Dear LVMA Members,

Registration is now open for the Southwest Veterinary Symposium on September 22-25, 2022 in Fort Worth, TX. “Steer Your Career” and join us for a weekend of CE and networking!

Please save the date for the LVMA Winter Meeting on February 10-12, 2023 in Lafayette, LA!

I was honored to speak on behalf of the LVMA at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine Graduation Ceremony. The future is bright with close to one hundred new veterinarians. I reminded them that their first job does not have to be their forever job as the opportunities within our profession are endless; and, of course, that they can join the LVMA for free as recent graduates.

The Louisiana Board of Veterinary Medicine has sent updates of proposed Practice Act changes. Please read these carefully and provide your opinion to them as needed. Don’t forget license renewal begins July 1.

The LVMA continued the important work of monitoring legislation affecting the veterinary profession with our lobbyists who continue to do an excellent job at keeping our voices heard. If you would like to be more involved, please contact your District Representative or the LVMA directly for more information.

There is always work to be done and committees for which you could serve and be impactful for our profession and our state.

I hope everyone is enjoying their summers and trying to stay cool!

Kathleen Elstrott Achord, DVM
President, LVMA

Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Host</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>For More Info</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 22 - 25, 2022</td>
<td>SWVS</td>
<td>SWVS</td>
<td>Fort Worth, TX</td>
<td><a href="http://www.swvs.org">www.swvs.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 10 - 12, 2023</td>
<td>2023 Winter Meeting</td>
<td>LVMA</td>
<td>Lafayette, LA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lvma.org">www.lvma.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Executive Director’s Report

Here we are in August and that means Fall is right around the corner! Fall is an exciting time in the veterinary community. Our friends at SWVS are anxiously looking forward to the 2022 Southwest Veterinary Symposium scheduled for September 22-25, 2022 in Fort Worth, Texas. Registration is open and I encourage you to check out the schedule they have lined up for this meeting.

Another fun & exciting event I encourage you all to attend is Mike Strain’s Fall Ball at the Old Governor’s Mansion on October 20th. Tickets for the Fall Ball start at $500 per couple and are available online at www.mikestrain.org. This is a fundraiser for Commissioner Strain who has been a key advocate for the veterinarians of Louisiana. I urge our members to help pack the room with veterinarians and their spouses in support of the strongest voice veterinary medicine enjoys in the Louisiana halls of government.

The planning & work is in full swing for the 2023 Winter Meeting. The conference brochure along with registration will out very soon so please be on the lookout for that in the next few months! The Winter Meeting will be held February 10-12 at the Doubletree Hotel in Lafayette, LA.

Stay well and please always feel free to reach out,

Melanie Talley, CAE
Executive Director
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 pets:
“Marti” and “Ray Ghost”
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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.

Looking to Help?
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Allison Habetz, CVPM
allisonhabetz@gmail.com
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Did you know that 83% of Instagram users report they discover new products on the platform weekly?
Small animal practice located in central Louisiana seeking associate veterinarian. Fitzgerald Animal Hospital has provided comprehensive animal care to the citizens of Alexandria for forty years. This full-time/part-time position is available to experienced veterinarians and new graduates alike. Position includes excellent benefits, no emergency, paid CE and competitive salary at an AAHA accredited facility. Interested candidates please contact Dr. Guillory at 318-445-6428 or bmguillory@aol.com. Fax resumes to 318-442-8309.


For Sale: Well respected solo small animal practice, with established clientele, in south Lafayette. Real estate available, 2,400 square foot building with 3 exam rooms, fully equipped, with room to grow! For more information text 337-288-0411 or email dav_org@msn.com.

COMPLETE VETERINARY CLINIC EQUIPMENT LIQUIDATION All equipment for sale and ready for pickup August 1, 2022 For more information: jwgilodvm@gmail.com

Southeast Louisiana SMALL ANIMAL practice with 1 acre FOR SALE. Fully equipped, digital x-ray, digital dental x-ray, dental suite, Idexx Lab equipment, U/S, much more. 2021 gross $750K. No debt. Asking only $250K or best offer. Call for details. 985-516-0486

Lafourche Animal Hospital is actively looking for a full-time associate. We offer mixed animal services for Lafourche Parish and beyond. Our clinic has digital radiography, Idexx in-house lab suite, and ultrasound. This is a salaried position with great benefits. If interested, please send a resume to lafourcheanimalhospital@yahoo.com.

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, cryopener, 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.


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About the HPFL

The Healthcare Professionals’ Foundation of Louisiana is a non-profit organization that provides confidential services to various licensing boards and licensees in the healthcare industry. We are a voluntary advocacy and monitoring program that allows healthcare professionals with impairments or in need of medical treatment to avoid formal disciplinary actions by their licensing boards and obtain remediation in order to practice with skill and safety. Our main goals are to facilitate care to the licensees and improve efficiency to the licensing boards.

Services the HPFL Provides

**Advocacy**
We advocate and act as a liaison on the professional’s behalf with employers, insurance carriers, and other state monitoring programs.

**Education**
Through our process licensees are provided psychoeducation regarding impairments, and the HPFL staff present information around the state to notify and educate licensees about our program.

**Monitoring**
Participants in our program have their compliance certified through screening, therapeutic treatments, and communication with the HPFL medical director and case managers.

Referrals

The HPFL receives referrals from multiple sources including but not limited to hospitals, colleagues, the LVBM, office staff, treatment centers, family, or friends. If you suspect impairment or have concerns for his/her safety or the safety of patients or employees, please contact us. Early intervention could save someone’s life. In addition, we encourage self-referrals. If you are in need of assistance, please do not hesitate to call. Any professional who has not been treated or monitored previously by the HPFL can be a participant in the HPFL with a level of confidentiality.
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American National is a group of companies writing a broad array of insurance products and services. Products and services may not be available in all states. Terms, conditions and eligibility requirements will apply. Property and casualty products and services may be underwritten in Louisiana by ANPAC Louisiana Insurance Company, Springfield, Missouri.
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Monkeypox outbreak declared federal public health emergency

The White House has declared monkeypox a public health emergency with cases across the United States on the rise. Since the first US monkeypox case was identified in mid-May, more than 14,000 confirmed cases have been detected in the United States, as of August 18, 2022. Cases have been identified in every state except Wyoming. Louisiana has 127 confirmed cases as of August 18, 2022.

Smallpox and monkeypox are related, but monkeypox is not as easily transmitted and generally is less severe. Monkeypox is a potentially serious viral illness that typically involves flu-like symptoms, swelling of the lymph nodes and a possibly painful rash that includes bumps that are initially filled with fluid before scabbing over. Monkeypox spreads in a few different ways, most commonly via skin-to-skin contact. The virus can spread from person-to-person through:

- direct contact with the infectious rash, scabs, or body fluids
- respiratory secretions during prolonged, face-to-face contact, or during intimate physical contact, such as kissing, cuddling, or sex
- touching items (such as clothing or linens) that previously touched the infectious rash or body fluids.

Monkeypox can spread from the time symptoms start until the rash has fully healed and a fresh layer of skin has formed. The illness typically lasts 2-4 weeks. The monkeypox virus is spreading from human to human mostly through close, intimate contact with someone who has monkeypox. **People who do not have monkeypox symptoms cannot spread the virus to others.**

**Infected animals can spread monkeypox virus to people, and it is possible that people who are infected can spread monkeypox virus to animals through close contact including petting, cuddling, hugging, kissing, licking, sharing sleeping areas, and sharing food.**

There has been a report of human-to-animal transmission of the monkeypox virus in Paris, France. This is the first report of human-to-animal transmission and the first report of monkeypox virus in a dog. The journal article “Evidence of human-to-dog transmission of monkeypox virus” was published in *The Lancet* and made available online August 10, 2022.

Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), veterinarians should consider all mammals susceptible to monkeypox and be aware of how the disease transmits from animal to animal. Veterinarians who decide to treat animals with suspected monkeypox should use infection control precautions to protect themselves, staff, clients, as well as other animal patients in the clinic. Providers should report suspected monkeypox cases to Louisiana’s Office of Public Health at 800-256-2748.

What Public Health Veterinarians and Animal Health Officials should know about probable and confirmed animal cases:

- Infected animals can potentially spread monkeypox to people or other animals including companion animals, livestock or production animals, zoo animals, and wild animals (captive and free-ranging, as well as household pests such as mice and rats).
• **Animals infected with monkeypox** should be separated from other animals and contact with people should be limited to interactions such as feeding and basic care for at least 21 days after the initial onset of clinical signs.

• Veterinary staff caring for and cleaning up after sick animals should follow standard veterinary precautions, including hand hygiene and use of personal protective equipment (PPE).
  o People who are immunocompromised, pregnant, have young children present (<8 years of age), or with a history of atopic dermatitis or eczema, should not provide care for ill animals that had close contact with a person with monkeypox.
  o **PPE** should include a disposable gown, gloves, eye protection (safety glasses, goggles, or face shield), and a NIOSH-approved particulate respirator with N95 filters or higher. If N95 or comparable respirators are not available for veterinary personnel, then surgical masks should be worn to protect against transmission through contact or large droplets. Handle used patient-care equipment in a manner that prevents contamination of skin and clothing.
  o Use an alcohol-based hand rub or wash hands with soap and water after PPE has been removed.
  o Employers must comply with OSHA’s standards on PPE (29 CFR 1910.132), Respiratory Protection (29 CFR 1910.134), and other requirements, including those established by state plans, whenever such requirements apply.

• It is preferable to keep animals that are infected with monkeypox isolated in their home.
  o If it is not possible to keep infected animals in the home, it may be recommended to move them to an isolation facility.
  o Do not leave or dispose of waste outdoors as monkeypox infections in wildlife may occur.
  o If appropriate for the species and the plumbing system, flush animal waste down the toilet.
  o Disposable animal housing, disposable rodent bedding, and animal waste that cannot be flushed down the toilet should be sealed in a bag and disposed of properly to prevent these materials from infecting people or other animals, including wild animals and household pests like mice and rats. Follow disinfection guidance for home and other non-healthcare settings.

• Bedding, enclosures, food dishes, and any other items in direct contact with infected animals must be properly disinfected following disinfection guidance for home and other non-healthcare settings.

• Soiled laundry and bedding (including disposable rodent bedding) should not be shaken or otherwise handled in a manner that may disperse infectious particles.

• For household disinfection, follow disinfection guidance for home and other non-healthcare settings.

For more information on the suspect case definition and sample collection, storage, and submission procedures, Public Health Veterinarians and Animal Health Officials should visit For Public Health Veterinarians and Animal Health Officials | Monkeypox | Poxvirus | CDC.

For more on monkeypox in Louisiana, visit the Louisiana Department of Health’s monkeypox webpage at https://ldh.la.gov/monkeypox. People with monkeypox questions can also call 211.

*Source: Center for Disease Control and Prevention*
2022 LVMA Award Nominations
2022 Pet of the Year

In an effort to recognize animals throughout the state of Louisiana for their special talents or heroic deeds, the LVMA has established the “Pet of the Year” award. This award recipient will be selected from nominations made by veterinarians who are aware of or witnessed these animals in their area of practice. Examples of such animals might include pets that have saved their owner's lives or were instrumental in helping their owner overcome overwhelming odds, physical handicaps, or serve the public in any way for many years.

Nominee Information:

Pet's Name: ____________________________________________________________
Species: ___________________________ Breed: ____________________________
Sex: ________________ Age: ______________________________
Owner's Name: __________________________ Email: ____________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________________________
City: __________________________________ State: __________________ Zip: ____________
Description of Pet’s Accomplishments: ____________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________

Please include any photos you may have.

Nominated by:

Veterinarian: _____________________________________________________________
Email: ________________________________________________________________

SEND NOMINATIONS TO:
Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association
8550 United Plaza Blvd., Ste. 1001, Baton Rouge, LA 70809
OR email to office@lvma.org
2022 LVMA Award Nominations
2022 H. Bland O’Connor, Jr. Support Person of the Year

The H. Bland O’Connor, Jr. Support Person of the Year Award is presented annually to a veterinary technician, office management, kennel or other staff person with a minimum of two years of experience who has distinguished himself or herself in actively promoting animal health and welfare on the job and in the community.

Nominee Information:

Name: __________________________________________

Employer: ________________________________________

Position Held: ___________________ Length of Employment: ______________

Educational Background: ____________________________________________

Professional Experience: ____________________________________________

Service to the Profession: ____________________________________________

Service to the Community: ____________________________________________

Organizations: ___________________________________________________

Other Comments: __________________________________________________

Criteria for Nomination:
• Nominee must be employed by a member in good standing of the LVMA.
• The individual should be active in promoting animal health and welfare on the job and in the community.
• The individual should have a minimum of two years experience as a working veterinary technician, office management, or kennel help, etc.
• Nominations are to be made in writing and should include employment information, educational background, professional service and community service accomplishments.

Nominated by:

Veterinarian: __________________________________________

Email: __________________________________________

SEND NOMINATIONS TO:
Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association
8550 United Plaza Blvd., Ste. 1001, Baton Rouge, LA 70809
OR email to office@lvma.org
2022 LVMA Award Nominations

2022 Sales Person of the Year

Beginning in 1990, the Sales Person of the Year Award was given to that individual for performing his or her duties in the most professional manner, servicing the veterinary community.

Nominee Information:

Name: _________________________________________________________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________________________________________

City: __________________________________________ State: _________________ Zip: ________________

Office Phone: ___________________________________________________________________________________

Please give a brief description of candidate's achievements and specific reasons why candidate should be chosen as the Sales Person of the Year:

________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________

Nominated by:

Veterinarian: ___________________________________________________________________________________

Email: _________________________________________________________________________________________

SEND NOMINATIONS TO:
Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association
8550 United Plaza Blvd., Ste. 1001, Baton Rouge, LA 70809
OR email to office@lvma.org
2022 LVMA Award Nominations
2022 Ralph C. Cooper Veterinarian of the Year

The Ralph C. Cooper Veterinarian of the Year Award is given annually to the person who is recognized by his or her colleagues as having given the most of themselves in time, energy, and ideas to the veterinary profession in the state of Louisiana.

Nominee Information:

Name: _____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Address: ___________________________________________________________________________________________________________
City: ______________________ State: __________________ Zip: ______________________
Office Phone: ______________________________________________________________________________________________________
Veterinary School: __________________________________________________________ Year of Graduation: ______________________
Specialty or Area of Practice: ________________________________________________________________________________________
Local, State, and National Committees Served on and Positions Held: ____________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Describe nominee participation in promoting animal health and welfare: _________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Describe any other activity which should make this individual a good candidate for the Veterinarian of the Year: _____________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Criteria for Nomination:
• Nominee must be a member in good standing in the LVMA
• Nominee must have had a positive influence in promoting animal health and welfare in the community as well as within the profession
• Nominee should be of good character and well respected by colleagues
• Nominee should be presently or previously active in local state, and/or national veterinary associations
• Nominee should have shown an outstanding contribution to organized veterinary medicine either through their work or through their actions and public awareness
• Current LVMA Board members are not eligible for nomination

Veterinarian: ___________________________________________________________________________________
Email: _________________________________________________________________________________________

SEND NOMINATIONS TO:
Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association
8550 United Plaza Blvd., Ste. 1001, Baton Rouge, LA 70809
OR email to office@lvma.org
2022 LVMA Award Nominations
2022 Dr. Everett D. Besch Distinguished Service Award

This award was formerly the LVMA Service Award. It was established to recognize outstanding service to the community and veterinary profession.

Nominee Information:

Name: __________________________________________________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________________________________________

City: ______________________________________________________ State: _______________________ Zip: _____________

Office Phone: ____________________________________________________________________________________________

Describe an outstanding contribution to the community (if nominee is a veterinarian): _________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Describe an outstanding contribution to veterinary medicine (if nominee is not a veterinarian): __________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Recommendations for this award must be made in writing by two LVMA members. If you wish to nominate someone, please send your recommendation to the LVMA office by December 1, 2022.

Those eligible for the award are in two categories:
1. Veterinarians who have made an outstanding contribution to their community
2. Non-veterinarians who have made an outstanding contribution to veterinary medicine.

Nominated by:

Veterinarian: ___________________________________________________________________________________

Email: _________________________________________________________________________________________

SEND NOMINATIONS TO:
Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association
8550 United Plaza Blvd., Ste. 1001, Baton Rouge, LA 70809
OR email to office@lvma.org
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It’s Your Future
OWN IT!

Practice ownership is achievable. It can lead to personal success and financial security. Let Simmons help you move from associate to practice owner....Contact us Today!

Alabama • New! Great New Listing: Make 2022 the year you step into practice ownership! 100% Small Animal Hospital with increasing revenues up 20% 2021 revenues of approximately $1.15M. This 1.2 FTE DVM practice is located in Southeastern Alabama close to the Florida Panhandle and beautiful Gulf Coast. This very profitable & well-equipped small animal practice is a great opportunity to have a balanced lifestyle as well as the ability to easily pay off student loan debt as it currently provides ~$245K in after debt income to a new owner. With a five-day work-week, the hours are conducive to a balanced life. Practice and Real Estate both available. (AL W22)

Louisiana • SOLD! This southern Louisiana veterinary hospital is a fantastic opportunity to start building equity in your own future. A 3 FTE DVM practice in 2020 with Gross Revenues of ~ $2.38M and after debt income ~ $285K. (LA S21)

Kentucky • SOLD! Profitable Single DVM Practice. Located conveniently to both Louisville and Lexington, this community is a great place to reside. The practice is currently open 4 ½ days a week. The practice is located in an attractive 2,500 SF free standing hospital and is well equipped. 2021 Revenues in excess of $655K; After-debt income estimated ~$151K. Practice & Real Estate available. (KY W17)

Kentucky • Very profitable and well-equipped single DVM small animal practice with substantial growth located in beautiful western Kentucky. This is a great opportunity for anyone looking for a great place to live and practice. The practice is open Monday – Friday from 8:00am – 5:00pm and Saturday from 8:00am – 12:00pm. 2021 Gross Revenues in excess of $1.125M after-debt income estimated ~ $194K. Practice and Real Estate for Sale (KY 807)

Tennessee • SOLD – Corporate Sale Thriving Small Animal Hospital just southeast of Nashville. This growing veterinary practice is currently a 1.25 FTE/DVM practice. Perfect for a new owner. Practice and Real Estate Available. 2020 Gross Rev. $970K+ (TN910)

Tennessee • New! Solo DVM Practice - Located on approximately 0.8 acres in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains and in close proximity to the Great Smokey Mountains. This well-equipped, 4,100+ square foot, free-standing veterinary building has the capacity to serve both small and large animal patients. With desirable Monday – Friday office hours and small animal emergencies referred to Knoxville, this opportunity allows for the perfect work-life balance. Gross Revenues for 2021 were ~ $1.2 million with 15.5% year over year growth. Estimated after debt income of $182,000. Practice and Real Estate are both available. (TN R24)