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President's Report



Dear Members,

I am grateful and honored to be the 2025 LVMA President and look forward to a great

year together. We have a new District 5 Board Member, Dr. Katie Habetz. Katie has agreed to serve as Dr. Kimberly Little completes her many years of - President. District 2 Board member Dr. Clark Cooper is our new Vice President, and Dr Clare Scully, District 9, is our President-Elect.

We are having an exciting start to 2025!

Record snowfall in South Louisiana! Super Bowl LIX in New Orleans! Mardi Gras! St Patrick's Day and St Joseph's Day celebrations! LSU SVM Open House and White Coat Ceremony!

The LVMA Winter Meeting in Baton Rouge was very successful, with record numbers of veterinary technicians attending. We owe our gratitude to the hard work of our CE Committee (both for veterinarians and technicians), our dedicated Executive Director team, and vendor sponsors for this thriving event.

Next year, the Winter Meeting will be in Lafayette, March 26-29, and we anticipate another great educational and networking event.

We will work hard to serve you throughout this year, advocating for veterinary medicine in Louisiana. As your Alternate Delegate to the AVMA, along with Delegate Dr Bob Gros, we bring you representation at the national level and share relevant information and events with the Board and membership. Legislative advocacy by the AVMA and LVMA, protects each of us from legislation unfavorable to veterinarians. LDAF Commissioner Dr Mike Strain, State Senator Dr Bill Wheat and State Representative Dr Wayne McMahan also serve to protect us. The excellent lobbying team and Legislative Committee are always ready to act and serve when needed.

Participating and serving in organized veterinary medicine is quite rewarding, and I invite you to participate at any level, starting locally! Connecting with colleagues of different disciplines is engaging and fun. We engage the veterinary students at LSU at different events throughout the year to encourage them to join as students.

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We have an LVMA night during orientation in August and actively participate in the White Coat and Blue Coat ceremonies and at graduation. You may wish to join your board members at the LVMA reception during orientation, so don't hesitate to contact Melanie and Emily closer to August for details.

We are working to grow the LVMA and increase its awareness among veterinarians and everyone in Louisiana. Please reach out to let me and your Board of Directors know what you need! Also, let us know how you wish to participate and invite colleagues to join the LVMA!

Warm regards,

Pam Mitchell, MS, DVM
President



LVMA

LOUISIANA VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



LVMA

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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

This first quarter was one for the history books with the highest attended LVMA Winter Meeting in recorded history – we had over 700 attendees & exhibitors onsite in Baton Rouge! The energy could be felt from the Exhibit Hall to the session rooms – a huge thank you to our Sponsors as well as our Exhibitors, Speakers and CE Committee for a monumental meeting. Please note that the dates for the 2026 Meeting have changed – the 2026 Winter(ish) Meeting will be held March 27-29, 2026 in Lafayette, LA.

The 2026 Legislative Regular Session is rather late this year beginning on April 14th. This is a Fiscal Session meaning legislators are limited to only 5 bills not fiscally related. Your Legislative team is monitoring all legislation and will be keeping a close eye on any legislation affecting veterinary medicine. Many states are dealing with legislation negatively affecting veterinary medicine – we therefore know it is more important than ever to stay diligent with our advocacy efforts. 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.

Don't forget to register for the SWVS Meeting in Fort Worth this year – September 25-28th. This meeting not only provides over 400 hours of Continuing Education over 13 specialized tracks – but your attendance financially benefits the LVMA through the SWVS VMA Partnership. Hope to see you there!

As we enter the second quarter, we will be preparing the LVMA budget for the upcoming fiscal year beginning on September 1, 2025 and ending on August 31, 2026. Any requests for funding by the LVMA that are anticipated during that period of time should be submitted prior to May 31, 2025 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

Classifieds

AMAZING OPPORTUNITY! Come be a part of Team Delta. Delta Equine Center has been serving southwest Louisiana for over 41 years. We are looking for Veterinarian Associate for primarily in Small Animal practice with opportunities to cover some equine services when needed to expand our team. In our Small Animal hospital, we have a dedicated waiting room, two exam rooms, a spacious treatment area, a dog ward and cat ward, digital x-ray and a dedicated Small Animal Surgical suite. We are located in southwest Louisiana in rural America. The area is very nice because it is a little town but close enough to larger cities like Lake Charles so there is always something to do. Check out our website at deltaequinecenter.com for more information. Delta Equine Center strives to create an amazing work atmosphere being family owned and operated along with a benefits package that stands out in the industry that includes 401k retirement plans, C.E. hours and more.

Full service, small animal hospital and boarding kennel for sale in Gretna, LA. Has been serving the Westbank community of New Orleans for 70 years. Call 504-451-7987 for more information.

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For sale in the Baton Rouge, LA area: Thriving companion animal practice, established for 45 years. Includes computers, x-ray, digital processor, IDEXX lab equipment, Loyal clientele and more; Includes real estate. Recently remodeled. Please send confidential inquiries to: moreinfo2911@gmail.com.

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.

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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 in honor of a pet or loved one.

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Host	Location	For More Info
July 18 - 22, 2025	AVMA Convention	AVMA	Washington, DC	www.avma.org
Sept. 25 - 28, 2025	SWVS	SWVS	Fort Worth, TX	www.swvs.org
Jan. 8 - 10, 2026	AVMA Veterinary Leadership Conference	AVMA	Chicago, IL	www.avma.org
March 27 - 29, 2026	LVMA Winter Meeting	LVMA	Lafayette, LA	www.lvma.org

Welcome New Members!

Chloe Accardo
Baton Rouge, LA

Mark Laird
Sterlington, LA

Victoria Reynolds
Natchitoches, LA

Brittney Barton
Dallas, TX

Anne Laurent
Alexandria, LA

Zachary Stephenson
Baton Rouge, LA

Kelly Broussard
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Kathryn Stieh
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Paige Massey
Mandeville, LA

Joseph Strother, Jr.
Baton Rouge, LA

Sarah Ann Edwards
New Orleans, LA

Paige Price Medaries
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Garrott Van Bebber
Lafayette, LA

Terry Ford
Lake Charles, LA

Annie Moore
Minden, LA

Susan L. Yarnall
Walker, LA

Carrie C. Fox
Baton Rouge, LA

Alexandra Morales Davila
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Boogie Yates
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Joseph Reynolds
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- Neurology
- Nutrition
- Oncology
- Ophthalmology
- Poultry Medicine
- Radiology
- Radiation Oncology
- Small Ruminant Medicine
- Sports Medicine & Rehabilitation (LA)
- Surgery (LA & SA)
- Theriogenology (LA & SA)



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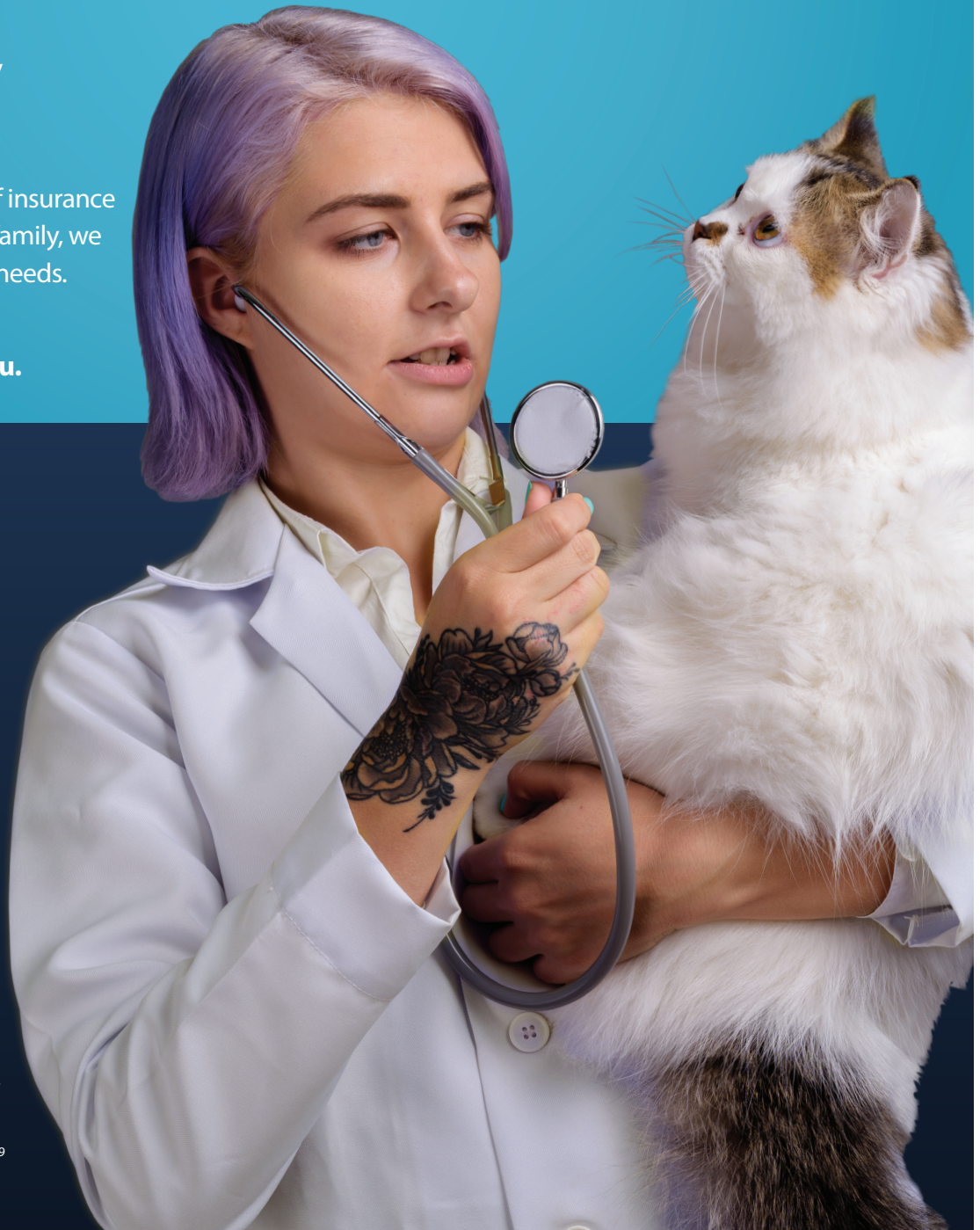
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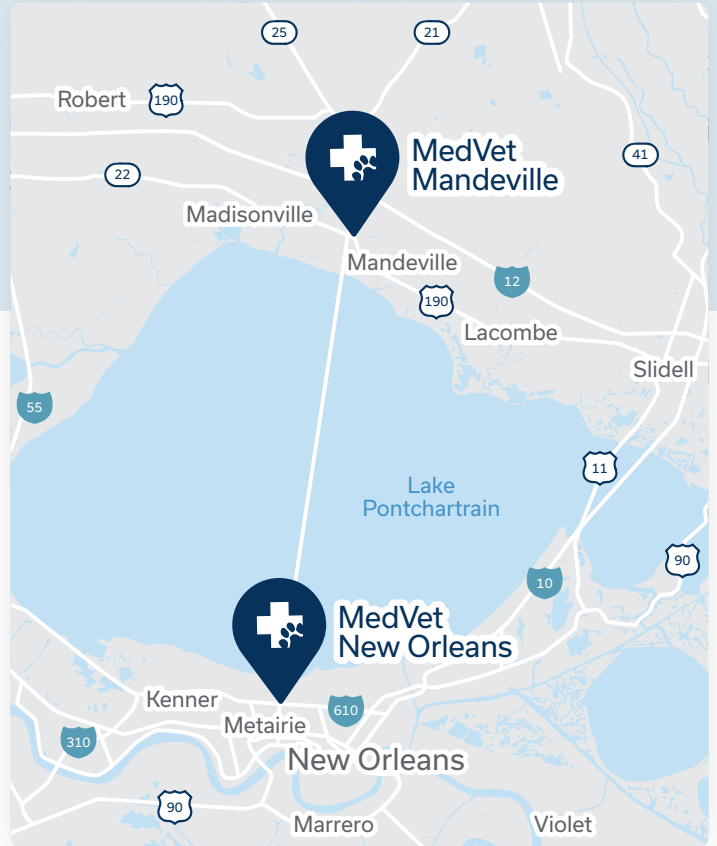


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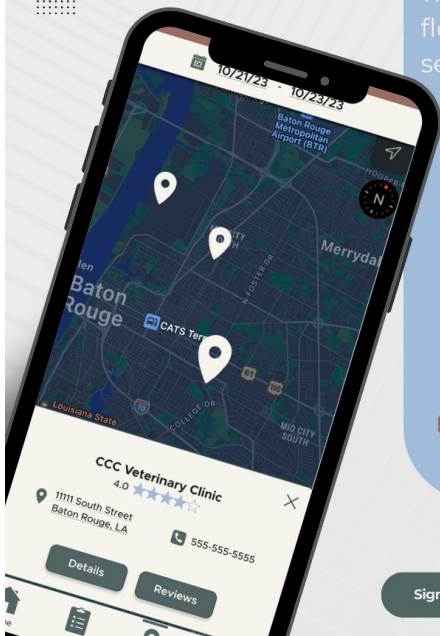
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2025 LVMA Winter Meeting Highlights

The 2025 Winter Meeting in Baton Rouge was a success with our highest attendance record with over 700 people onsite! The meeting featured 20 hours of continuing education for veterinarians. Sessions included Companion Animal, Large Animal, Practice Management, and Veterinary Technician tracks, all covering a broad range of topics.

The Exhibit Hall featured 55 booths and provided entertainment and networking for attendees during breaks. Among the exhibitors were our meeting sponsors – big thank you to our Gold Sponsor: Capital Area Veterinary Specialists and Veterinary Specialists of Greater New Orleans; Our Silver Sponsors: IDEXX and MedVet; our Bronze Sponsors: Grizz Veterinary Services and Campus Federal; and all of our Continuing Education Sponsors: Virbac, LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Southern Veterinary Eye Care, South Paws Veterinary Surgical Specialists, MedVet, Capital Area Veterinary Specialists and Veterinary Specialists of Greater New Orleans, Blue Buffalo, The Healthcare Professionals' Foundation of Louisiana, Zoetis, Longo ARCHITECTURE Studios, 3 Sided Media, Dechra, Baton Rouge Community College, Louisiana Animal Disease

Diagnostic Laboratory, Companion Animal Alliance, and the American Association of Equine Veterinary Technicians and Assistants. Thank you to all who helped to make this year's meeting a success!

During the Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon, AVMA Past President Dr. Rena Carlson inducted the 2025 LVMA Board of Directors Officers. Dr. Pamela Mitchell assumed the role of President, Dr. Clare Scully assumed the role of President Elect, Dr. Clark Cooper assumed the role of Vice President, and Dr. Adrianna Smith assumed the role of Immediate Past President.

The 2024 Award Winners were also honored during the Business Meeting. The LSU Blood Donor Goat Herd was named the 2024 Pet of the Year. Jeff Oertling of Riverside Veterinary Hospital was named the 2024 H Bland O'Connor Support Person of the Year. Mike Saunier of IDEXX was named the 2024 Salesperson of the Year. Dr. Bill Wheat was named the 2024 Ralph C. Cooper Veterinarian of the Year. Dr. Donna Bishop was named the 2024 Everett D. Besch Distinguished Service Award Recipient.

Thank you to all who attended the 2025 LVMA Winter Meeting! We look forward to seeing everyone in Lafayette, March 27-29, 2026 for the 2026 LVMA Winter Meeting. Save the date for the 2027 LVMA Winter Meeting, January 22-24, 2027 in New Orleans at a new location – the Hilton Riverside!



Member of the LSU Blood Donor Herd
2024 Pet of the Year



Mike Saunier
2024 Sales Person of the Year



Jeff Oertling
2024 H. Bland O'Connor Support Person of the Year



Dr. Bill Wheat
2024 Ralph C. Cooper Veterinarian of the Year



Dr. Donna Bishop
2024 Everett D. Besch Distinguished Service Award



Dr. Kimberly Little, Outgoing Immediate Past President,
Dr. Adrianna Smith, Outgoing President



Dr. Adrianna Smith, Outgoing President, Dr. Pamela Mitchell, Incoming President



Dr. Rena Carlson inducting the 2025 LVMA Officers

SAVE THE DATE

2026

WINTER
MEETING

MARCH 27-29

LAFAYETTE



LVMA

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LVMA Political Action Committee Contributions

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.

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The Dog Aging Project is pleased to announce that the first enrolled dogs have now

completed their participation in the clinical trial, the Test of Rapamycin in Aging Dogs (TRIAD). This is one cohort of the Dog Aging Project and the third clinical trial investigating whether rapamycin can improve aging-related health in older dogs. Initial studies show evidence that small doses of the drug rapamycin help to mitigate or delay the diseases of aging. They plan to enroll 580 dogs and are actively recruiting more participants.

To be considered for the clinical trial, a dog needs to be at least 7 years old, between 44 and 120 pounds, spayed or neutered, and in good general health. Participants must bring their dog to a clinical trial site every six months for three

years, with sites located throughout the U.S., and additional U.S. sites being planned. Visit the website to see where current sites are located. If someone is interested in participating but is not near a site, they can enroll in the general study and will then be notified if a site opens near them in the future. We also continue to welcome all dogs into the general study.

The Dog Aging Project is a community science initiative led by Texas A&M University, the University of Washington, and Tufts University, along with other collaborating institutions. Funding comes from grants, including a \$7 million National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant received in 2024, along with philanthropic donations and support from the Dog Aging Institute.

To learn more, visit www.dogagingproject.org.



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