

News & Views



Letter from the President

What a Difference A Year Makes

Sometimes I wonder whether kids today have the same impression of time that I did as a child. This time of year, summer shimmered to me from across relentless weeks of algebra. Once summer finally broke, the bright mornings and sultry nights set the clock of our backyard garden and seemed to linger even longer. These days, my nine-year-old daughter writes up an agenda every day as part of her homework, much as I do in my Franklin Covey. The act of listing each goal makes busy work seem exciting and important, but the endless days have floated away as we became focused and purposeful.

Well, to get past reverie and more to the point, the past year has shot by. The business of the College has moved on with each successive imperative crowding out the one before, and those of us on the Executive Board are quite busy with our lists. How funny, when actually the most significant and important act for each of us is to reach out to a new colleague.

Diplomate candidates may come to us out of desire for promotion or through sheer love of public health(!), but think about it...is that why you are here? Forgive me, but of course not! It's because someone whom you admired thought you should come, made a point of bringing you along, and also made sure you had a good time once you arrived. (talk of the multiple choice portion of the examination probably didn't come up until

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From the Desk of EVP Russ Currier

The ACVPM continues its mission with several items to note. An election is currently being conducted to elect replacement officers for councilor and secretary-treasurer that will assume office at the conclusion of the business meeting in Seattle. This ballot includes a referendum on updating the constitution and bylaws including some wording changes of applicant appeals process, and reduction of emeritus age from 70 years to 65 years. Please give this your immediate attention when you receive the ballot in the mail and submit your preferences promptly.

The annual business meeting will be held at the AVMA Convention in Seattle on Sunday, July 12th, 2009 from 3:00 to 5:00 pm in the headquarters Sheraton Seattle Hotel. The specific room will be announced later. We hope to see everyone attending the convention at this important meeting. All important decisions of the Executive Board will be reviewed,

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Report on Schwabe Symposium at Conference of Research Workers on Animal Diseases, 89th Annual Meeting, Chicago, December 7, 2008

The 2008 Calvin W. Schwabe Award was presented to ACVPM diplomate David W. Hird, DVM, MPVM, PhD, Professor Emeritus at the University of California at Davis where he served on the faculty for 28 years (1980-2008).

Throughout his distinguished career he has been widely regarded as a preeminent educator and leader in the fields of veterinary epidemiology and preventive medicine. He is globally recognized for his leadership in several international programs at the UC Davis, School of Veterinary Medicine and reflected in the speakers remarks highlighting international work. Here is a summary:

Patricia Conrad DVM, PhD, Professor of Parasitology, University of California-Davis. **Vision for a Transdisciplinary “One Medicine” Approach to Global Health Education.** Dr Conrad observed there will be 6.1 billion people inhabiting the earth in 2010 and the number increases to 9.4 to 11 billion in 2050. Increasing population will enhance the flow of pathogens with examples of HIV and MDR tuberculosis. Ebola and HIV evolved from nonhuman primates and avian influenza that may be quiet now but still presents concern for the future. 61% of human disease is zoonotic; 77% of emerging disease is zoonotic.

Virchow was the first to recognize zoonotic diseases problems and coined the term. Later Sir William Osler worked with Virchow on these as public health problems. A significant breakthrough was Smith and Kilbourne’s work to demonstrate that babesiosis [Texas Cattle Fever] was tick transmitted enabling later work on mosquito transmitted diseases such as malaria and yellow fever. Calvin Schwabe advocated the ‘one medicine’ concept and encouraged cooperation between physicians and veterinarians. One health and one medicine have now morphed into ‘one health’ with ecosystems and environmental health being

addressed by multidisciplinary teams with obvious synergies. An example provided was Tanzania where uncontrolled diverting of water from the Ruaka River has resulted in livestock grazing in wetlands. The river is dry for much of the year and as a consequence wildlife and livestock mix expanding the reach of tuberculosis, brucellosis and rabies.

Jorge Vorhees DVM, PhD, Professor of Epidemiology, University of Florida. **Education of Global Veterinarians.** Dr Vorhees is a professor of epidemiology at the University of Florida and strong supporter of international programs where 50% of the faculty is ‘international’. Florida has instituted a certificate program in international veterinary medicine. It promotes interdisciplinary research and education. Recent research projects have worked on FMD in Ecuador, TB in Chile, rabies and animal control, and GI parasites in dogs and public health. This program counts 15 students who have received certificates for the period 2003-2008.

Mo Salman DVM, PhD, Professor of Epidemiology, Animal Population Health Institute, Colorado State University. **The Role of Veterinary Epidemiology in Combating Infectious Animal Diseases on a Global Scale: Impact of Training and Outreach Programs.** Mo Salman underscored the importance of veterinary epidemiology to solve not only herd problems but large national problems relating to disease issues i.e. micro vs macro vet epidemiology. In this milieu, Mo offered that focusing on high profile disease is best with surveillance, prevention strategies, and response plans. Complicating matters is import/export of animals and animal-based products. Also issues of GATT and WTO policy comes into play and calls for quantitative disease indices and scientific-based risk analysis. There are global aspects to food safety and food security and it is best if national

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AAPHV Newsletter

Greetings from your American Association of Public Health Veterinarians (AAPHV)! As Diplomates in the ACVPM, you are “automatic” members to the AAPHV, meaning you do not need to pay additional dues or complete additional paperwork.

We have been busy over the past few months. AAPHV was a co-signor, with numerous other organizations representing public health, on a letter of support written by the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists for the Strengthening America’s Public Health System Act (SAPHS, H.R. 805). SAPHS was introduced into the House of Representatives in early March and would strengthen the public health infrastructure, including applied epidemiology, laboratory science, and public health informatics, at all levels of government.

AAPHV participated in two activities coordinated by the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC). First, AAPHV co-sponsored a public health session with the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians at a career fair held March 13 during the 2009 AAVMC Iverson Bell Symposium and Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. The session was intended to increase awareness among veterinary school applicants to career opportunities in public practice and public health. Second, AAPHV contributed financially to an effort led by the AAVMC to establish the North American Veterinary Medical Education Consortium, created in response to the AAVMC’s Foresight Project, which projected the future role of the veterinary profession in society. The goal of the Consortium’s work will be to develop a plan that all veterinary colleges can consider in relation to their curriculum to better prepare veterinary students for the future needs of society. An AAPHV representative will participate in the Consortium and it is anticipated that the Consortium will work through 2010 on this effort.

What I am most excited about, however, is the revising and streamlining of the AAPHV’s Constitution and Bylaws, which were initially

drafted in 1995. Since that time, many organizations have moved to simpler, more nimble guidance documents, which can be more easily modified to adapt to changing needs and conditions. Volunteers were solicited from the membership and AAPHV members Sherrilyn Wainwright, Jim Dale, J. Wyatt Frampton, John Sanders, Sally Slavinski, Adam Langer, Nancy Fagan, Edmund Orok Edem, Millie Eidson, as well as AAPHV Executive Board members Tracy DuVernoy, Louisa Castrodale, Heather Bair-Brake and myself have worked hard at a revised document that will meet the organization’s needs and allow us to move the AAPHV into the future. The new document, a single set of bylaws, is in its final stages and will be posted to the AAPHV website (<http://www.acvpm.org/aaphv.asp>) later this spring. According to the current Constitution, amendments to the Constitution must be announced a year in advance of a final vote on the revisions, and so it is anticipated that the new bylaws will be announced this year for a vote by the membership at the annual meeting at the AVMA convention in Atlanta in 2010. My heartfelt thanks go to all members of the workgroup for their thoughtful and timely contributions, and special thanks go to Adam Langer for his efforts as the primary drafter of the new document.

We hope you will join us at our upcoming meeting to be held jointly with the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians on Monday July 13 from 7 a.m.- 9 a.m. (location TBA) at the AVMA Convention in Seattle. Business to be conducted includes electing a new Secretary, introducing the revised Constitution and Bylaws, discussing the establishment of a “Veterinarians in Public Health-Career Development Workgroup,” and discussing possible collaborations with the Companion Animal Parasite Council (CAPC). Please submit any agenda items and/or nominations for Secretary to aaphvtreasurer@gmail.com.

If you know of other veterinarians involved in any aspect of public health who might be interested in joining our organization, please direct them to

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Epidemiology Specialty News

The Specialty's Continuing Education Committee has organized an Epidemiology Hot Topics session and two workshops for the 2009 AVMA Convention in Seattle. The Hot Topics session, which is open to all convention participants, is scheduled for the afternoon of Saturday, July 11, 2009. Presentation titles, speakers, and times are listed below:

- 1-1:50 Review of Basic Epidemiology Principles (Lee Hannah)
- 2-2:50 Using Epidemiology in a Practice Setting (Lee Hannah)
- 3-3:50 The Art and Science of Medical Decision Making: Interpreting Test Results (David Smith)
- 4-4:50 Outbreak Investigation for the Practitioner (George Moore)
- 5-5:50 How to Study a Study: Critically Appraising Literature (George Moore)

ACVPM and Epidemiology Specialty Diplomates will also lead two EXCELlent Epidemiology workshops in Seattle. Advance registration is required for the workshops and there is a \$35 fee for each. Enrollment for each workshop is limited to 16 participants.

EXCELlent Epidemiology Basic: Learning to Use the Excel Spreadsheet (Saturday, July 11, 2009, 9:00-11:50. AVMA Event ID: 6715)

Veterinarians can get more value from data by using computer spreadsheets like Microsoft Excel. At the conclusion of the workshop the participant will be able to import data, make it ready for analysis, then use Excel functions and commands to describe, tabulate, and chart data,

and build contingency tables using Excel pivot tables to evaluate associations between possible risk factors and outcomes.

EXCELlent Epidemiology Intermediate: Using Excel for Veterinary Decision-Making (Sunday, July 12, 2009, 8:00-11:50. AVMA Event ID: 6716)

Veterinarians with basic spreadsheet skills want to put them to work. Participants in this workshop will learn to use Microsoft Excel to review basic statistical concepts (e.g. median, mode). Participants will be shown how to use spreadsheets to conduct basic analyses for decision-making. The course notes and CD will allow participants to use Excel to examine issues such as improved diagnostic test interpretation or to answer specific clinical or business decisions.

The annual meeting of the Epidemiology Specialty will be held in Seattle on Sunday, July 12, 2009 from 1:00 to 3:00. Further information about the meeting, including location, will be sent to Diplomates via the listserv when it becomes available.

All Specialty members are encouraged to attend. The Epidemiology Specialty will soon hold an election for President and vote on proposed amendments to its By-Laws. Please be sure to vote on the ACVPM website by May 10, 2009.

Beth E. Karp, DVM, MPH

President, ACVPM Epidemiology Specialty

Appointment to One Health Joint Steering Committee

At its April 2-3, 2009 meeting, the AVMA Executive Board considered all nominations received for the One Health Joint Steering Committee, representing the AVMA. Dr Michael Cates, retired corps chief – US Army Veterinary Corps,

ACVPM diplomate and 2008 Distinguished Diplomate honoree, was appointed to this position. Dr Cates is Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Public Health at Kansas State University.

Call for Diplomate Awards

The ACVPM updates a placard noting significant awards of our members each year for the AVMA exhibit. If you have received an award of major distinction in the past year notify Dr Russ Currier, EVP, who will compile them for review by the awards committee and a professionally rendered placard will be prepared in June to be posted on our exhibit in July. Some have already been noted due to press releases but we welcome others too.

Last year's placard had the following notations:

A Few of the Diplomates ...

Recognized in 2007-2008 for achievements in Veterinary Public health & Preventive Medicine

- Mo Salman: Colo State Univ Scholarship Impact Award 2008

- Francois Elvinger: APHIS Animal Health Award, 2007

- Jennifer Wright: 2007 Dr. Daniel E. Salmon Award

- Gary Vroegindewey: Distinguished Alum, Univ of MO, 2007

- Roger Krogwold: 2007 Helwig-Jennings Award

- Paul Garbe: USPHS Meritorious Service Medal, CDC 2008

- Kirk P. Winger: 2008 Dr. Daniel E. Salmon Award

- Ronald Warner: "Star Teacher" award, Univ of TX, Sch of Med

- Jennifer McQuiston: 2008 outstanding alum, VA-MD CVM

Flu in the News

The episodes of H1N1 influenza first recognized in Mexico with subsequent spread to the U.S. and other nations is dominating the news and of great concern. This is an opportune moment to offer perspectives on this virus to the lay press and we encourage fellow ACVPM colleagues to draft op-ed pieces to set the record straight. For your information, here is an offering localized for an Iowa readership that I prepared and was subsequently published by the Des Moines Register newspaper on Wednesday 29 April 2009.

Guest column: *Heed flu history: Act now, brace for bigger fall outbreak*

RUSSELL W. CURRIER IS EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY PREVENTIVE MEDICINE, DES MOINES.

CONTACT: RUSCURRIER@YAHOO.COM • APRIL 29, 2009

The history of influenza should serve as a guide in attacking the swine-flu outbreak. If the past big three novel strains of influenza are prologue, we can expect to see modest outbreaks in the months ahead and major epidemics in the early fall.

It will be crucial to use antiviral medications now and to add this virus strain to the 2009-10 flu vaccine. First of all, the term "swine influenza" is unfortunate. If anything, the hapless pig is more a victim from human exposures than the

other way around. And the risk of acquiring the virus from handling or consuming a pork chop is nonexistent, even ludicrous.

Swine do have the ability to become infected with influenza viruses and also have the capacity to produce novel strains when co-infected with more than one strain from other pigs, human herdsmen or birds. The seasonal strain that has been dominant since 1969, A-H3N2, was transmitted from humans to pigs in North Carolina in 1998. Then it moved through swine herds there and into young feeder pigs transported to Iowa for finishing, in effect introducing the virus to Iowa swine.

Let's trace the history of the two other novel flu strains of the 20th century:

The 1918 human influenza pandemic started in January 1918 in Haskell County, Kan., in Santa Fe, now a ghost town. It was a wholly avian strain of influenza and moved with Army recruits from Haskell County to what is now Fort Riley, Kan. It quickly spread through troops there who introduced it to eastern states and Europe. It became known as "Spanish flu" because of the extensive press coverage in Spain during World War I. Deaths in 20 to 40-year-olds were common in 1918. It's very worrisome that deaths are occurring in the same age group in today's Mexican epidemic, rather than the

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2009 National Environmental Health Conference

Healthy People in a Healthy Environment October 26-28 in Atlanta, GA

Dear Colleagues

The 2009 National Environmental Public Health Conference-*Healthy People in a Healthy Environment* is on the horizon--October 26-28 in Atlanta, Georgia. The National Environmental Public Health Conference seeks to promote the nation's environmental health capacity by enhancing the expertise of environmental health professionals including public health and healthcare professionals, academic researchers, representatives from communities and organizations, as well as advocacy and business groups with a primary interest in environmental public health. The conference aims to develop and encourage innovative strategies for addressing existing and emerging issues in addition to being a forum for CDC/ATSDR and its many partners to share research, scientific, and program information focusing on environmental public health priorities.

We are delighted to have an entire track called Environmental Systems and Public Health (6 oral sessions as well as a poster session). The possible topics for this track include Animal and plant food production systems, Animal sentinels (for infectious diseases and chemical or radiation exposure), Biodiversity, Conservation medicine, Disease ecology, Ecological health, Ecosystems, Food safety systems, Fresh water and public health, From surveillance to practice (animal health, environmental health), Human and animal health linkage, Infectious diseases, Marine ecology and public health, Oceans and

public health, "One Health," Recycling systems, Vector (disease, control), Veterinary medicine, Waste management, Water supply, Wildlife and public health. I encourage you to organize a session or submit an individual abstract--please take a look at the Conference website <http://www.team-psa.com/2009nephc/main.asp>.

If you have any questions about the Environmental Systems and Public Health Track, please contact Hugh Mainzer HMainzer@cdc.gov or Lorrie Backer LBacker@cdc.gov.

**** Also, please note: The conference organizers are looking for the best and the brightest to help select quality session, roundtable and poster abstracts for the Environmental Systems and Public Health Track (6 oral sessions as well as a separate poster). If you are interested, please complete the attached request for abstract reviewers by May 8th and send it to NEPHC2009@cdc.gov.**

We look forward to seeing you in October!
Cheers,
Lorrie Backer

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...AAPHV Newsletter

our Treasurer, Dr. Louisa Castrodale, aaphvtreasurer@gmail.com. Dues are an incredibly reasonable \$30.00. If you have any suggestions for the organization and/or want to get involved, do not hesitate to contact me by email, kfeldmandvm@aol.com. I

look forward to seeing you in Seattle!
Respectfully, Katherine Feldman, DVM, MPH,
DACVPM
President, AAPHV

'One Health' Special Issue Monograph Now Published

The 'one health' concept took another giant leap forward in the form of a review monograph edited by Drs Laura Kahn, Bruce Kaplan, and Tom Month now published and available on their website: <http://www.onehealthinitiative.com/>

The specific publication is **Veterinaria Italiana - Volume 45 (1) / January - March 2009**. While it is available on line, hard copies are available too and ordering instructions are available on the journal website: http://www.izs.it/vet_italiana/2009/45_1/45_1.htm

This issue of Veterinaria Italiana offers a variety of historical observations by several authors and promises to be a useful reference for advancing this concept summarized by the vision statement - ***"One Health is the collaborative efforts of multiple disciplines working locally, nationally, and globally to attain optimal health for people, animals, plants and our environment."***

Lutalyse Advisory

(The Scientist Volume 23|Issue 3| Page 19
[from: The Scientist-Daily 13 Mar '09]
AVMA receives reports of misuse

Good afternoon to each of you. This message contains noteworthy updates regarding the potential **misuse** of veterinary products **by teenagers to abort unwanted pregnancies**.

In response to the email notice sent Wednesday, February 11, to the executive directors of all AVMA allied organizations and VMAs, we received notification from the Delaware VMA that a similar incident had previously occurred in their state. The report from the veterinarian is included below for your information.

Last year, as we are a large dairy practice, we dispensed a vial of Lutalyse to a young employee of a large dairy farm. This is not unusual as this drug finds common use by our clients in managing their reproductive problems. What is unusual is that this young man, against her wishes, attempted to abort his pregnant girlfriend by introducing the drug into her Coke. As she began to feel nausea and cramps, she was taken to the emergency room of our local hospital where the young man admitted what he had done. The abortion was prevented and the

woman has since given birth to a normal child. With much media attention, the man was tried and convicted of attempted manslaughter and is now serving three years in prison. As the drug was properly labeled and dispensed, we, as the practice, were not accused of any wrong doing.

The Wisconsin VMA also reported they were contacted by a veterinary clinic in Wisconsin to report a recent break-in and theft of veterinary products, including bottles of Lutalyse.

The AVMA has established contact with the CDC's Adolescent Reproductive Health Center, and they have initiated contact with state health offices and other organizations to further investigate the situation. We will continue to work with the CDC to monitor the situation.

The above described reports add to our concern that the scope of this issue is wider than we originally thought. They also reinforce the need for increased vigilance when storing, dispensing and prescribing the drugs.

Nonfatal Fall-Related Injuries Associated with Dogs and Cats -- United States, 2001 -- 2006

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5811a1.htm?s_cid=mm5811a1_e

Falls are the leading cause of nonfatal injuries in the United States. In 2006, nearly 8 million persons were treated in emergency departments (EDs) for fall injuries (1). Pets might present a fall hazard (2), but few data are available to support this supposition. To assess the incidence of fall-related injuries associated with cats and dogs, CDC analyzed data from the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System All Injury Program (NEISS-AIP) for the period 2001-2006. This report describes the results of that analysis, which showed that an estimated average of

86,629 fall injuries each year were associated with cats and dogs, for an average annual injury rate of 29.7 per 100,000 population.

Nearly 88% of injuries were associated with dogs, and among persons injured, females were 2.1 times more likely to be injured than males. Prevention strategies should focus on 1) increasing public awareness of pets and pet items as fall hazards and of situations that can lead to fall injuries and 2) reinforcing American Veterinary Medical Association recommendations emphasizing obedience training for dogs (3). [Refer to above website for all details.]

From the Desk of EVP... *Continued*

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including results of the June examination as well as presentation of awards.

In the next few months, Dr Candace McCall, EVP designate, will be preparing a report on examination venues that will look at the present site of Ohio State University, other institutional settings, stand-alone venues such as a commercial hotel or continuing education center, and decentralized sites with secure computer facilities e.g. Sylvan Learning Centers. There are a variety of logistic issues to consider including travel/lodging expense, computer services, exam security and others. If you have any ideas or thoughts to offer, especially if you have sat for exam in recent years, please send them to Candace at preventionfirst@yahoo.com.

An important looming appointment will be to find a successor to Dr Scott Brooks, subject matter expert on food safety, of the Examination Committee. Scott will move up to chairman of the committee after July 2009. This job entails drafting an essay question each year on food safety and constructing multiple choice questions for the database. Also the SME

will grade essay questions following the examination and provide general input to administration of the exam. The commitment for service is five years as SME and a sixth year as committee chair. Travel commitment, funded by ACVPM, is a two day meeting in February to discuss examination questions and a two day meeting just prior to AVMA convention to review scoring of candidates. Anyone with the appropriate background is welcome to express their willingness to serve in this important capacity by directing a communicu_ to President Peggy Carter peggycarterdvm@aol.com and Dr Scott Brooks Scott.Brooks@yum.com.

In the meantime, it goes without saying that many of you relocate, especially our younger diplomates, so remember to go on the website and enter correct mail addresses and phone numbers. This is a vital responsibility -- often overlooked -- and increases postage costs for the college.

Russell W. Currier DVM, MPH, Dipl ACVPM
Executive Vice President



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multiple choice portion of the examination probably didn't come up until much, much later...).

So plan ahead, reach out to that colleague, that promising student or junior officer, or especially that aging mentor, and invite them to the ACVPM general meeting and social hour on Sunday 12 July. Remember that the heart of the reason we are a College is the good fellowship of our profession and do your noble duty to be collegial. For the truly extroverted, please contact Loren Schultz (schultzlo@missouri.edu) about manning our membership booth. Of special interest this year, Craig Carter and Jim Steele (author and subject) will be at the booth for several hours selling and signing the biography entitled, **One Man, One Medicine: The James H. Steele Story**.

One topic we will explore at the general membership meeting is the ACVPM's special relationship with the American Association of Public Health Veterinarians. All ACVPM diplomates are automatic members of AAPHV. The mission of AAPHV is to promote the science, art and practice of veterinary public health/preventive medicine, and it does so with a credible and independent voice. President Katherine Feldman (who also serves on the ACVPM examination committee) will talk about AAPHV strategic planning initiatives.

We have another important accomplishment to be proud of in Paul Garbe's quiet and competent shepherding of Zoonoses Updates articles, with

Tracey V. Lynn, Rosalie Trevejo, Millie Eidsen, Sally Slavinsky, and Glenda Dvorak contributing their good scholarship along with other non-Diplomate colleagues. Articles include:

- West Nile Virus (*J Am Vet Med Assoc.* 2008; 232:1302-9)
- Anthrax (*J Am Vet Med Assoc.* 2008;233:63-72)
- Glanders (*J Am Vet Med Assoc.* 2008;233:570-577),
- Brucellosis (*J Am Vet Med Assoc.* 2008;233:900-908),
- The Zoonotic Potential of Animal Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (*J Am Vet Med Assoc.* 2008;233:1705-1712),
- Animal bites (*J Am Vet Med Assoc.* 2009;234:336-345),
- Leptospirosis (*J Am Vet Med Assoc.* 2009;234:472-478),
- Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (*J Am Vet Med Assoc.* 2009;234:59-72).

Other papers are in the pipeline to be published during the first half of 2009 include Zoonotic Aspects of Filoviral Infections and Rift Valley fever virus: Infection, Disease, and Control.

One last note, Russ Currier's time as Executive Vice President is winding down to a close in July. When you next see him, please join me in thanking him personally for his dedication, boundless enthusiasm and good cheer in supporting our College. It won't be his last contribution, however. Some of you may know Russ as an avid member and contributor to the American Veterinary Medical History Society; and he has graciously agreed to become our latest College Historian. His first project will be to capture the decade following Dr Murnane's history of the first 50 years of the ACVPM (*J Am Vet Med Assoc.* 2000; 217: 1821-1828).

Looking forward to seeing you in Seattle!
Peggy Carter

New UK distance learning course:

'Management of Infectious Disease Outbreaks in Animal Populations'

New UK distance learning course: 'Management of Infectious Disease Outbreaks in Animal Populations' The course forms a module of our MSc/Pg Diploma in Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health and Livestock Health and Production. It can also be studied as a stand alone 240-hour short course.

This course is designed to teach both the theoretical and practical information required for the management of a major infectious disease

outbreak of farm animals. Topics include epidemiology of infectious viral diseases, risk and cost-benefit analysis, surveillance, diagnosis and vaccination strategies before and during an outbreak, contingency planning and case studies to illustrate how disease outbreaks could be better managed.

Please view the following web link for further information:

www.londonexternal.ac.uk/rvc/management_id.

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public health programs are linked with and part of national animal health programs. While veterinary epidemiology is key to improving this situation, contributions of practitioners receive only modest recognition.

Santiago Urcelay Vicente DVM, MPH, MPVM, Professor of Epidemiology, University of Chile.

Veterinary Epidemiology in Latin America.

Dr Vincente reviewed sharp population growth in Latin America for the past 10 – 15 years and noted also an increase in veterinary colleges of which only a minority have specific curriculums on veterinary epidemiology. He also reviewed historic contributions of Dr Pedro Acha and Calvin Schwabe in classical problems of zoonoses and food sanitation. One challenge today is to assure support of small producers who maintain livestock for domestic consumption and not export. Animal diseases reflect economic and social conditions of the human population. International Society of Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics is an agency prepared to assist in all these efforts.

David Hird DVM, MPVM, PhD, Professor Emeritus, Univeristy of California Davis. **Global Thinking & Global Education: Philosophy, Programs, Perspectives.**

The Hird, the symposium's honoree, underscored the importance of international work using his own career as an example that included earlier work in Chile supported by the Ford Foundation. He learned to speak Spanish with some effort but enhanced with immersion in Latin America. This opened doors to greater effectiveness. While in Chile he was busy treating individual cows for mastitis and then experienced an epiphany realizing there was a need to study the environment too.

Dr. Hird subsequently returned to UC-Davis and began work on an MPVM degree with Dr. Schwabe who emphasized – in spite of basic analytic course work - the importance of interaction with international students. Subsequently the Office of International Programs was established at Davis. Similar programs are at other veterinary colleges include faculty-centric model at Univ of Wisconsin; project-centric model at Washington State Univ, and student-centric model at Univ of Florida. UC-Davis utilized the bottom up approach of Florida. UC-Davis holds student seminars to enhance communication and includes field trips out of U.S. on spring break to promote exposure to opportunities. A website has been created and the overall goal is to create networks for contacts.

In a career recap Dr. Hird emphasized need for promoting international veterinary medicine through curriculum redesign that is often rigidly guarded. Without hesitation, he observed, what was most worthwhile in his career was working with students and promoting international work. Dr. Hird invoked the observation of a Tibetan monk, “To be a good teacher, select students smarter than you are.”

Following Dr. Hird's remarks, a spirited discussion ensued that included pay disparities, problems of student debt precluding overseas work, need for AVMA to support this and assess the relevance of international education, and integration of medical and veterinary education. Dr. Marguerite Pappaioanou made the penetrating observation that we are the smallest of the medical professions [physicians = 800,000, dentists = 200,000, and nurses = 2.5 million] counting about 100,000 of us as veterinarians and “We are still asking ourselves if there are too many of us!”



**AVMA VMAT 5 Team
at Tri State Training**

"Petting Zoo" Compendium: published MMWR 1 May 2009 – www.cdc.gov/mmwr

Users Guide for the "Petting Zoo" Compendium

This Guide is taken directly from the Compendium of Measures to Prevent Disease Associated with Animals in Public Settings, 2009, which was prepared by the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians, Inc. (NASPHV). After reading this guide, the reader should refer to the full Compendium for Recommendations and Appendices, both of which are concise and easy to follow.

Introduction:

- Contact with animals in public settings (e.g., petting zoos, animal swap meets, pet stores, nature parks, educational farms, county or state fairs, daycares or schools) provides opportunities for entertainment and education.
- Disease and injury occur among visitors to these settings. Since 1996, disease outbreaks involving hundreds of people have been reported.
- Although eliminating all risk from animal contacts is not possible, risks can be minimized.
- The recommendations in the Compendium can help people who own, manage, consult with, or visit an animal contact venue minimize disease and injury risks.

Enteric (Intestinal) Diseases:

Infections with enteric bacteria and parasites (those found in the gut) pose the highest risk for human disease from animals in public settings. Examples of these organisms include: *Escherichia coli* O157:H7, *Salmonella*, *Cryptosporidium*, and *Campylobacter*. Some of these cause self-limiting illness; however, others can lead to serious illness or even death. The primary mode of transmission for enteric pathogens is fecal-oral. The organisms live in the gut and exit the animal in its manure. From there they scatter and contaminate anything they contact including the animal's hair, skin, fur, saliva, bedding, feed buckets, fences, and barriers. Bacteria and parasites can also

contaminate items associated with visitors such as their clothes, shoes, stroller wheels, diaper bags. People swallow the organisms when they touch contaminated items then put their hands in their mouth before hand washing. Of course, if a person's food, pacifier, sippy cup, or toy becomes contaminated, it can serve as a source of transmission too.

Key Things to Know about Enteric Organisms:

1. A healthy, normal animal can harbor and shed organisms without showing signs. Removing animals showing signs of illness doesn't ensure that remaining animals are free of organisms.
2. It only takes a few organisms to make a person ill.
3. Organisms live for months in the environment. In one study *E. coli* O157:H7 associated with an outbreak was found in animal bedding 10 days after the fair and in the soil for 5 months.
4. The animals only shed organisms intermittently. Therefore, if you test an animal and do not find any, you cannot assume the animal is free of organisms.
5. Organisms cannot be eliminated from an animal by treating it with antibiotics. In fact, treating an animal with antibiotics may actually prolong the shedding of organisms.
6. Although cattle, sheep, and goats commonly carry these organisms, other domestic and wild animals, including poultry, rodents, and reptiles can be sources.

Public contact settings can contribute to the animals' shedding of organisms:

1. Stress of transportation, confinement, crowding, and handling causes animals to shed organisms.
2. Comingling of animals can cause transmission.
3. Young animals, often preferred in contact settings, are likely to be infected and shed organisms.
4. If the facility does not have well supplied, convenient hand washing facilities, transmission of illness is much more likely.
5. If food serving and consumption areas are not

Were HEPADNA Viruses the First Zoonoses?

This was the provocative title of Dr R. Palmer Beasley's address for The Seventeenth Annual James H. Steele Lecture, Thursday, April 2, 2009 one day before Dr Steele's 96th birthday. Dr Steele offered that it was "the best lecture yet" in his honor and included detailed evolution of the hepatitis A virus as a zoonosis. Of great interest, Jim states there is initial planning underway to publish a compendium of these lectures in a forthcoming book. A profile of Dr Beasley follows and is cited from the program.

Palmer Beasley, MD, MS, Ashbel Smith Professor of Epidemiology, was born in Los Angeles in 1936, attended Dartmouth College where he studied philosophy with a focus on causation, and Harvard Medical School where he received an MD in 1962. He interned at Seattle's Harbor view Hospital, served as an EIS Officer from 1963 to 1965 (under Alex Langmuir and James H. Steele). He returned to the University of Washington in 1965 where he completed a residency in internal medicine – and holds Boards in Internal Medicine.

Dr. Beasley's interest in hepatitis began early but productive research was delayed until Blumberg's Nobel Prize winning discovery of the "Australia antigen" led the way to diagnostic tests for HBsAg and anti-HBs. As a very young investigator Beasley studied rheumatoid arthritis, demonstrating high incidence in Yakima Indians;

and participated in the first field trials of the successful rubella vaccine which were conducted in Taiwan in 1969 and 1970.

From 1972 Dr. Beasley, and later Dr. Lu-Yu Hwang, conducted the epidemiological studies of HBV in Taiwan, under the auspices of the US Naval Medical Research Unit-2 (NAMRU-2), which discovered vertical transmission, identified e-antigen (HBeAg) as the predictor of which mothers transmit, that the HBsAg carrier state is inversely proportional to age of infection, that HBV causes HCC (hepatocellular carcinoma) and that the carrier state can be prevented by at-birth immunization of newborns. Dr. Beasley then led the effort to include HBV vaccine into WHO's global EPI as the 7th immunogen and the world's first cancer vaccine. Beasley has received numerous prestigious international prizes including the King Faisal International Prize in Medicine, the Charles S. Mott GM Prize in Medicine, the Taiwan National Health Prize 1st Order and Prince Mahidol International Prize in Medicine, as well as a Distinguished Alumnus Award from the University of Washington where he received an MS in Preventive Medicine.

Dr Beasley briefly headed the HIV/AIDS Division of the Department of Medicine of the UCSF before coming to Houston as the second Dean of The University of Texas School of Public Health for eighteen and one half years from 1987 to 2005. At UTSPH Beasley established the Center for Infectious Diseases and with Herbert L. Du Pont – the Steele Lecture series. Since retirement in 2005 Beasley has continued research on HBV, developed a new course on causation, and worked to stimulate programs in global health.

Heard at Meetings...

Your aging EVP on 28-29 April 2009, attended the Tri-State Veterinary Disaster Response Conference in Onalaska [suburban La Crosse] WI that represented Iowa and Minnesota as well and was a very informative meeting with a wide range of speakers that had dealt with animal issues related to wildfires out west, floods in New Orleans and most recently Red River Valley of North Dakota and many others including transportation accidents of livestock. The rapid response teams of all three states were well represented including NGOs that assist in many of these incidents.

I would like to highlight the sophistication of AVMA's VMATs [Veterinary Medical Assistance Teams – 'all hazards all species'] that serve a crucial role in many of these incidents including training and management. They are a stalwart group of highly trained veterinarians and veterinary technicians that have earned a well deserved reputation of effectiveness

that is funded by the AVMA Medical Foundation. Formerly these teams were linked to federal agencies but are now fully independent and fully 'vetted' for this service with the pun very much intended. The entire program is headed up by fellow ACVPM diplomate, Dr Heather Case, AVMA Offices in Schaumburg IL who can be contacted at hcase@avma.org.

As this program might expand, I would encourage diplomates to explore this program as an optional career opportunity for some great training and experience to supplement Department of Homeland Security's FEMA division that offers many online training courses for certification. Also the AVMA has compiled some great informational resources for veterinarians on setting up and managing temporary shelters during disasters and client education materials dealing with disasters. If interested please access AVMA website for details www.avma.org. (photo page 10)

"Petting Zoo" Compendium: published MMWR1 May 2009 – www.cdc.gov/mmwr

kept separate from animal contact areas, transmission is much more likely.

Certain human factors also increase the risk of disease transmission:

1. If people are unaware of the risks of animal contact, they do not understand how best to avoid coming into contact with these organisms.
2. Children have little knowledge of the risks, are more likely to come into close contact with the animals, are more likely to put their hands (or other contaminated items) into their mouths, and are less likely to wash their hands properly.
3. If parents do not closely supervise their child, the child is much more likely to ingest organisms.
4. Failure to clean contact surfaces, such as shoes, stroller wheels, school tables and desks, after activities with animals or animal products can lead to transmission.

Outbreaks and Lessons Learned:

Risk factors associated with becoming ill after visiting an animal contact venue:

1. Not adequately washing their hands was by far the most common factor. Inadequate hand washing included:
 - a. Hand washing facilities not configured for effective use by children
 - b. Lack of running water
 - c. Lack of soap or paper towels
 - d. People drying hands on their clothes
 - e. Removing dirty coveralls and boots after washing hands, thus recontaminating the hands
 - f. Lack of good signs reminding visitors to wash their hands upon leaving the animal contact area and guiding them on proper hand washing techniques
2. Having direct animal contact
3. Direct contact with animal bedding, sawdust, shavings or barriers
4. Feeding animals

5. Getting visible manure on hands
6. Lack of areas for eating and drinking separate from the animal contact areas

"Protective factors" If these factors exist, the likelihood of illness is reduced:

1. Visitors' washing their hands with soap before eating or drinking. Hand washing has been reported repeatedly as an important protective factor.
2. Visitors having knowledge that the risk of illness exists.

Additional Health Concerns:

1. Allergies associated with animal dander, scales, fur, feathers, urine, and saliva
2. Injuries due to bites, kicks, falls, scratches, stings, or crushing
3. Exposures to rabid, or potentially rabid, animals in animal contact settings
4. Animal bites and skin contact (ringworm, orf, monkeypox)
5. Both internal and external parasites can be passed from animals to people.
6. Direct or indirect contact with reproductive fluids, aborted fetuses, or newborns from infected dams can transmit organisms. In addition, the organisms can be aerosolized and inhaled by visitors.

Please go to the Recommendations and Appendices of the full Compendium to learn about techniques to prevent the diseases and injuries discussed above.

The Compendium is available on the web at:
<http://www.nasphv.org/documents/Compendia/Animals.html>

Flu in the News Continued...

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typical pattern of deaths among the very young and very old.

The spring or "herald" wave in 1918 was milder than the deadly fall wave. In the first week of October 1918, when Cedar Rapids was the site for the National Swine Show, a baffling new disease appeared among the pigs, characterized by depression, high fever, lethargy and coughing. A livestock inspector from Fort Dodge, Dr. J.S. Koen, called it "swine flu" in his frank statement: "Last fall we were confronted with a new condition, if not a new disease. I believe I have as much to support this diagnosis in pigs as the physicians have to support a similar diagnosis in man," noting that "an outbreak in the family would be followed immediately by an outbreak among the hogs."

The swine show was closed early because of the new disease, which originated in birds and was transmitted to humans and then to pigs. Later work by Dr. Richard Shope, a physician originally from Des Moines, isolated the virus from a swine herd maintained near Iowa City in 1930. This A-H1N1 strain was the first influenza virus ever isolated from any species and remained the only virus to infect pigs for several decades. Later, this "classical swine flu" was controlled in swine and humans through vaccination.

Fast-forward to May or June of 1957, and another novel virus, A-H2N2, or "Asian flu," entered the United States, specifically California, from China. It infected a number of Presbyterian youth in Davis, Calif., during an early June statewide meeting. This was followed by a national meeting of Presbyterian youth at Grinnell College in late June 1957. Influenza was

then transmitted to other young people from several states. Infections were so serious that hospitalization was required, and the Grinnell conference was closed early. Further seeding of the virus occurred in July at the National Boy Scout Jamboree at Valley Forge.

During the summer of 1957, there was a spirited race to develop the vaccine with the novel H2N2 strain, but it was too little too late, and the pandemic peaked in October 1957.

We continue to produce vaccine with mid-20th century technology (one fertile hen's egg to make one dose of vaccine). Most other viral vaccines have switched to newer, more efficient tissue culture systems.

Flu watchers and historians know that 40 years have elapsed since the last major change in virus strains, indicating we are due for a pandemic. The cat is out of the bag for the Mexican novel virus. Seeding is probably under way in several locales and presents risk to Iowa swine herds.