



# The Louisiana Veterinarian

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## President's Report



Dear LVMA Members,

Thank you for the honor of allowing me to serve as LVMA President. Hopefully

we have all recovered from Mardi Gras and are ready to get back into the grind. For those of you who do not know me, I currently practice in New Orleans as the lead veterinarian in the Community Clinic at the Louisiana SPCA. Our focus is to help those members the community who have limited access to veterinary care, providing them with the support needed to care for their pets appropriately. It is a fulfilling role, and I think one that really meets my true passion – helping animals AND people in need. This is probably the same passion most of you have as well.

We had another fantastic Winter Meeting in Shreveport in January, hosting over 400

veterinarians, technicians, and practice managers. The CE committee did a great job putting together companion & large animal, practice management, and technician tracks. The meeting was a great event that could not be possible without the support of our membership – thank you. I had such a great time catching up with many of you and meeting new veterinarians from all over the state. I look forward to seeing you all again next February in Baton Rouge.

For those of you who were unable to attend, the Board elected to adopt the new Strategic Plan drafted during SWVS in San Antonio last fall. This plan will help guide us to create a new framework to form committees to ensure we provide our members with the best resources possible. Currently we have four main committees (or goals) – influence/political action; career support; membership engagement; and public awareness &

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outreach. I encourage all who are interested to reach out as we would love to have your participation and involvement as we move forward. Please contact the LVMA office if you have any questions or are interested in joining a specific committee. You can also reach out to your District Representatives to gain a better understanding of what each goal is striving to achieve.

Let's strive to make the LVMA stronger with a fully engaged membership!

Sincerely,

**Adrianna Smith, DVM, CVA**  
President, LVMA



# LVMA

LOUISIANA VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association  
8550 United Plaza Blvd., Ste. 1001  
Baton Rouge, LA 70809  
Phone: (225) 928-5862  
FAX: (225) 408-4422  
office@lvma.org | www.lvma.org

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Melanie Talley, CAE

**Submit articles and advertisements to the  
LVMA office as follows:**

Quarter 1 Newsletter - February 15th  
Quarter 2 Newsletter - May 15th  
Quarter 3 Newsletter - August 15th  
Quarter 4 Newsletter - November 15th

## Executive Director's Report

Spring is here! With that comes our legislative session that has already begun and is moving very quickly. Our lobbying team has forwarded over 10 bills affecting the veterinary profession that we are working collaboratively to ensure minimal negative impact on the veterinarians in the state (some positive!). The LVMA's lobbying team and volunteers will continue to work hard to represent the interests of veterinarians and protect the profession. Always feel free to reach out to get an update on this effort.

The Board at their January meeting formally approved the 2023-2026 Strategic Plan that I invite you all to view on the LVMA website. During this process, the Board also changed the Mission Statement and created a Vision Statement as follows:

***Mission Statement***

***The trusted leader of the veterinary profession, protecting animal and human health in Louisiana.***

***Vision Statement***

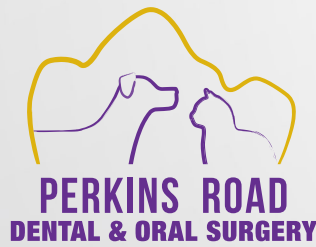
***An engaged veterinary profession supporting the human-animal bond.***

With these statements in mind, the Board will be working on initiatives to achieve the goals as outlined in the plan. The Board will be meeting soon to go over the strategies/tactics as outlined and next steps in achieving those.

Another springtime and summer activity at the LVMA is the preparation of the budget for the upcoming fiscal year beginning on September 1, 2024 and ending on August 31, 2025. Any requests for funding by the LVMA that are anticipated during that period of time should be submitted prior to May 31, 2024 using an LVMA budget request form. The Board is scheduled to meet in July to adopt the budget, as well as conduct other business. This is an important process that your Treasurer Dr. Peyroux takes very seriously in maintaining the financial sustainability of the LVMA. Please reach out if you have any questions regarding this process.

Take care,

Melanie Talley, CAE  
Executive Director



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2500 square foot, equipped, one or 2 doctor Veterinary Hosp for sale near False River, LA. Reception/office area, 2 exam rooms, 3 cage bank for hospital cases and large procedure area, x-ray dark room and separate surgery suite. Laundry room, 5 bank cages, and 5 runs in Boarding area, with A/C. Outdoor horse chute. 1 acre of land with 2 driveways to access the back with chute.

I am retiring, due to family health issues and I'm very eager to sell, quickly. For more information, text or leave a message at 225-718-2305 or email at drpom2@aol.com. You may also call my office number at 225-638-9228.

**SMALL ANIMAL VETERINARIANS:** We would love to speak to you about the possibility of employment (P/T or F/T). We are located in North Bossier Parish. Four day work-week (8-5:30) and one Saturday a month. NO EMERGENCY or on call duty. We have in-house blood analyzers, digital radiography, ultrasound, dental radiography, tonopen, video otoscope, cryopen, O2 generator, surgical monitoring, and doppler blood pressure. Our support staff is amazingly competent allowing you to spend your time practicing quality medicine and surgery. We have a loyal client base and a GROWING clientele. Competitive Salary (\$100K+ depending on experience), production %, 401K, professional dues, malpractice, medical insurance, CE and paid vacation. Bentonanimal@gmail.com. 318-965-2371.

**FOR SALE:** Small animal practice with physical building/land at great location I-10/Causeway Blvd, Metairie, Louisiana. 504-837-8542

## Walter J. Ernst, Jr. Veterinary Memorial Foundation

*Thanks to the following people, clinics, and all past contributors, the Dr. Walter J. Ernst, Jr. Veterinary Memorial Foundation continues to grow. Your continued support will help the Foundation to reach new heights. Please Consider a contribution today and encourage your clients to participate in our memorial program.*

### **Donations in memory of:**

*Pattie Kleinke  
Dana Lynn White*

*All donations received will be recognized. Family members will receive a card notifying them of the donation and the individual or clinic that made the donation.*

## Welcome New Members!

Hallie Anderson  
Baton Rouge, LA

Adam Brown  
Madisonville, LA

Rachel Cezar-Martinez  
Oakdale, LA

Kelsey P. Delery  
Metairie, LA

Robert William Folsom  
Prairieville, LA

Debbie Guillory  
Vidalia, LA

Hannah Hegwood  
Metairie, LA

Delaney Oxford  
Covington, LA

Savannah Porter  
Shreveport, LA

Rosemary Rhodes  
Spearsville, LA

Amanda Todd  
Lake Charles, LA

# Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Host	Location	For More Info
Sept. 26 - 29, 2024	SWVS	SWVS	Fort Worth, TX	www.swvs.org
Feb. 21 - 23, 2025	2025 Winter Meeting	LVMA	Baton Rouge, LA	www.lvma.org

## DO YOU WANT TO SEE YOUR ADS IN HERE?

VISIT [WWW.LVMA.ORG](http://WWW.LVMA.ORG) UNDER THE NEWSLETTER TAB FOR OUR ADVERTISING RATES. HAVE YOUR ADS SEEN BY VETERINARIANS ACROSS THE STATE.



## LVMA Political Action Committee

Thanks to the following people who have made contributions to the LVMA Political Action Fund this quarter. The LVMA PAC exists solely because of member donations, which help protect your DVM License.

- |                       |                     |                    |                 |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Joshua Ardoin         | Robert Folsom       | Bronk McDaniel     | Mary Beth Tamor |
| Jean Aultman          | John Fontenet       | Christine McHughes | Ryan Thompson   |
| Ashlei Bauer          | Amanda Foxworth     | Tanya Mestayer     | Robert Tiller   |
| Catherine Beal        | Joseph Garon        | Natalie Montgomery | Peter Van Duzee |
| Tracey Benton         | Ashley Geoghegan    | Jack Moreau        | Carter Ward     |
| Katie Berthelot       | Mary Kathryn Godley | Kathleen Mullins   |                 |
| Misty Bollinger       | Regan Gonzales      | Tiffany Naar       |                 |
| Susan Bradley         | Naquin              | Billy Odom         |                 |
| Jesse Brandon         | James Gregorio      | Jessica O'Neil     |                 |
| Joseph Breaux         | Ali Guidry          | Anna Ozio          |                 |
| Elizabeth Brown       | Brent Helouin       | Carlos Perez       |                 |
| Virginia Camp         | Tanner Hernandez    | Christina Phillips |                 |
| Phillip Cancilleri    | Joshua Hill         | Renee Poirrier     |                 |
| Kylie Chenier-Carlson | Robert Hooks        | Cynthia Raburn     |                 |
| James Cooper          | Bridget Hopkins     | Rebecca Richard    |                 |
| Robert Craig          | Kelly Hudspeth      | Christopher Rumore |                 |
| Louis Cramer          | Herbert James       | Brandi Sandstrom   |                 |
| Ashley Davidson       | Melinda Knight      | Sharon Schmidt     |                 |
| Jessica Downing       | Derek Kopecky       | Jacqueline Simon   |                 |
| Paula Drone           | Gregory Labranche   | Josh Smith         |                 |
| Christopher Dupuy     | Liza Ledet          | Adrianna Smith     |                 |
| Todd Fazio            | James Maxwell       | Kirby Stringfellow |                 |

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Join our  
friendly  
Team :)



# 2025 LVMA Winter Meeting

Save the Date

February 21-23, 2025

*Baton Rouge, LA*

Crowne Plaza Executive Center

# BYLAW Update

At the September Board Meeting, the LVMA Board updated the Life Membership category in the bylaws to change the requirements to read "70 years of age and 30 consecutive years of membership". This will be implemented for the 2025 life member candidates and beyond.

# SAVMA SYMPOSIUM

*LVMA PROUD TO HELP  
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FOR THE ANNUAL SAVMA  
SYMPOSIUM*

*LSU SAVMA was well-represented by our SAVMA President, President-Elect, Senior Delegate, and Junior Delegate who met with SAVMA and AVMA leaders from across the country to discuss and advance the future of veterinary medicine beginning at the student level. On Friday, our President, Alysia Cannon, was elected to the National SAVMA Board as Chapter President-Elect!*

*On Saturday, the LSU Bovine Palpation Team was one of twelve teams to show off their palpation knowledge and skills where they placed 3rd!*

*Our LSU SAVMA Chapter was also recognized as one of the top five chapters for both greatest number of attendees at this year's symposium as well as greatest retention of SAVMA members year-to-year!*

*- Cassidy Ketchum, LSU SVM Class of 2026*

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# 2024 WINTER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The 2024 Winter Meeting in Shreveport was a success with over 400 veterinarians, veterinary technicians, students, and office staff! The meeting featured 20 hours of continuing education for veterinarians. Session included Companion Animal, Practice Management, Large Animal, and Veterinary Technician tracks, all covering a broad range of topics. The Exhibit Hall featured 42 booths and provided entertainment and networking for attendees during breaks. Among the exhibitors were our meeting sponsors -- big thank you to our Gold Sponsors: South Paws Veterinary Surgical Specialists; our Silver Sponsors: IDEXX, Simmons MidSouth, American National Insurance and Capital Area Veterinary Specialists/Veterinary Specialists of Greater New Orleans. Thank you to all who helped to make this year's meeting a success.

During the Business Meeting and Luncheon, AVMA Past President Dr. Lori Teller inducted the 2024 LVMA Board of Directors Officers. Dr. Adrianna Smith assumed the role of President, Dr. Pamela Mitchell

assumed the role of President Elect, Dr. Clare Scully assumed the role of Vice President, and Dr. Kimberly Little assumed the role of Immediate Past President. The 2024 Lifetime Members, 2023 Power of 10 class, and 2023 Award Winners were also honored at the Business Meeting & Luncheon. Dr. Gia Morgan received the 2023 Everett D. Besch Distinguished Service Award. Dr. Jesse Brandon was named the 2023 Ralph C. Cooper Veterinarian of the Year. Jillian Guttuso was named the 2023 H. Bland O'Connor Support Person of the Year. Justin DeVun was named the 2023 Sales Person of the Year. Lady, Roux, and King of the Baton Rouge Police Mounted Patrol were named the 2023 Pet of the Year.

Thank you to all who attended the 2024 LVMA Winter Meeting! ***We look forward to seeing everyone in Baton Rouge, February 21-23, 2025 for the 2025 LVMA Winter Meeting!*** Save the date for the 2026 LVMA Winter Meeting, February 6-8, 2026 in Lafayette, LA!



Ralph C. Cooper Veterinarian of the Year recipient Dr. Jesse Brandon and Outgoing Immediate Past President Dr. Kathleen Elstrott



Shawn David Accepting the Sales Person of the Year Award on behalf of Justin DeVun with Outgoing President Dr. Kimberly Little



Drs. Sue Bradley and Donna Bishop with Everett D. Besch Distinguished Service Award Recipient Dr. Gia Morgan



Drs. Kathleen Elstrott and Dale Peyroux with H. Bland O'Connor, Jr. Support Person of the Year, Jillian Guttuso



Members of the 2023 Power of 10 Class, Drs. Mary Davis, Brittany McClendon, and Sydney Copeland



2024 Lifetime Members, Drs. Toby Wexler and Paul Ritch



Dr. Kimberly Little, Dr. Ann Chapman, and Officers Derrick Maglone and Israel Chatman accepting the Pet of the Year Award

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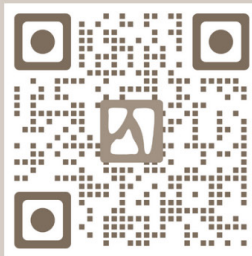


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