterinary Microbiologist at the Montana Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory in Bozeman, Montana. As Microbiology Section Head, she provides diagnostic technical expertise, veterinary consultation, and oversees daily operations and clinical testing in the Bacteriology, Virology, Molecular Diagnostics, and Serology

sections. Erika received her Bachelor of Science, Master of Public Health, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from the University of Florida. She is a classically trained virologist and has an extensive background working with a wide variety of human and animal pathogens. Her professional interests include infectious diseases at the human-domestic animal-wildlife interface, diagnostic techniques for high-consequence pathogens, translational medicine, and One Health. Outside of the lab, she and her husband enjoy working with their horses, skiing, hiking, kayaking, and biking.

Merry Michalski, DVM
*Program Veterinarian
Montana Department of Livestock, Helena, MT*

Brad DeGroot, DVM
*Brucellosis Program Veterinarian
Montana Department of Livestock, Helena, MT*



Carl Pew, DVM, MRCVS
South Mountain Canine Reproduction & Pet Care, Draper, UT

MVMA extends both recognition and appreciation to Dr. Scott Darby, MVMA President Elect and 2023 Winter Meeting Chair, for the time and effort she has devoted to planning this event.



... REGISTRATION ...

Montana Veterinary Medical Association

2023 Winter Meeting Registration

Best Western Plus GranTree Inn – Friday, January 27 & Saturday, January 28

Registration Available Online! Save postage, time and pay with a credit card: visit our website, www.mtvma.org.

Please Print

Name _____ First CE meeting? ☐ Yes ☐ No
As it should appear on your name badge

Clinic _____
Provide only if it is used for your mailing address

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Two Day Rate (Friday & Saturday) – includes registration and all meals

| Total of 14 CE Hours | Through Jan. 9 | After Jan. 9 | Your Fee (includes meals) |
|---|----------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| MVMA or VMA Member of Other State (not practicing in Montana), <i>Life Member requesting CE</i> | \$355 | \$395 | |
| Non VMA Member | \$485 | \$525 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Technician <input type="checkbox"/> Office Manager | \$180 | \$220 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member <input type="checkbox"/> Student <i>No CE Awarded</i> | free | free | |

One Day Rate – includes registration and all meals for one day

| Friday: 8 CE Hours Saturday: 6 CE Hours | Through Jan. 9 | After Jan. 9 | Your Fee (includes meals) |
|---|----------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| MVMA or VMA Member of Other State, <i>Life Members requesting CE</i> Check: <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday | \$290 | \$330 | |
| Non VMA Member Check: <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday | \$420 | \$460 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Technician <input type="checkbox"/> Office Manager Check: <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday | \$150 | \$190 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member <input type="checkbox"/> Student <i>No CE Awarded</i> Check: <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday | free | free | |

| Guest/Life/Student Meals | Guest Name: | Meals Fee – Life without CE, Students, Guests ONLY | |
|---|-------------|--|--|
| Both Days – all meals | | \$135 | |
| One Day Check: <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday | | Friday only \$85 Saturday only \$55 | |
| Friday Evening Reception Only | | \$30 | |

Please let us know if you and/or your guest have any dietary restrictions:

Total Amount: \$ _____

Lodging:

A block of MVMA rooms has been reserved at the Best Western Plus GranTree Inn, Bozeman, at the rate of \$99/night plus taxes. **Discounted rate will be honored until sold out or December 26, 2022.** Call 406-587-5261 and request the MVMA block, group code: 2792-1.

Send Registration to: MVMA
PO Box 6322
Helena, MT 59604 fax: 406-442-8018

Questions? Call or email Beth:
406-447-4259
info@mtvma.org

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Coordinator*
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MONTANA VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

MONTANA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE UPDATE

by Kelly Welsh, Executive Officer

Board Member Updates:

Dr. Barbara Calm's term expired in July of this year. Saying goodbye is not easy, as Dr. Calm has played a vital role on the Board for almost 15 years. Her many years of service are greatly valued and appreciated, and her contributions advanced the Board's effectiveness and the standards for the profession. As president for three nonconsecutive terms, Dr. Calm displayed outstanding leadership and will be missed. We are thankful for her many years of service to the State Board and wish her the best.

Thank you, Dr. Calm!

New Board Appointees

- Dr. Greg Carlson of Lewistown was appointed to the Board in September of 2022. Dr. Carlson brings a wide array of veterinary expertise and represents the rural area of central MT. We are excited for his new perspective and contributions on the Board.
- Ms. Marcia Cantrell of Livingston was appointed to the Board effective January 3, 2023. Marcia will be the new Licensed Veterinary Technician (LVT) representative implemented by SB 106. Marcia was an active committee member on the LVT rules project, holding an essential role in the committee's work. Marcia has done an excellent job representing technicians for Montana and we look forward to her further contributions on the Board.

Annual elections of the Board Members are required by statute - at the full board meeting on September 20, the Board conducted their annual elections. Below are the results of the newly elected positions:

- Dr. Tia Nelson is our Board's newly elected President
- Dr. Katie Rein is our Board's newly elected Vice President
- Dr. Jeanne Rankin is our Board's newly elected Secretary

Licensed Veterinary Technician Project Update:

The LVT committee wrapped up their work in June, the final rule notice of amendment and adoption was effective September 10, 2022 - MAR Notice No. 24-225-42. The final rule notice can be found at: <https://boards.bsd.dli.mt.gov/veterinary-medicine>, click on "Regulations" on the right-hand side, and go to "Rule Notices."

The committee had significant participation from an inclusive stakeholder audience, which elevated the outcomes of the project. Thank you to everyone who was involved. At times the process felt tedious, but everyone's valuable and meaningful contributions guided the committee successfully through to the end. More details regarding the license and application process will be posted to the Board's home page in November 2022. The content of the information is intended to help guide those interested in applying. Please stay tuned and be watching the Boards' website at: <https://boards.bsd.dli.mt.gov/veterinary-medicine/>.

2022 AAVSB Annual Conference:

AAVSB's annual conference was held in Charlotte, NC, September 15-18, and three representatives selected by the Board were in attendance: Dr. Rankin, Dr. Nelson, and Kelly Welsh-executive officer. The conference offers excellent networking opportunities, advanced



Barbara Calm, DVM
Outgoing MVMA Board Member

Executive Director
Kelly Welsh

Board Contact Information

P.O. Box 200513
Helena, MT 59620-0513
406-444-5711
website: boards.bsd.dli.mt.gov/vet

Professional Licensing Customer Service

(406) 444-6880
DLIBSDHELP@MT.GOV

learning sessions, exposure to trends in the field and open forums wherein state regulatory topics are discussed among veterinarians and state board administrative professionals from across the country.

The Board's Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2023:

- December 20, 2022, tentative - 2023 legislative update if necessary (Zoom Meeting)
- February 7, 2023: 8:30 am start time (Zoom Meeting)
- May 23, 2023: 8:30 am start time; in-person meeting in Helena

Board meetings are open to any licensee or member of the public. If you wish to be added to the Board's interested parties list to receive updates on proposed rulemaking and upcoming board meeting agendas, please e-mail your request to dlibsdrvvet@mt.gov.

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Board of Veterinary Medicine is to protect the health, safety, and well-being of Montana citizens through the regulation and oversight of veterinary medicine and the licensing of competent professionals. The Board makes every effort to include relevant and current information pertaining to licensing and regulation on our website.

BIG SKY VETERINARY TECHNICIAN ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Eli Olind, CVT, BSVTA President

The BSVTA is excited to announce that the BSVTA's new website is up and running. The new platform will streamline communications within the organization. All members can create their own profile in which to communicate with other members, store Continuing Education documents, sign up for continuing education events, and many more features. Go to bigskyvettech.org to check it out.

On Oct 15, the BSVTA hosted a CE on Small Animal Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation in Belgrade. The speaker was John Nielsen, CVT, VTS (ECC, Physical Rehabilitation), CVPP, CCRP, CCFT. Check out details about the event on the BSVTA Facebook page.

The BSVTA Executive Board is also busy getting all the information needed to transfer credentialing to the Montana State Veterinary Board. Veterinary Technicians can start applying for licensure after January 1, 2023. Check out the bigskyvettech.org website and the association's Facebook page for updates.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to any BSVTA Board Member with any questions you may have.



BSVTA Executive Board

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PAST PRESIDENT

SHAWNI HANSEN, CVT

PRESIDENT ELECT

TRICIA STONE, CVT
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DIRECTOR 3

DANYALE WEST

CONTINUING EDUCATION CHAIR

ANNI O'HARA, CVT
continuinged@bigskyvettech.org

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK UPDATE

Avian Influenza

Unfortunately, Montana has newly diagnosed cases of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in Teton and Glacier Counties. Nationally, cases have picked back up since mid-August, with 60 cases nationally in all of September, and 22 new cases in the first week of October alone. This contrasts with 15 cases during the entire month of July.

Conversations with USDA forecast that the risk of HPAI infection from wild waterfowl will extend through the fall and into the winter in some areas. The 2022 outbreak has already exceeded 2015 in the number of states affected (42 versus 15) and infections in backyard poultry (>200 vs. 12) and is set to exceed the total number of birds depopulated if the epi. trend continues. As of September 28, 36.7 million layers, 2.5 million broilers, and 7.1 million turkeys have been depopulated.

Biosecurity continues to be the mainstay of protection from HPAI. Risk factors identified based upon feedback from veterinarians and industry include:

- Environmental contamination with HPAI
- Manure trucks
- Exhaust fans
- Proximity to pond/migratory birds
- Human traffic into and out of bird rearing areas

Please encourage your producers to continue to maintain good biosecurity practices and keep birds indoors to the extent possible.

Brucella canis

The Montana Department of Livestock is continuing to focus on the increased rate of *B. canis* infections in Montana. *B. canis* poses an often frustrating, diagnostic challenge for veterinarians and animal owners. To address this challenge and to ensure screening efforts are adequately addressing at risk populations, we have revised the recommendations for *B. canis* testing to focus on whether dogs have specific risk factors. This is a change from our previous guidance that targets dogs for testing based on geography. In addition to the revised recommendations, we have created decision trees on whether *B. canis* testing is indicated and guidance on follow-up for dogs that are not easily categorized.

MDOL recommends the following animals be tested for *B. canis*:

- Symptomatic animals when an alternative diagnosis cannot be determined.
- Dogs that originate from areas with large numbers of stray and sexually intact dogs.
- Newly adopted/rescued animals if testing history is unavailable.
- Periparturient dogs that were not tested prior to breeding
- Sexually intact dogs as part of a routine pre-breeding examination.

Additional information can be found in the current edition of StockQuotes and on our website at liv.mt.gov/Animal-Health/Reportable-Animal-Diseases/Brucella-canis.

We are also collating case numbers to better understand incidence. Part of this effort is the



Martin Zaluski
DVM,
State Veterinarian



Tahnee Szymanski
DVM, Assistant
State Veterinarian

creation of case definitions for suspect, probable and confirmed cases. As a culmination of these efforts, we will be holding a B. canis forum in Billings in the coming months to provide current information on B. canis and to stimulate discussion on the best path forward for B. canis management in Montana. We hope to bring veterinarians, shelters, rescue groups, and public health professionals from state and local jurisdictions to the table.

Brucellosis

Montana recently completed our triennial review process, including in-person interviews and on-sight inspections, with USDA-APHIS Veterinary Services. USDA conducts thorough reviews of the Designated Surveillance Areas (DSAs) and brucellosis control programs run by the Greater Yellowstone Area (GYA) states MT, ID, and WY on a three-year rotating basis.

Preliminary feedback from the USDA staff has been very positive. Because of the diligence of Montana veterinarians and producers, Montana's

tests over 90% of the eligible cattle that are in the DSA during the brucellosis transmission risk period (February 16 through June 15) on an annual basis. Testing includes required movement and change of ownership testing as well as voluntary herd testing. Additionally, the hard work of our state brand inspectors and compliance staff allows MDOL to verify DSA compliance at the individual animal level on over 95% of movements out of the DSA. The USDA review team expressed great appreciation and confidence in these metrics. These successes keep Montana cattle free from brucellosis and enable Montana ranches to confidently market cattle throughout the United States.

That confidence has served us well so far in our efforts at the United States Animal Health Association Annual Meeting to convince state animal health officials of trading partner states to accept DSA-origin cattle without additional test, ID, or vaccination requirements. USDA staff have supported our efforts without

MDOL Update continued on page 23

We look forward to continuing to work with you to further refine the efficiency and effectiveness of our state's brucellosis control program.

| DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK ANIMAL HEALTH BUREAU | |
|--|---|
| PO Box 202001 301 N Roberts Street Helena, MT 59620-2001 General Inquiries: (406) 444-2043 FAX: (406) 444-1929 Import Permits: (406) 444-2976 Standard permits available 24 hours | |
| Martin Zaluski: (406) 444-0782 State Veterinarian | Tahnee Szymanski: (406) 444-5214 Assistant State Veterinarian |
| Brad DeGroot: (406) 444-3374 Brucellosis Program Veterinarian | Merry Michalski: (406) 444-2939 Program Veterinarian |
| Brooke Ruffier: (406) 444-9525 Import Office Manager, equine six-month passports (EECVI), alternative livestock | Britta Sekora: (406) 444-2892 Import permits, NPIP, poultry imports, brucellosis vaccination certificates |
| Kaylee Hiel: (406) 444-5200 Import permits, veterinary supply orders, exotic imports, blanket permits | Jac Cima: (406) 444-3703 Compliance Technician |
| Sara Starkey: (406)-444-1587 Seasonal grazing, export health certificates, veterinarian accreditation, veterinarian address changes, rabies, b-ovis, trichomoniasis, biologics | |

PIMA MEDICAL INSTITUTE-DILLON ANNOUNCES NEW HYBRID VETERINARY ASSISTANT PROGRAM

We at Pima Medical Institute understand that learning experiences are as individual as our students. To meet the growing need of students who require more flexibility in their schedules, Pima Medical is now offering Hybrid Education options for Veterinary Assistant certificate programs.



Pima Medical Institute Contact Information:

434 East Poindexter
Dillon, MT 59725
(406) 988 – 0888
pmi.edu

Hybrid Education at Pima Medical is structured online education combined with hands-on clinical applications in our real-world lab classrooms. The blended learning structure

for hybrid students will include scheduled online classroom instruction, on-campus lab/classroom instruction two days a week, and flexible learning opportunities that could include individual study time as well as additional lab practice or tutoring.

Advantages for employers

Students in the Veterinary Assistant certificate program will learn an array of animal care skills and knowledge, like:

- Providing preventative healthcare
- Collecting/preparing laboratory samples
- Assisting with animal nursing
- Properly communicating with clients
- Administering medications
- Providing pre- and post-operative care
- Recognizing animal behavior norms
- Understanding pharmacology basics

Advantages for students

Since the labs and skill competencies are coordinated on campus, there is no requirement

for students to film and submit their lab skill competencies for evaluation. This means that employees can continue to function as normal during their working hours. The lab days are scheduled only twice a week for 4 hours each day, so it will have minimal impact on the employee's schedule. As with most programs, this structure will allow the employees to learn new skills and advance their knowledge, which can then be utilized during their shifts.

Externships are coordinated by PMI, and employees will have the opportunity to complete their externships at their place of employment. While there is paperwork required for grading, it includes verification that students completed lab skills and an evaluation on their professionalism while completing externship.

- Flexible hours outside of 8-hours per week requirement to complete lab competencies.
- Minimum disruption to student's working schedule.
- Flexibility to complete online courses during convenient times while still keeping students on track with due dates.
- Encourages employees to complete their schooling on time, as it is not a self-paced program.
- No requirement of staff to help students film lab competencies during working hours.
- All lab skills are coordinated on campus to include animals required for skill completion.
- Students have the ability to complete their externship at their place of employment.
- Can learn new skills and start utilizing them right away at their workplace.

MONTANA VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION POWER OF TEN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The **Power of Ten** Leadership Program is an MVMA initiative designed to cultivate leadership capacity in recent graduates and provide learning experiences that will enrich the individual and benefit the individual's practice, community, and profession. It is designed to help recent graduates develop foundational skills in leadership, communication, and business. The MVMA is taking a pause on this program and will begin recruiting for the next class in the fall of 2023. The first in-person meeting will be at the January 2024 MVMA

conference in Bozeman. The class will wrap up in February of 2025 with a retreat in Helena.

While the program is focused on recent graduates, there are many lessons that apply to practice owners. As the program is focused on developing human potential, a veterinarian at any stage of their career could benefit from participation. We hope you consider applying for the next class!



Katie Rein, DVM
Crazy Mountain
Veterinary Service, PLLC
Power of Ten
Co-facilitator

MDOL Update *continued from page 21*

reservation. Much work remains, but if we are successful in these efforts, your clients will be able to market cattle to customers in other states without getting caught in situations where they or their customers have to satisfy difficult or expensive additional brucellosis requirements that may dampen demand or even jeopardize the completion of sales.

After ten plus years of managing a DSA in Montana, we are always looking for ways to streamline the program. To this end, MDOL has recently implemented some rule changes. Operations that routinely move cattle into the DSA for summer grazing can now bring those cattle back out of the DSA to safer and more efficient working facilities to get tested within 10 days of movement, so long as they are held separate from other livestock until test results are back. Under the previous rule, a

management agreement was required to do this.

Similarly, livestock that move into the DSA for exhibition or veterinary care can return without testing so long as they don't commingle with DSA livestock. Livestock move into and out of the DSA without ever being there during the February 16 to June 15 risk period can now do so without a brucellosis test. As before, we can still accommodate less common situations or situations that are more difficult to manage with individual management agreements.

We thank you and your clients again for working with us to protect the value of Montana livestock, and we look forward to continuing to work with you to further refine the efficiency and effectiveness of our state's brucellosis control program.

VETERINARY DENTAL TRAINING CLASSES OFFERED IN BOZEMAN

Many (if not most) practices send 70 percent or more of treatable dental pathology out the door without being addressed.

Montana Pet Dentistry and Oral Surgery is pleased to announce dental training classes in our new Bozeman facility. Initially we will be offering the two classes detailed below, with additional classes to follow in the future. All classes are RACE approved for 8 hours CE credit and class sizes are limited to ensure excellent instructor-to-student ratios.

Many (if not most) practices send 70 percent or more of treatable dental pathology out the door without being addressed. Even in rural areas, owners are very accepting of a higher level of dental care for their pets when the pathology is identified and communicated appropriately. In two days, we can show you how to identify and deliver 90 percent of the dental treatment your patients should be receiving. The idea that “your clientele” won’t accept and pay for a higher level of dental care is simply not true regardless of your location. Where dentistry is concerned, practices are held back more by their own beliefs than by their clients. We can help you provide better dental care to your patients.

Introduction to Veterinary Dentistry and Radiology class description (Level 1) Four hours lecture and four hours lab

This class is for both technicians and doctors and covers the comprehensive dental cleaning procedure (COHAT), oral pathology, instrumentation used in cleaning, dental equipment, dental radiology, interpretation of dental radiographs, digital dental radiography systems, utilization of digital systems to promote client education, dental charting, communicating dental treatment plans to owners, talking with owners about the costs of dental treatment and implementing a higher level of dental care in a general practice. The wet lab portion teaches you how to obtain diagnostic dental radiographs

utilizing canine and feline cadaver specimens and addresses the “business side” of veterinary dentistry. Sharpening hand instruments and general equipment questions are also covered. Each participant receives a complimentary instrument set to take home with them.

At a minimum, we recommend that one interested doctor and one interested technician should attend the Introduction to Veterinary Dentistry and Radiology class (Level 1), while the doctor should stay for the Introduction to Veterinary Oral Surgery and Periodontal Treatment class (Level 2). Sending only a technician who has minimal interest in dental care to class rarely creates any lasting change in a practice.

Note- Some doctors skip this course, thinking that the material is too basic. This class provides the foundation required for the Level 2 class. We strongly recommended that all doctors taking the Level 2 class attend the Level 1 class first. As an example- doctors should not have to take dental X-rays, but they need to identify when they are not positioned correctly and need to be able to show technical staff how to correct positioning errors. Doctors need to be able to interpret dental X-rays and assess pathology to prepare an appropriate treatment plan. These skills are covered in the Level 1 class.

Introduction to Veterinary Oral Surgery and Periodontal treatment class description (Level 2) Four hours lecture and four hours lab

The Introduction to Veterinary Oral Surgery and Periodontal Treatment class is for doctors only and is limited to 8 veterinarians with two instructors and two assistants.

This class is for veterinarians only and will cover the common techniques needed to deliver the bulk of all dental care required for your patients.

Simulated lesions are created on cadaver specimens, and the participants then “treat” the pathology. Each

participant has their own work station equipped with everything needed for the class, and will receive a new dental instrument set (\$140 retail value). No more sharing dull bent instruments in lab!

This class focuses on oral surgery, covering surgical extraction technique, retrieval of fractured roots, repair of oronasal fistulas, introduction to periodontal treatment, local/regional anesthesia and bonded sealants for



sharp, extraction instrument set to use and then take home with them. We provide all other equipment and materials you need, all in good working order. Each participant works at their own work station with their own set of ancillary materials. No sharing of equipment means no waiting around.

For further information and class dates please contact Montana Pet Dentistry and Oral Surgery at (406) 599-4789.

fractured teeth with exposed vital dentin. Two instructors and two assistants for eight participants ensures a high level of individual attention. The doctors are never more than a few minutes away from overseeing your work. Each participant has a brand-new,

***This class
is for
veterinarians
only and
will cover
the common
techniques
needed to
deliver the
bulk of all
dental care
required
for your
patients.***

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AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION UPDATES



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I am pleased to provide a brief update on AVMA activities since the spring. I met many of you in Bozeman for your winter meeting; I missed the summer meeting in Billings due to a conflict with the ACVIM Forum but I heard from Dr. Jose Arce, AVMA President at that time, that we was warmly greeted by Montana veterinarians and thoroughly enjoyed the Montana BBQ.

As always feel free to reach out if you have any questions. I look forward to joining Drs. Rex Anderson and Bill Duncan at the AVMA HOD meeting in January taking place at the Veterinary Leadership Conference (VLC).

AVMA Membership Record: 100,000+ Members

The AVMA has set a new record in terms of our membership figures. We are now at an all-time high in membership with more than 100,000 members, including members in every state and territory and more than 60 countries. This is truly a milestone in our history. We are immensely grateful, and we are honored to serve our members in all that we do, from policy, resources, tools, and continuing education, to important advocacy work, health care plans, and so much more.

Antimicrobial Stewardship

Four new free down-loadable and printable resources will allow AVMA members to quickly reference antibiotic prescription recommendations and communicate with clients about when antibiotics may or may not be needed. There also are back-office reference sheets for veterinarians that include antibiotic treatment recommendations, also specific to cats and dogs. From stewardship checklists and pathogen resistance reports to client brochures and FAQs, the AVMA offers many more antimicrobial resources for veterinarians at avma.org/antimicrobials.

AVMA Governance Updates

Dr. Lori Teller assumed her role as AVMA president during the 2022 AVMA Convention. She is a clinical associate professor at Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences. She takes over as president from Dr. José Arce, who now shifts into a one-year term as immediate past president and chair of the American Veterinary Medical Foundation Board of Directors. Dr. Rena Carlson was elected by the House of Delegates as the AVMA's new president-elect. Dr. Carlson has held numerous positions with



AVMATM

Our Passion. Our Profession.

the AVMA, Eastern Idaho VMA, and Idaho VMA. She served in the AVMA HOD as the Idaho alternate delegate and delegate for 10 years. She served on the AVMA Board from 2014-2020 as our District XI Director, with her final year on the Board as chair.

Dr. Jennifer Quammen was elected as AVMA vice president. Her term runs from 2022-2024. She is an AVMA Future Leaders alumnus and has served on a number of AVMA entities. She is cofounder of a veterinary coaching business. The following announced their candidacies for 2023-2024 AVMA president-elect: Dr. Sandra Faeh, 2020-22 AVMA vice president, Dr. Arnold Goldman, 2017-23 AVMA treasurer and Dr. Robert Murtaugh, a former chair of the AVMA American Board of Veterinary Specialties. A highlight of the HOD's meeting is the AVMA's Veterinary Information Forum (VIF), where delegates address issues of concern in the profession and provide feedback on the way forward. The AVMA thanks the hundreds of members who answered our call for input on the topics addressed during this summer's forum: (1) "Needed Updates to the Model Veterinary Practice Act" and (2) "Responsibility to Provide Emergency Care."

AVMF Update

As the charitable arm of the AVMA, the American Veterinary Medical Foundation (AVMF) is your Foundation, providing veterinarians and veterinary students with charitable resources and programs that advance the science and practice of veterinary medicine to improve animal and human health. The AVMF made a gift of \$25,000 to the Kentucky Veterinary Medical Foundation to support those providing emergency veterinary care, food, boarding, and supplies after the state's devastating flooding. The AVMF is channeling more than \$615,000 in total donations to date for Ukraine Relief Efforts,

and the fundraising continues. If you can help, please make a gift at avmf.org/donate.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

"Journey for Teams," a sweeping new initiative to enhance diversity, equity and inclusion throughout the nation's veterinary profession, was announced at the 2022 AVMA Convention in Philadelphia by the AVMA and Veterinary Medical Association Executives (VMAE). The program builds upon the original "Journey" program launched in July 2021 by the VMAE that provides executive directors and elected leaders at veterinary medical associations with tools and resources to advance DEI. The new Journey for Teams is designed for veterinary professionals and workplaces of all kinds. For more information, please visit JourneyForTeams.org.

Telehealth

To enhance and expand patient care through wider use of telehealth in veterinary medicine, the AVMA together with its co-founding partners, Veterinary Study Groups and Merck Animal Health, has gathered more than 40 leading professional and industry organizations as the Coalition for Connected Veterinary Care. Coalition members believe that appropriately establishing a veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR) via an in-person examination or premise visit is the first step in delivering quality veterinary care, but also that easing and supporting the responsible adoption of technology is critical to improving continuity of care. To learn more about the Coalition, its growing membership, and the resources available for veterinary professionals, please visit avma.org/connectedcare. Access the AVMA's telehealth resources at avma.org/telehealth.

I hope you all have a wonderful fall and holiday season.

**We are now
at an all-
time high in
membership
with more
than
100,000
members,
including
members
in every
state and
territory
and more
than 60
countries.**

UPCOMING MVMA MEETINGS

Winter 2023

January 26-28

Best Western Plus Gran Tree Inn
Bozeman

Summer 2023

June 22-24

Hilton Garden Inn
Missoula

Winter 2024

January 25-27

Best Western Plus Gran Tree Inn
Bozeman



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See pages 13-16
for more details and
registration information



Visit
mtvma.org
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2023 MVMA WINTER MEETING

January 26 - 28, 2023

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Bozeman, Montana