



HSVMA In Action

2012 YEAR IN REVIEW



The Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association was formed as a home for veterinary professionals who want to engage in direct care programs for animals in need and educate the public and others in the profession about animal welfare issues. Our mission is to protect and advocate for animals while providing leadership and service opportunities that support a humane veterinary profession. On behalf of the HSVMA Board of Directors, Leadership Council, staff and — most importantly, the more than 5,000 veterinary professionals who make up our membership — we are proud to highlight this past year's activities and accomplishments in this 2012 Annual Report.

HSVMA-RAVS Update from the Field

By: Windi Wojdak, RVT, Director, HSVMA Rural Area Veterinary Services (HSVMA-RAVS)

In rural communities burdened by long-standing economic depression and geographic isolation, access to veterinary care is often limited or nonexistent. With no local veterinary or animal care services, families in these communities struggle to provide even the most basic care for their companion animals. By providing essential veterinary services and helping communities to develop ongoing animal health programs, the HSVMA-RAVS program improves the health and welfare of animals in need and raises the quality of life for thousands of individual animals and their families each year.

In addition to the direct impact of our programs on animals in the communities we serve, our volunteer and veterinary student teaching programs serve as a bridge between the veterinary profession and animal welfare efforts. Working with hundreds of volunteer veterinarians, veterinary technicians and students each year, we engage these respected professionals and future colleagues in meaningful community service and inspire them to take this mission back to their own practices and communities.

More than 300 veterinary students from 35 veterinary schools throughout North America, Europe and Latin America participated in HSVMA-RAVS teaching clinics this year. Each of these students gained intensive, hands-on clinical experience ranging from client communication to humane animal handling, from anesthesia to surgery. Students also gained an appreciation for the realities of life in some of the most economically impoverished communities, as well as for the many ways in which they can apply their knowledge, skills and dedication to improve the lives of animals and people.

As our student alumni graduate and move into practice, this experience will serve to raise the quality of life and extend compassionate veterinary care to animals in communities everywhere. We see evidence of this connection in the many alumni of the program who return as veterinarians to volunteer their time to work in HSVMA-RAVS clinics, wanting to “give back” to a cause in which they believe.

The impact of HSVMA-RAVS’ work is perhaps best demonstrated through the words of our volunteers:

“My HSVMA-RAVS experience was the only time I’ve felt I was able to truly connect with my passion in veterinary medicine... It was a glimpse into a world where small acts and simple things merge into something much larger and more far reaching than just providing medical care to animals... HSVMA-RAVS has been one of the few opportunities I’ve come across where I’ve been able to be around like-minded people, learning from one another and



Mazaska the puppy poses before he is examined at the HSVMA-RAVS clinic in Fort Yates, N.D., last August © David Paul Morris

working together to make an amazing impact.”
 – **Chelsea Fogal, DVM, HSVMA-RAVS student alumnus**

This is what HSVMA-RAVS is all about: providing essential care to animals in desperate need while engaging dedicated veterinary professionals to create something bigger – a web of compassion that extends out into the profession and creates a better world for animals and the people who love them in every community.

HSVMA-RAVS: 2012 BY THE NUMBERS

\$1.3 million	Value of services
37,688	Volunteer hours contributed
6,951	Animals treated
309	Veterinary students trained
110	Professional volunteers
42	International veterinarians trained
35	Veterinary schools represented (from throughout the United States, Canada, United Kingdom and Latin America)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

WE NEED YOU! HSVMA-RAVS’ ability to provide quality veterinary care and educational opportunities depends on the many dedicated veterinary professional volunteers who generously share their time and expertise in our field clinics each year. Veterinarians and veterinary technicians are now needed for our 2013 clinic season. Applications are currently being accepted. Check our clinic schedule and find more information on how you can get involved at hsvma.org.



Dr. David Turoff providing equine dental training at a 2012 HSVMA equine clinic in Guatemala. © Dr. Raul Casas

HSVMA-RAVS International Program Update

By: Susan Monger, DVM, International Director

Small Animal Programs

The HSVMA-RAVS International program creates sustainable improvements in animal welfare by increasing the availability of skilled and appropriate veterinary care in developing countries where limited resources and training opportunities often result in compromised standards of care.

In 2012 the HSVMA-RAVS small animal program provided training in the fundamentals of surgery and anesthesia at veterinary schools in Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Ethiopia and Mexico. As in many veterinary colleges in emerging countries, these schools are severely challenged economically and lack many basic resources. Such essentials as sterile surgical instruments and basic analgesic medications are often not routinely available. Surgical training is limited and complication rates are high.

HSVMA-RAVS fills this void through one-on-one training with veterinary faculty and students by providing hands-on training in essential anesthesia and surgical skills. We demonstrate and teach the ability to perform surgery safely and humanely with the minimal equipment and supplies available, and we support university faculty efforts to incorporate these fundamentals into their academic programs.

Dr. Rudy Mendez, Professor of Surgery, UAGRM College of Veterinary Medicine, Santa Cruz, Bolivia, eloquently summarized the impact of HSVMA-RAVS on individuals and institutions: “I knew it would be of great benefit to my training and future generations of veterinarians and veterinary students. I very humbly accept everything I was taught in this course. The HSVMA-RAVS team taught me how professionals should perform in an operating room and improve the protocols of anesthesia and surgery. The results are very positive for me as a professional and as a person to convey all that knowledge to both students and the animals.”

Equine Programs

The HSVMA-RAVS equine programs in Peru, Nicaragua and Guatemala provided veterinary services to more than 1,700 animals in dozens of remote communities reliant on horses, mules and donkeys for their work and transportation. These animals represent a significant investment and are a critical resource to their families. Access to basic humane veterinary care provided by our experienced equine field teams has a tremendous impact on the communities by improving the quality of life for working animals and the families which depend on them.



Two of the patients seen at the 2012 Equitarian Workshop in Santa Cruz, Mexico. © Dr. David Turoff

2012 Equitarian Workshop

The third annual Equitarian Workshop took place Oct. 16–22 in Santa Cruz in the Mexican state of Tlaxcala. This collaborative program between the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP), The Donkey Sanctuary, HSVMA and the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico (UNAM) brings together equine veterinary professionals to teach equine field medicine and surgery in developing areas.

Besides the training aspect, these gatherings foster communication and support of other international programs providing direct equine care in remote and economically challenged areas throughout the world. Most participants were renowned veterinarians from the United States and Mexico, and veterinary students from Mexico. Attendees saw more than 1,000 equids over the course of the week, from performing the routine procedures of castrations and hernia repair to the more uncommon procedures of treating cutaneous tuberculosis lesions and vampire bat bites. Much was learned and accomplished, and participants expressed their hope that even more collaboration of effort and expansion of programs will continue.

CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR VOLUNTEERS

Veterinary and veterinary technician volunteers participating in HSVMA-RAVS’ small animal field clinics are eligible to receive up to 30 hours of RACE-approved continuing education credit. For more information, visit hsvma.org/ravs.

HSVMA On Campus in 2012

HSVMA continued to expand its presence on veterinary school campuses in 2012 with an active Speakers Bureau, a growing student chapter program and new skills development opportunities for students.

HSVMA Speakers Bureau

More than 15 veterinary school presentations in 2012 reached approximately 1,000 veterinary students with animal welfare presentation topics including:

- Puppy Mills and Irresponsible Dog Breeding
- The Veterinarian's Role in Recognizing, Reporting and Preventing Animal Cruelty
- Looking for Your First Job: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly
- Wildlife Care Basics for Veterinary Hospitals and Shelters
- The Veterinarian's Role in Solving the Feral Cat Overpopulation Crisis
- Doing Well Because You're Doing Good: How Helping Animals Can Help your Bottom Line
- The Veterinarian's Every Day Role in Animal Advocacy

Skills Development offered by HSVMA

- Suture lab
- Animal cruelty dry lab
- Student member participation in the Pets For Life Community Outreach Program — Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia
- Veterinary externship opportunities at the Cape Wildlife Center and South Florida Wildlife Center
- Humane Lobby Day — California, Massachusetts, New York



Cindy Hopf, president of the HSVMA Student Chapter at Tufts University, pictured with a red-tailed hawk during her externship at the Cape Wildlife Center. © Deborah Millman



Caitlyn Neal, former president of the HSVMA Student Chapter at Western University, volunteering at a Pets for Life outreach event in the Los Angeles area. Photo Credit: John Reynolds, Maricopa County Animal Care and Control.

HSVMA Student Chapters in Action

The eight student chapters were busy this year working on:

- Campus outreach on a farm animal confinement bill
- Developing a wellness clinic
- Volunteering for the Pets For Life Community Outreach Program
- Organizing talks on wound healing, breed specific legislation and farm animal welfare, in addition to hosting HSVMA Speakers on a variety of other topics
- Participating in annual Spay Day events
- Writing articles for the HSVMA quarterly student newsletter

HSVMA STUDENT OUTREACH ACTIVITIES IN 2012



Pins marked in gold indicate
HSVMA student chapters

HSVMA Advocacy in Action

HSVMA advocates for humane legislation—on both the state and federal levels—throughout the year.

*By: Barbara Hodges, DVM, MBA,
HSVMA Advocacy/Policy Division*

Farm Animal Confinement

In 2012 we supported state bills prohibiting cruel farm animal confinement methods and husbandry practices such as veal crates for calves, gestation crates for breeding sows and the routine tail-docking of cattle. HSVMA supported two such successful bills in Rhode Island. Bills in Massachusetts and New Jersey are still pending.

Tenants and Their Pets

In California, HSVMA joined The Paw Project in successfully co-sponsoring a bill that prohibits landlords from requiring that tenants' animals be declawed and/or devocalized as a condition of tenancy.

Hounding of Bears and Bobcats

Also in California, an HSVMA-supported bill prohibiting use of radio-collared dog packs to hunt bears and bobcats was signed into law. This inhumane, unsporting practice, known as hounding, had long compromised the health and welfare of both wildlife species and the dogs used to hunt them.

Animal Cruelty

HSVMA also supported the North Dakota Prevention of Animal Cruelty Initiative, which would have elevated maliciously harming a dog, cat or horse to a felony offense. Unfortunately, voters rejected this measure.

Protections for Egg-Laying Hens and Horses

On the federal level, HSVMA is involved with several pending bills. We are supporting the Egg Products Inspection Act Amendments of 2012 which make major improvements in egg-laying hen housing and welfare. HSVMA is also supporting the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act (PAMTA), which phases out non-therapeutic antibiotic administration to farm animals for growth promotion and prevention of disease associated with poor animal husbandry systems. We also are supporting the Interstate Horseracing Improvement Act, a bill that limits the use of performance-enhancing drugs in the race horse industry, and the Horse Protection Act of 2012, which closes loopholes allowing inhumane soring practices.

Puppy Mills

HSVMA submitted commentary on a USDA proposal to regulate unlicensed large-scale commercial dog breeding facilities, commonly known as puppy mills. The rule is designed to close a regulatory loophole in the Animal Welfare Act that allows



HSVMA member Dr. Michael Blackwell spoke at a briefing on Capitol Hill encouraging legislators to support the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act. ©James Berglie

thousands of these enterprises—particularly those that sell dogs over the Internet—to operate without federal inspections or oversight.

Humane Lobby Days

HSVMA encourages veterinary professionals to become directly involved in animal advocacy—either by writing letters, making phone calls endorsing legislation or adding their voices to lobbying activities at our annual Humane Lobby Days, held in many states around the country. During 2012, teams of HSVMA veterinary professionals visited legislative offices at state capitols in New York, Massachusetts and California.

HSVMA Launches New Webinar Series for Veterinary Professionals

Continuing Education with a Welfare Focus

In 2012 HSVMA launched a new webinar series for veterinary professionals with a unique focus on animal welfare topics. The goal of the series is to fill a gap in existing continuing education opportunities by offering webinars on welfare-related issues that are pertinent to veterinary professionals working in clinic settings.

“We are providing a complement to existing continuing education programs with an innovative focus on animal welfare,” said Dr. Lorna Grande, coordinator of the new HSVMA webinar series. “Our goal is to give these veterinary professionals the tools to make their practices more welfare-friendly as well as to help animals in need in their community.”

Wildlife Care

The webinar series kicked off with a November session entitled “Before the Rehabilitator Arrives: How to Provide Emergency Care for Wildlife Brought to Your Clinic or Shelter” presented by Dr. Roberto Aguilar, veterinary medical director at the Cape Wildlife Center in Barnstable, Massachusetts. Dr. Aguilar has an



*An eastern gray squirrel being syringe fed at the Cape Wildlife Center
Photo Credit: Heather Fone/The HSUS*

extensive background in caring for wildlife and reviewed the basics of how clinic and shelter staff should appropriately care for injured or orphaned wild animals who are brought to their facility until a rehabilitator or other appropriate long term care arrangement can be found.

Animal Abuse Reporting

The December webinar was on the topic of “What to Expect If You Report Suspected Animal Abuse or Neglect: Demystifying the Legal Process.” It was co-presented by Dr. Grande, who is coordinator of a human/animal violence education network in her home community in Massachusetts, and Sherry Ramsey, Esq., director of animal cruelty prosecutions for The Humane Society of the United States. This webinar focused on assisting veterinary professionals who might be reluctant to report animal abuse or neglect because they are unclear on how to report or concerned about possible impact on their practice.

2013 Offerings

The webinar series will continue in 2013 with presentations on stress-free cat handling in the clinic setting by Dr. Sophia Yin and on disaster preparedness for veterinary clinics by Dr. Barry Kellogg. Also planned are presentations on ways to assist clients in dealing with congenital and heritable disease risks in purebred dogs. The 2012 presentations are recorded and available for RACE-approved CE credits on the HSVMA website at hsvma.org/webinars, where you can also find the current schedule of webinars.



Infant Virginia opossum at the Cape Wildlife Center. © Heather Fone/The HSUS

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
access to recorded versions of previous webinars, and
the schedule of upcoming HSVMA webinars, go to hsvma.org/webinars**



Dr. Jennie Lane and Elyse Berger, a veterinary technician, administer vaccines during a Pets for Life event in Philadelphia. © Lynn Fenimore/ LynnRae Photography

The “Feel Good” Factor: HSVMA Members Help Under-Served Communities through Pets for Life

**Dr. Susan Krebsbach,
HSVMA Veterinary Advisor**

The “Feel Good” factor. You know the feeling—the euphoria that captures your mind and revitalizes your tired body after donating your hard earned skills for the betterment of animals and their people. HSVMA members, including veterinarians, veterinary technicians and veterinary students, have been experiencing this through their participation in the Pets for Life (PFL) program of The Humane Society of the United States.

The Pets for Life program focuses on under-served populations and their pets and builds humane communities using innovative strategies and fresh approaches to extend the reach of animal services, resources and information.

Dr. Will Mangham, PFL veterinarian and HSVMA member, explains, “These clients love their pets and want to provide care and a good life but in too many cases do not have the ability to access the veterinary information and services to achieve this. By being able to make their pets’ lives better, their own lives become much better and they are thankful that someone else cares for their pets as much as they do.”

The HSUS PFL program operates primarily in communities in Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia and Atlanta. All four cities have PFL staff and volunteers who perform ongoing community outreach in defined neighborhoods that have

minimal or no animal care services, including a lack of accessible veterinary clinics, and have not been positively engaged on general pet wellness. Pets for Life also has launched a mentorship program, in partnership with PetSmart Charities, to expand the program to 10 other cities where independent organizations will implement PFL-style programs.

In addition to the day-to-day contact, each Pets for Life city has frequent community outreach events that provide free vaccines for dogs and cats, as well as information about scheduling of free spays and neuters, pet food, and dog training classes administered by PFL. A large contingent of staff and volunteers work diligently to accommodate several hundred people and their pets at each event. Multiple veterinarians and technicians or assistants vaccinate and assess each animal as it is presented; obvious health issues are recognized, and the pet caregivers are counseled about the issue and possible resolutions that were, in most cases, completely unknown before the event.

“Since I participated in my first PFL event last week, I haven’t stopped telling my friends and colleagues what an incredible experience it was,” wrote HSVMA member Dr. Jennifer Lane shortly after volunteering for a November 2012 event in Philadelphia. “The sheer number of animals and families we touched in one short afternoon was staggering. The entire event ran incredibly smoothly and everyone, both volunteers and pet owners were smiling. People waited patiently for hours; generally in my experience if a client waits 15 minutes they start to get antsy. The overwhelming feeling of accomplishment and personal reward in knowing that I was part of group positively impacting the lives of people and their pets in a really desperate community, not far from my own, has stuck with me. I look forward to working with many more PFL events, and have encouraged my veterinarian friends to find events in cities near them!”

HSVMA members who are interested in volunteering with Pets for Life can email info@hsvma.org. For more information about the Pets for Life program, go to humanesociety.org/petsforlife.

Humane Awards and Achievements

HSVMA Veterinary Advocate of the Year —Dr. Jennifer Conrad



Dr. Jennifer Conrad testified at the Capitol in Sacramento, Calif. in support of a successful bill to prohibit landlords from requiring that tenants have their pets declawed or devocalized.

© Steve Yeater

Dr. Jennifer Conrad of Santa Monica, Calif., has been recognized as the HSVMA Veterinary Advocate of the Year. She was one of the first veterinarians in the United States to speak out publicly against the inhumane practice of declawing felines, and to advocate for better educating the public about how the procedure negatively impacts the quality of all cats' lives.

In 2000 Dr. Conrad founded The Paw Project, an organization which rehabilitates big cats—such as lions, tigers, jaguars, and cougars—who have been maimed by declawing. She is lead author on a paper, “Deleterious Effects of Onychectomy (Declawing) in Exotic Felids and a Reparative Surgical Technique: A Preliminary Report,” that was delivered at the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians (AAZV) Convention in 2002. The paper led to American Veterinary Medical Association and Canadian Veterinary Medical Association position papers opposing the declawing of wild and exotic cats.

In 2005 The Paw Project team, led by Dr. Conrad, conducted a successful legislative effort to ban the declawing of wild and exotic cats in California. In 2006 The Paw Project convinced the USDA—the body governing care of animals that are exhibited, bred or sold—to stipulate a regulation in the federal Animal Welfare Act prohibiting licensees from declawing or defanging animals. In 2009 The Paw Project succeeded in campaigning to outlaw the declawing of domestic cats in seven California cities. And in 2012 Dr. Conrad and The Paw Project joined forces with HSVMA to secure passage of a landmark bill prohibiting California landlords from requiring tenants to declaw and/or devocalize their pets as a condition of occupancy.

“Declawing is an unnecessary and very painful surgery; it does no good for the animal or for the human guardian,” said Dr. Conrad. “I am looking forward to the day when all American veterinarians join with our international colleagues and no longer perform this harmful procedure.”

In addition to her advocacy on the cat declawing issue, Dr. Conrad has more than two decades of experience caring for wildlife on six continents. She has long fought to end the suffering and exploitation of animals, the destruction of habitat and gratuitous hunting—all of which threaten the welfare and survival of many species. Dr. Conrad collected data with the Cheetah Conservation Fund in Africa to help them fortify dwindling numbers of these wild felids. She volunteered to treat endangered Asian elephants in Nepal and sea lions in the

Galapagos Islands, and Dr. Conrad is also the Veterinary Project Director of the one-million-acre Cambodia Wildlife Sanctuary.

HSVMA is proud to count such an impassioned advocate for animal welfare as Dr. Conrad among our veterinary professional members.

HSVMA Direct Care Practitioner of the Year —Dr. David Turoff



Dr. David Turoff at a 2012 HSVMA Equine Workshop in Peru.

© Dr. David Turoff

We are very pleased to announce the selection of Dr. David Turoff as the recipient of the 2012 HSVMA Direct Care Practitioner of the Year Award for his numerous contributions and continued dedication to improving the lives of equids through direct care and teaching in his own community and in remote, impoverished communities throughout the world.

Dr. Turoff is a University of California – Davis School of Veterinary Medicine graduate and the owner of Foothill Mobile Veterinary Services in Placerville, Calif. Well-known and highly-respected locally as an ambulatory veterinarian, Dr. Turoff regularly donates his services to local equine rescue organizations. As an active community member, Dr. Turoff initiated the formation of South County Large Animal Rescue (SCLAR), a volunteer large animal evacuation team trained in emergency and disaster response. He also served as the California Veterinary Medical Association's Emergency and Disaster Response Coordinator for El Dorado County from 1999-2010 and works with the UC-Davis Veterinary Emergency Response Team.

Since 2001 Dr. Turoff has participated in or led more than 30 HSVMA-RAVS equine field clinics, providing veterinary care to working equids in remote and impoverished areas of Central and South America while creating sustainability by mentoring local veterinarians and veterinary students. A Member-at-Large of the Board of Directors of the AAEP Equitarian Initiative, he has participated in the yearly Equitarian Workshop since its 2010 inception. Fluent in Spanish, Dr. Turoff teaches equine dental short courses in Honduras, Peru and the Philippines.

Dr. Turoff's passion for improving the welfare of working equids is most visible when teaching equine dentistry. He has focused his interest in dentistry on the portability and versatility of instrumentation and the development of techniques of dental intervention to best address the needs of working equids in the field.

HSVMA Veterinary Student Advocate of the Year—Dr. Chumkee Aziz

Our fourth annual HSVMA Veterinary Student Advocacy Award was given to Dr. Chumkee Aziz, a 2012 graduate of the Cummings



Dr. Chumkee Aziz during an HSVMA student chapter field trip to the Maple Farm Sanctuary in Massachusetts while attending Tufts University.

© Pete Mellor, Maple Farm Sanctuary

School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University. This award was developed to recognize veterinary students who have promoted humane and respectful treatment of all animals.

Dr. Aziz truly exemplifies the spirit of this award. While in veterinary school, she was active in advocating for animals in the Tufts community around Boston as well as internationally. Among her accomplishments, Dr. Aziz coordinated Tufts' equine willed body donations, organized a free rabies clinic for low income pet owners, coordinated the World Rabies Day Conference at Tufts, volunteered with HSVMA-RAVS, as well as headed the HSVMA student chapter at Tufts.

In addition to her work in Massachusetts, Dr. Aziz worked in Nepal investigating the potential use of nonsurgical sterilization in Kathmandu as a means for stray dog population control and also with Humane Society International (HSI) in Bhutan on their humane dog population control and rabies control project. Currently, Dr. Aziz is doing a one-year small animal medicine and surgery internship at the ASPCA's Bergh Memorial Animal Hospital in New York.

HSVMA Veterinary Student Direct Care Award —Dr. Heidi McDevitt



While in school, Dr. Heidi McDevitt started a nonprofit student group to provide free veterinary care in rural Minnesota communities.

© Heidi McDevitt

Our first HSVMA Veterinary Student Direct Care Award was given to Dr. Heidi McDevitt, a 2012 graduate of the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine. This award honors veterinary students who have made significant contributions to the welfare of animals in need through leadership in direct care and education.

Dr. McDevitt defines this award category, rather than fits it. She is passionate about veterinary medicine and serving underprivileged communities. While in veterinary school, Dr. McDevitt created the Student Initiative for Reservation Veterinary Services (SIRVS). SIRVS is a nonprofit student group that provides free veterinary care to rural communities in Minnesota while providing training for future veterinarians. In addition to spearheading SIRVS, Dr. McDevitt also participated in many international veterinary relief trips as well as two HSVMA-RAVS trips. This past spring, she was student presenter at our 2012 SAVMA Symposium Networking Dinner—she is a gifted

speaker and gave a very inspiring talk. Currently, Dr. McDevitt is doing an internship at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine.

HSVMA-RAVS Volunteer Profile —Sarah Hurley, CVT



Sarah Hurley, CVT, HSVMA-RAVS volunteer.

© Sarah Hurley

There isn't much Sarah Hurley has not done as a veterinary technician. From shelter work and wildlife rehabilitation to developing pet first aid courses for the American Red Cross. Sarah has been part of it all. And for the past 10 years Sarah has also been a committed volunteer of the HSVMA-RAVS program.

When asked what keeps her coming back year after year, Sarah cites the impact HSVMA-RAVS has in the communities served and the program's approach to animal welfare and teaching. She has seen first-hand the influence on veterinary students exposed to animal health and community issues that they would otherwise not experience. And she has seen students return home with a commitment to make animal welfare a part of their career.

Among Sarah's more memorable HSVMA-RAVS experiences is an emergency diaphragmatic hernia repair on a cat named Tony. With the patient in dire need of surgery, and no other option available to the family, the HSVMA-RAVS team worked to successfully repair the life-threatening injury. With a boarded surgeon and several critical care technicians on the team, the procedure went smoothly. To provide the continuous oxygen therapy critical to the patient's recovery, Sarah used her ingenuity and creative problem solving to convert a cooler into a makeshift oxygen cage. Tony recovered well and went home with a relieved and grateful family. To Sarah, this story illustrates the real-world education HSVMA-RAVS' students receive and exemplifies how its teams work together utilizing the resources and expertise at hand to provide the best care possible.

When in the field with HSVMA-RAVS, Sarah can usually be found at the induction area teaching students the finer points of anesthesia. A knowledgeable and patient trainer, her teaching skills are well-honed after 16 years as an instructor for the the veterinary technology program at Parkland College in Champaign, Ill.

Enormously generous with her time, Sarah volunteers endless hours giving back to various animal organizations. Even her vacations usually involve some service opportunity (often mixed with a little adventure). Last summer's undertaking was helping with projects at the Crocodile Bank in Chennai, India.

Of course, no one with such a big heart can participate in field clinics without falling in love with at least one homeless animal. Indeed her work with HSVMA-RAVS has led Sarah to three beloved companions: Yard the turtle, Spots the cat and Quince the dog, who sadly has left us.

To learn about volunteering for World Spay Day in February 2013, please go to worldspayday.org

HSVMA Supports World Spay Day

For the third year in a row, the HSVMA was a proud partner of World Spay Day, an annual world-wide campaign designed to increase spay/neuter awareness and encourage people to save animal's lives by spaying and neutering companion animals and feral cats.

Although celebrated throughout the month of February, the official World Spay Day was February 28, 2012—and the stats are impressive:

- Number of animals sterilized in the U.S. = 49,090
- Number of animals sterilized outside the U.S. = 5,400
- Number of events in the US = 557
(358 spay/neuter clinics and 199 educational)
- Number of events outside of the US = 54 in 35 countries

The reported number of spay and neuter surgeries performed in 2012 represent an almost 12% increase from 2011. Every year the numbers increase significantly—a real inspiration!

To educate veterinary professional students about the importance of spay/neuter, the HSVMA once again sponsored two events at educational institutions. In the Midwest, veterinary and veterinary technician students concentrated on honing their medical skills to sterilize feral cats at Madison Area Technical College in Madison, Wisc. On the east coast, veterinary students from North Carolina State University participated in a World Spay Day event hosted by the Randolph County Humane Society at which 500 animals were vaccinated and spay/ neuter vouchers were distributed.

Without the dedication of the veterinary professionals involved with these events, the life-saving impact of sterilization would not be possible.



A production line of University of Wisconsin veterinary students drawing up medications for community cats who are going to be sterilized. The dose of each drug is double checked for accuracy. © Dan Johnson



Volunteer veterinarian Dr. Adam Bauknecht shows veterinary student Katie Kuehl the finer points of how to spay a cat. Photo Credit: Dr. Susan Krebsbach

Practitioner Perspectives: 2012 Newsletter Articles by HSVMA Members

The following are excerpts from columns that appeared in the HSVMA e-newsletter in 2012. To read more, go to hsvma.org/newsletters.

March: Advancing Hen Welfare Nationwide

The condition of egg-laying hens in the United States has become an increasing concern, and last year the only veterinarian serving in Congress, Rep. Kurt Schrader (D-Ore.), introduced the Egg Products Inspection Act Amendments of 2012.

Dr. Barbie Laderman-Jones describes how the bill would benefit these hens' quality of life and urges every veterinarian to support this important animal welfare legislation as a professional obligation.

July: California Bids Adieu to Foie Gras

A California law banning the cruel force-feeding of ducks and geese to produce foie gras, or fatty liver pâté, along with a state-wide ban on the sale of foie gras from such force-fed birds, finally took effect in July 2012 after a seven-and-a-half-year delayed implementation period.

Dr. Laurie Siperstein-Cook recounts this long legislative process and her advocacy work with HSVMA and its predecessor organization, the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights (AVAR). These efforts have tangibly improved the health and welfare of commercially-raised ducks and geese in California.

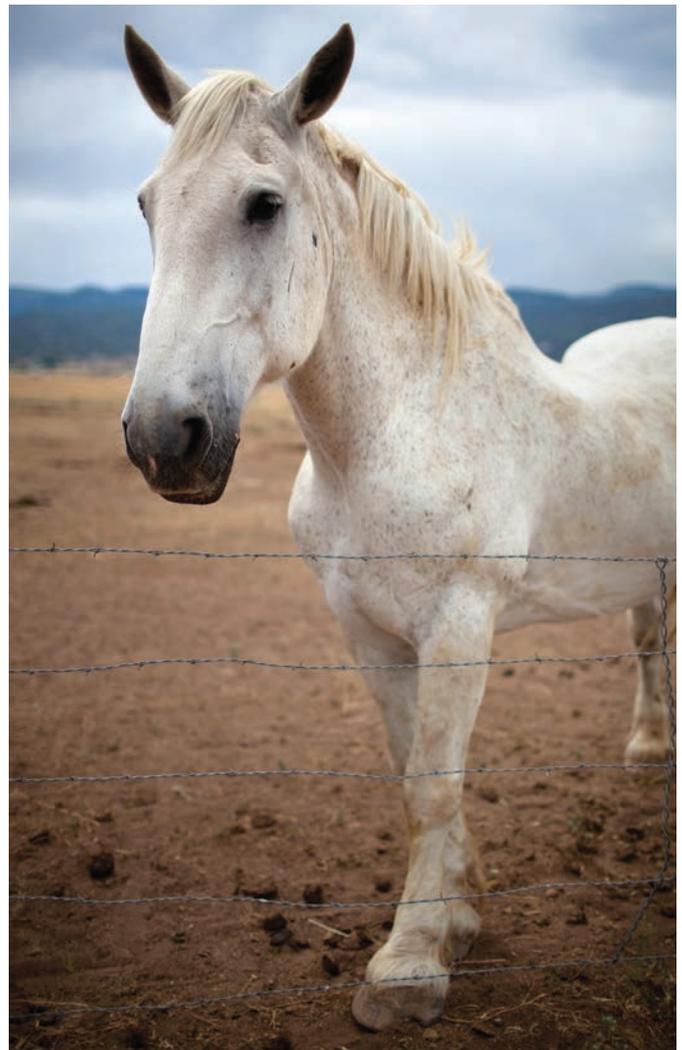
August: Sayulita animals - My Place of Practice Away from Home

HSVMA encourages veterinary professionals to donate their time and skills in regions that have limited access to veterinary care due to cost and/or location.

Dr. Charlotte Burns describes how incredibly rewarding it has been to volunteer with a local animal welfare group in the small Mexican coastal town of Sayulita.

September: National Disaster Preparedness Month is Opportune Time for Veterinary Clinics to Develop Disaster Plans

In honor of National Disaster Preparedness month, Dr. Barry Kellogg outlines steps veterinary clinics should take to be ready for a disaster. He stresses the importance of having a backup plan and a prepared staff.



*Horse in Fairview Utah affected by July 2012 Wildfires
Photo Credit: Erin Hooley for The HSUS*

October: Veterinary Community Can and Should Help Owners of At-Risk Horses

Dr. Grant Miller describes how difficult the economic downturn has been for horse owners. He offers an example of an "At-Risk Horse Resource Sheet", which can help horse owner clients understand what their options are and what will happen to their animals depending on their choices.

November: Factory Farming and Welfare-Minded Veterinary Professionals

Dr. Jon Geller writes about how important it is for welfare-minded veterinarians to stand up for their beliefs. He discusses how veterinarians can support food animal welfare via everyday choices such as grocery purchases and restaurant venues.

Dr. Geller stresses the powerful difference it would make if veterinarians would collectively advocate for the humane treatment of animals raised for food.

Read these columns and more perspectives from HSVMA members at hsvma.org/newsletters

Exciting New HSVMA Membership Benefits for 2012!

Our friends at John Wiley & Sons, the largest publisher of veterinary titles and textbooks in the world, offer you a 20% discount on virtually all print books available from Wiley.com. Wiley's scientific, technical, medical and scholarly business, also known as Wiley-Blackwell, serves the world's research and scholarly communities, and is the largest publisher for professional and scholarly societies. Their portfolio of global brands includes *For Dummies*, *Frommer's*, *Betty Crocker*, *Pillsbury*, *CliffsNotes*, *Webster's New World*, *J.K. Lasser*, *Jossey-Bass*, *Pfeiffer*, and *Sybex*. Subject areas include business, technology, architecture, professional culinary, psychology, education, travel, health, religion, consumer reference, pets and general interest.

Browse all subjects and imprints, and when you're ready to check out add code SD151 in the promotion box to receive your discount.

Your HSVMA membership discount code can be used at the Wiley booth at veterinary conferences, but if there is already a

discount being offered for purchases at the conference the higher of the two will apply. Individuals purchasing at a conference just need to state that they are members of HSVMA and are entitled to the 20% discount and it will be applied.

Another new benefit added in 2012 is a special discounted rate on *Wildlife Care Basics for Veterinary Hospitals: Before the Rehabilitator Arrives*. This handbook, a joint project of the HSVMA and the animal care centers of The Humane Society of the United States, contains information about how to temporarily care for and treat injured and orphaned wildlife. This book will not only help veterinarians and shelter personnel provide short-term emergency care and housing, but it will also help facilitate the transfer of disabled wild animals to licensed wildlife rehabilitators. Tips for educating and screening the public are included, along with some relevant resource materials. Valued at \$35, the book is available on AnimalSheltering.org's "Marketplace" webpage to all current HSVMA members for the discounted price of \$25. When you're ready to check out, add code HSVMA72 in the promotion box to receive your discount.

Besides these new benefits, HSVMA members are eligible for discounted prices on other publications available on "Marketplace". Please go to hsvma.org/benefits to see a complete listing of benefits available to HSVMA members.

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