



NEWS & VIEWS

Newsletter of the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine

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Please forward any news that you would like for us to consider publishing in the next Newsletter! Next issue deadline: August 10, 2017

President's Commentary..

Dr. Marianne Ash



Value of Partnerships

How far does "One Health" go beyond professional partnerships? As we struggle with advancing the integration of professionals in addressing universal health issues, do we sometimes overlook valuable partnerships outside of the medical field? How important is

Certainly these questions are beyond my full understanding, but in recent years I have watched the response in my state to an escalating number of health threats. With time, I have seen our success to be strongly dependent upon strategic partnerships strengthened by a growing mutual trust between parties. In my world, between the times of West Nile and Monkey Pox to recent bouts of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, we have learned a lot and are more proficient in detection and response. Our proficiency has in part improved due to experience and implementation of new technologies, but equally or more important has been discovery of new partners and growing trust among all parties.

In the early years of this century, the duties of the Indiana State Board of Animal Health were unfamiliar to many county health departments. There was minimal interface with our State Department of Health and CDC. There was little communication with other state/federal agencies and private industries that we have since discovered to be important partners in animal health protection. When compared to today, we went about our duties somewhat alone, with the exception of our agriculture partners. Even a number of livestock producers were very skeptical and untrusting when asked to register for a premises ID in our state.

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In contrast, livestock producers are now requesting verification of their premises IDs and are working within their own communities and organizations to help others understand the need for their input and active participation in early detection, planning and response in cases of high consequence diseases or natural disasters. Most agencies of our state government now understand the serious nature of incursions of disease within our animal populations and some have been actively involved in development and exercising their plans for assisting in the response. My favorite example is the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC). During the most recent HPAI outbreak in Indiana, selected offenders were given an opportunity to work as responders to the incident. After training on animal handling and personal safety, they helped with the depopulation of the birds. They have received compliments from owners and other responders on their exemplary performance, to the point that the Indiana Poultry Industry has allocated funds that are now available to pay for advanced education of the participants or their children. The IDOC continues to support the management of animal health. Offenders have most recently assisted in TB testing cattle, as part of our response to a TB finding in Indiana.

Much of the increase in cooperation and mutual trust between new and old partners has come from the growing disease threat. However, many beyond those directly involved now recognize that cooperation and trust are important to a healthy state, country and world.

ACVPM has great diversity of membership when it comes to our areas of expertise and service. We recognize the value of our diversity and mutual trust. I hope that we can influence others to share in this understanding and that we will likewise recognize and trust new partners in our mission to protect animal, human and environmental health.

I am proud to share with you that in late May, two members of the ACVPM Membership and Outreach Committee will be attending the annual meeting of the American College of Preventive Medicine in Portland, Oregon (ACPM). They will be managing a booth for ACVPM where they will share information on the goals of our College and also learn about areas of service that we may have in common with members of ACPM. Updates on this activity will be provided in the next newsletter.

Best wishes to you all,

Marianne



With Great Sadness...

Dr. Robert O. Shannon

Dr. Shannon (Georgia '50), 88, Willis, Texas, died Feb. 26, 2017. A diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine, he retired as a colonel from the Air Force in 1980. During his military service, Dr. Shannon earned a master's in public health from the University of Michigan and served 20 years as a public health veterinarian, also conducting research at the Hanford Atomic Research Facility in Hanford, Washington. He was the recipient of a Legion of Merit and a Meritorious Service Medal.

Following retirement from the Air Force, Dr. Shannon served as director of public health for the city of Houston and was executive director of the Houston Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. He wrote a column for the Houston Post and published the book "Tails A Waggin." Early in his career, Dr. Shannon spent 10 years in private practice in Newton County, Georgia. He is survived by his wife, Cora Jane; two sons and a daughter; and two grandchildren.

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Dr. Gabriel Nossov

Dr. Nossov (Kansas State '47), 90, Austin, Texas, died Dec. 17, 2016. He began his career working for the Department of Agriculture in Albany, New York, and Springfield, Massachusetts. In 1948, Dr. Nossov joined the Army Veterinary Corps, retiring as a colonel in 1977. From 1976-1993, he was a professional services veterinarian and Western regional manager for Hill's Pet Products. Dr. Nossov later served as a consultant with Innovative Veterinary Diets for a year. He was a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine and a lifetime member of the Texas VMA.

Dr. Nossov is survived by his longtime companion, Mary Adelman; a daughter and two sons; two grandchildren; and a great-grandchild. His daughter-in-law Dr. Patricia C. Nossov (Texas A&M '82) is a retired Army Veterinary Corps veterinarian.

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Dr. Stanley O. Hewins

Dr. Stanley Hewins passed away on March 28, 2017, after a long illness. He was at home, surrounded by family. Dr. Hewins was born on August 15, 1947 in Knoxville, TN. Stan grew up on a small farm in Lenoir City, TN, where he attended Lenoir City H.S., and the University of Tennessee in Knoxville in Pre-Veterinary Medicine. Following his graduation, he attended Auburn University under a special U.S. Air Force program to train veterinarians. Following his graduation in Veterinary Medicine in 1973, Dr. Hewins was stationed at many different Air Force bases throughout his career. Much of his career was spent at the former Brooks AFB, in the School of Aerospace Medicine as an instructor and Armstrong Laboratory as Chief of the Environmental Toxicology Branch. He completed a Master's in Public Health in 1977 at the University of North Carolina. He returned to school in 1983 to work on a Ph.D. at Texas A&M in Environmental Toxicology. Dr. Hewins retired from the U.S. Air Force after 22 years in 1991. Following his retirement, he worked for the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence as a toxicologist. He later worked for several government contractors as an environmental toxicologist. Finally, in 2004, Dr. Hewins resumed practicing as a veterinarian in several clinics. Even after retiring in 2013, he continued practicing as a relief veterinarian.

Dr. Hewins will be remembered as a loving husband and father, and for always having an easy sense of humor and kindness to all he met. He adored all of his critters, and was known as the "cat whisperer".

Dr. Hewins is survived by his wife, Dr. Elizabeth Hewins; sister, Gail Sharp-Schreck (husband Bill); his son, Bryan Hewins (wife Lauren); daughter, Kelly Alkhatib; stepson, Jason Herrick; and grandchildren, Ben Alkhatib, Jack Alkhatib, Caden Hewins, and Katy Herrick. He is pre-deceased by his parents, Glenn and Joyce.

In lieu of flowers, the family is asking that you donate money and your time to your local animal shelter or wildlife rehabilitation center in memory of all the critters that Dr. Hewins loved and nurtured. The Hewins home was always home to critters who needed his love and care, and we ask that you do the same!

<http://porterloring.tributes.com/obituary/show/Stanley-O.-Hewins-104641987>

Dr. Mary Anne Duncan



After a hard-fought battle with cancer, Commander Mary Anne Duncan, DVM, MPH, DACVPM passed away in the last weekend of April 2017 at the age of 53. She died peacefully at her home in Decatur, GA with her family by her side. She leaves behind her husband, Doug Oster; her brother, John Duncan; her dogs Mattie & Moxie; her horse, Rosie; and many friends.

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Mary Anne was born in May of 1963 in El Paso, TX, to Loy E. Duncan and Barbara Small Duncan, who predeceased her. She grew up in Mebane, NC, and there she developed the academic excellence—especially in the sciences—that she has been known for until this day. Mary Anne graduated near the top of her high school class and went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts in biology from Warren Wilson College, Asheville, NC.

In 1988 she graduated from the University of Tennessee, College of Veterinary Medicine. From graduation through 1999, she practiced veterinary medicine treating small animals and horses in private practice, the last 10 years of which in her own solo practice. Animals were her work, but also her passion. She loved the several horses and many dogs she cared for as part of her family and as cocompetitors on the trail and at dog shows.

After selling her practice, Dr. Duncan redirected her professional life toward public health. She attended the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill from 1999–2004 initially as a research assistant in parasitology and then in the School of Public Health where she earned a Master of Public Health degree in Epidemiology in 2004. From 2004–2006, Mary Anne’s public health focus began to take shape by way of her training with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) and as an officer in the US Public Health Service. During her EIS service, she was assigned to the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control where she played a major role in assessing the health effects of a chlorine gas spill from a train that derailed in Graniteville, SC. This experience was a hint of her future area of specialization.

During a 2-year leave of absence from CDC to go to Australia in support of the career of her first husband, Allan Wenck, she prepared for and received the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine board certification in 2007. She returned to CDC in 2008–2009 as a Preventive Medicine Fellow in the Division of Parasitic Disease. There she wrote a grant that was successful in providing medication for and preventing the spread of tropical diseases in the country of Togo.

At the end of her fellowship, Mary Anne’s work with EIS and the Graniteville chlorine spill caught the attention of leadership in the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) where she served until her death. Her time at ATSDR was remarkable for the many varied roles she performed and the many awards, commendations, and citations she received. Certainly her most influential achievement of which she was most proud was the design and implementation of the Assessment of Chemical Exposures (ACE) program. This toolkit of consent forms, surveys, databases, and other resource materials is now used by state and local health departments to assess the health effects of chemical release incidents. Between 2010 and 2016, she led seven chemical spill investigations in which the ACE toolkit was used. She has taught the ACE program at 11 seminars and workshops. Attendees of her workshops have gone on to use the ACE toolkit in their own investigation that they conducted independent of ATSDR.

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Of all her other public health roles, she found the most satisfaction with teaching public health professionals in training. In a farewell letter she sent to her CDC, PHS, and ATSDR colleagues the week before her death, she said, “I enjoyed working with and am so proud of the students and EIS officers that I have mentored along the way. Being able to know and help such high quality professionals in the early part of their career has been a very satisfying privilege that gives me hope for the future.” The sentiment in her words reverberates in her nomination as co-recipient of the 2017 Distinguished Friend of EIS Award.

Mary Anne was a great public health scientist, but she also was a well-rounded lover of life. Her professional life has been well balanced by interests in photography—for which she won awards in high school and college. She competed in track in school and enjoyed running and hiking throughout her life. She even hiked up Stone Mountain for the last time about six weeks before she died. She loved music, always as a listener and intermittently as a player of the organ and guitar, a singer in chorus, and player in bell choir. She loved the outdoors. Her garden last summer was a beautiful sight. She had a true passion for trail riding—often competitively but mostly just for the joy of it—with her horse of many years, Rosie, and her dog, Mattie.

She married her second husband, Doug Oster, MD, MPH, in November 2015, at an old farmhouse country inn in Sautee-Nacoochee, GA, and they lived in the Decatur home that Mary Anne had restored. They also enjoyed spending time at her North Carolina mountain cabin, getting to finally see snow there for the first time this past February.

When diagnosed with lung cancer in 2014, she remained dedicated in her work and in her will to fight her illness. A non-smoker, she never was bitter about her bad luck having cancer. Because the initial treatment regimen was so effective, she was able to continue to work full-time and even participate in field activities including the Ebola response and the Flint Water Crisis. As subsequent treatment regimens began to fail to control the cancer, she remained a brave, strong, determined woman who fought her illness with great courage and dignity. Despite being ill for much of the last year, she continued to organize data, edit documents, and assist with the projects she had begun in an effort to finish the work or prepare the data so that others could finish the work in her stead.

CDR Mary Anne Duncan was a consummate public health professional who exhibited the highest levels of honesty, trust, and commitment to serving others. Though Mary Anne had accomplished so much—even at one point being complimented in a meeting by the Surgeon General himself—she remained ever humble. In her farewell letter she said, “What I am most proud of are my relationships and collaborations with all of you. You are such a great group of people, and I have really enjoyed working alongside of each one of you to defend public health in our country.”

Mary Anne requested to be cremated and that her ashes be interred at her mountain cabin in Ferguson, NC.

All are welcome to gather for her memorial service on Saturday, May 27, at 1:15 PM at Columbia Presbyterian Church, 711 S. Columbia Drive, Decatur, GA 30030.

Mary Anne expressed to me the hope that, in lieu of flowers, you would please send a donation in her memory to one of her favorite charities: The Animal Advocates in Barnwell, SC; Warren Wilson College in Asheville, NC; University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine in Knoxville, TN; The University of North Carolina School of Public Health in Chapel Hill, NC; or the CDC Foundation EIS Fund at <https://www.CDCfoundation.org/what/program/EIS-fund>



~~~Committee Updates~~~

Continuing Education Committee

The CE Committee has been working hard on several items as we head towards half way done with 2017!

AVMA One Health program

The CE committee is very excited for the AVMA 2017 One Health program! The 4 program areas are harmful algal blooms, vector borne diseases, the environment and antibiotic resistance, and toxoplasmosis. There will be a new format for one of the blocks this year. The harmful algal blooms format will be 3 hours of speaker talks and the 4th hour will be a panel and audience discussion. We would love feedback on this format! The other 3 blocks will be the traditional 4 speakers in a traditional presentation format. We are already putting together the AVMA 2018 program and it is shaping up to be a very interesting program!

ACVPM/CDC COCA webinars

The last ACVPM webinar on the VFD and honeybees was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who watched or listened live as well as those that watched it on the new YouTube channel. The upcoming webinars should be just as exciting...

June 15: Dr. Brian McCluskey on Science and Policy

July 13: Dr. Mike Murphy on the Veterinary Feed Directive

August/September: Dr. Jonathan Epstein on emerging diseases

We will continue to send out announcements for the webinars, but will post the recording to both the website and the new ACVPM YouTube channel for those unable to watch at the scheduled time.

ACVPM YouTube Channel:

The ACVPM has a YouTube channel! Webinar recordings will be posted here for your viewing pleasure within a week of the live webinar. We need you to subscribe to the ACVPM channel! It's quick and easy to do. Just go to www.youtube.com, search for ACVPM and then click on the subscribe button. This channel will continue to evolve, so stay tuned!

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Jones

CE Committee, Chair

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Examinations Committee

The Exam Committee has been busy getting ready for this year's ACVPM Certification exam, which will be held June 7-8 on the Ohio State University campus in Columbus, Ohio. We are planning for a record number of candidates to take one or both sections of the exam (Essay & Multiple-Choice). The Committee will work on grading essays through early July, and will meet in Indianapolis, Indiana on Thursday, July 20, 2017 to finalize the results which will be presented to the Executive Board on Friday, July 21. Thank you to everyone who helped the Exam Committee and candidates throughout the year (Appeals Committee members, Mentors, reviewers and drafters of potential Exam questions, etc.). Best of luck to the candidates; and the Exam Committee Subject Matter Experts who will be grading all those exams!

Respectfully submitted,

R. E. Hill, Exam Committee Chair

Membership and Outreach Committee

The M&O Committee needs your help! Each year at the AVMA Convention, we display a list of Diplomates who have won an award or received special recognition in the previous year. If you, or someone you know, should be included on the list, please email the Diplomat's name and name of the award/recognition to membership@acvpm.org by June 15, 2017.

Speaking of the AVMA Convention, we are in need of volunteers to help us man the ACVPM booth in the exhibit hall. This year's hours are:

- Saturday, July 22 from 12-6
- Sunday, July 23 from 9-4
- Monday, July 24 from 9-4

Shifts will be in 1 hour increments. If you can share some of your time and experiences as an ACVPM Diplomat with interested convention attendees, please plan to spend some time with us at the booth. Please email membership@acvpm.org to schedule volunteer time. Please indicate your day and time preference(s) in your email. Thanks in advance!

We are excited to announce an excellent outreach opportunity we have with our "sister" organization in human medicine, the American College of Preventive Medicine. Drs. Sander and Lench will be representing ACVPM with a booth at their annual meeting May 23-26. Be on the lookout for an update on this initiative in the next newsletter!

Finally, we are recruiting for a new member to join our committee in August. If you are interested in helping expand the membership and outreach services of the College, please email membership@acvpm.org with a brief summary of your background and why you are interested in joining the committee.

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Communications Committee

I would like to thank my fellow Communications Committee members, Drs. White-Shim, Free, and Grunenwald, for their work and dedication. As a committee, our main output is the newsletter that you are reading right now. Over time the newsletter has evolved to reflect the needs of our College and you as our members. If you would like to help us, and volunteer to serve with this committee, please contact me at matt.doyle.dvm@gmail.com. We are looking for an enthusiastic volunteer to serve on the committee for a four-year term. Please express any areas of interest you may have in social media, web design, ideas for the newsletter, or other thoughts you have to improve the committee.

Thank you,

Matt Doyle

~~~Meet a Fellow Diplomat~~~

The Communications Committee invites you to get to know Dr. Patty Bennett



What degrees do you hold and where did you obtain them?

I received my veterinary degree from University of Florida, my Master of Science in Biology from Old Dominion University, and my Master's degree in Policy from George Washington University. My Bachelor's degree in Biology is from Jacksonville University.

What was your path to obtaining ACVPM board certification?

While living in Guam with my husband who was stationed there at the time, I worked for Morale, Welfare, and Recreation and served in mostly a small-animal veterinary role for the Army. This was my second time working in a military installation and serving in a small-animal capacity. I knew I was really interested in pursuing a public health career, after having shadowed several Air Force public health veterinarians who were stationed in Guam. I reached out to a colleague with the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service who advised me that I should seek out the opportunity to sit for ACVPM certification. He very wisely shared with me that ACVPM certification would serve me well in a public health career! Outside of my work duties in Guam, I spent time preparing for the exam. After I became board certified, my husband and I transitioned to the D.C. metro area, where I started my career with FSIS.

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What is your current position within USDA FSIS and how does your board certification help you perform in that role?

I am the Humane Handling Enforcement Coordinator with the FSIS Office of Field Operations. I am responsible for ensuring uniformity of humane handling verification and enforcement activities with slaughter establishments. I also meet regularly with various stakeholders, including industry, welfare organizations, veterinarians, and others, to ensure that FSIS enforcement and other activities are achievable and appropriate. I've found that my board certification and my degrees inform me in my role, because together, they give me a foundation that helps me navigate the best possible way forward across diverse groups of stakeholders. Even though the technical knowledge I gained from my board certification is helpful, I think it's really the critical thinking, leadership, influencing, and communication skills that are the real gems of what ACVPM certification provides. I believe it's the societal-oriented goal of ACVPM certification that really makes our board certification so special. We as veterinarians are already unique because of the way we are educated, so the veterinary medical education in tandem with ACVPM certification is really a remarkable combination for high-impact veterinary public health careers. In short, all of the technical knowledge I gained as a Diplomate might not always be at forefront of my humane handling work, but the big-picture focus and the intangible skills that ACVPM certification provided me with really helps me move the FSIS mission forward.

How does your current position promote the One Health concept?

I've found it is the communication piece of my humane handling work that is particularly One Health oriented. Being able to talk to the public, welfare organizations and others needing time with the agency is what provides me with the recognition that the human-animal bond is linked to the food that we eat, and the understanding that as a society, we have to ensure rules are followed to promote both human and animal health. Although FSIS is a public health agency, my particular role has less of a direct food safety focus and more of a coordination and communication-oriented focus along the lines of One Health.

What do you see as emerging opportunities for veterinarians to advance the One Health concept?

I believe it's key for veterinarians to see themselves not only as professionals with excellent technical skills, but also professionals who are leaders for our society. To that end, I think the more we can get veterinarians into leadership roles, the more recognition there will be that veterinarians make the world a better place in many different ways - not just those roles that are traditionally held as "veterinarian" roles. Having more veterinarians in areas such as environmental health, conservation medicine, and public health alleviate stovepipes and grow the One Health concept. I think there are tremendous opportunities to promote dialog with veterinary students so they are more aware of high-level federal careers, or political careers at the local, state, or federal level, as two examples. Our society expects transformational leadership, which veterinarians are equipped to provide. Getting veterinarians into high-impact roles can really advance One Health and benefit society.



~~~Epidemiology~~~

Greetings to members of the Epidemiology Specialty and those interested in it. I hope to see you in Indianapolis at our annual meeting on Sunday, July 23rd. The meeting will be from 1:00 to 3:00 in Meeting Room 107 at the JW Marriott.

The Exam Committee is seeking a new member. It is a three year commitment for committee members with the most senior member serving as Chair before rotating off the committee. If you have an interest in this committee, please contact George Moore, the current Chair, or any member of the Committee, as they will be happy to answer your questions. This would be a good way to become involved and support the Specialty.

The Credential Committee qualified three candidates to sit for the exam this year.

The Nominations Committee recruited Dr. Kim Orr to run for the office of President for which I am appreciative and remind those of you who have not yet voted, that the voting closes May 25, so there is still time to cast your ballot.

Please send me your thoughts on this or anything else regarding the Specialty (sct1@cdc.gov).

Best regards and hope to see you in Indianapolis,

Sue Trock

President, Epidemiology Specialty



~~~Announcements~~~

ACVPM Representation at ACPM Annual Meeting

Two ACVPM Diplomates will represent the College at the American College of Preventive Medicine's annual conference. Dr. Will Sander and Dr. Julie Lench host a booth to share information on the goals of the ACVPM and also learn about areas of service that the two groups may have in common.



Dr. Julie Lench



Dr. Will Sander

AVMA Annual Convention

The AVMA annual convention will be held July 21- 25, 2017 in Indianapolis, Indiana. ACVPM will hold the following meetings at the JW Marriott hotel:

- Sunday: Epidemiology Specialty meeting, room 107, 1:00PM – 3:00PM
- Sunday: ACVPM annual meeting, Grand Ballroom, 3:00PM – 6:00PM

