

WINTER 2021 NEWSLETTER



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Montana Veterinary Medical Association Members:

It is an honor and privilege to serve as your President. What a crazy year this has been for you, the world, and your Montana VMA. We started the year with the most successful and well attended Winter Meeting in the history of our organization. Soon to follow was the cancellation of our 2020 Summer Meeting and 2021 Winter Meeting. I must shout out a big THANK YOU to Dr. Beth Blevins and Dr. Cara Voss. These two leaders of your organization spent countless hours lining up speakers, venues, and schedules, to no avail. We greatly appreciate your effort. We also were forced to make the hard decision to pause this year's Power of Ten program. This program, organized by Dr. Katie Rein and Dr. Mark Albrecht, has had great success in networking and integrating the great new doctors of our state into their new professional careers.

The hardships of trying to fulfill your state licensure continuing education, without the ability to attend in-person meetings, was recognized by your directors. We subsequently submitted a letter on your behalf to the Montana Board of Veterinary Medicine requesting that online CE be approved for license renewal. That request was approved along with a deadline extension.

The finances of your organization are stable thanks to the thriftiness of previous directors, generous grants from the Federal Cares program and your continued support through membership.

This is a legislative year and we again will be called upon to get involved with issues that affect our profession. The Veterinary Technician Licensure bill will be of major interest, as well as funding for a new state Veterinary Diagnostic Lab. We intend on giving full support

to these hard-working professionals.

Reflecting on 2020 reinforces one thing that I have always known: the veterinary profession is the greatest profession in the world. Veterinarians were designated as essential workers in March 2020.

You were all called upon to go above and beyond, and you have. I hear it from across the state. The majority of us became veterinarians due to our love for animals. Our successes come from our client relationships. We are an animal and human profession. This pandemic has proven our tremendous value to society. I thank you for your support of the human/animal bond. I thank you for your support of the MVMA.

Let's look forward to a Covid-free 2021.

Dr. Peretti's 2021 Presidential Goals:

- Provide high quality, technically driven continuing education for his colleagues;
- Support legislation to create licensure for the hardworking veterinary technicians in our state;
- Broaden communication among all veterinarians and support young veterinarians to become more involved in organized veterinary medicine.



Ed Peretti, DVM
2020-2021
MVMA President
Butte, Montana

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MVMA ASSOCIATION UPDATES

67th Montana Legislative Session

MVMA Executive Director, Stuart Doggett, and the MVMA Legislative Committee members are actively representing the interests of Montana veterinarians during the 2021 Montana Legislative Session. Specifically, MVMA is engaged in the Veterinary Technician licensure bill and securing funding for the proposed construction of a new Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory in Bozeman. A list of bills MVMA is monitoring can be found on our website at www.mtvma.org.

The Montana Department of Livestock has also created a page on their website outlining detailed plans and finances related to the proposed lab and other legislative priorities. To access the page, go to: <http://liv.mt.gov/Centralized-Services/MDOL-2021-Legislative-Session>.

Please watch for MVMA emails regarding the latest updates about bills impacting the veterinary profession and act when called upon to submit testimony or contact your local legislators.

Thank you to the following MVMA Legislative Committee Members:

Rex Anderson	Nancy Belk
Beth Blevins	Marcia Cantrell
Scott Damby	Bill Duncan
Bart Ladd	Paul McCann
Ed Peretti	Katie Rein
Cara Voss	Marty Zaluski

New Summer 2021 Meeting Date Announced – August 26-28, Butte

While it has certainly been a challenging year for the Association in regard to hosting in-person meetings, the MVMA Board is fully committed to hosting an in-person event during 2021. During a recent meeting, the Board voted to move the previously scheduled June date to August 26-28 with hopes that the later summer date would allow for less social distancing

restrictions and speakers to present in person, rather than virtually. The event will still be held at the Clarion Inn Copper King Convention Center in Butte with President Ed Peretti as the primary event planner. Watch for registration details early this summer and mark your calendars now to celebrate the opportunity to again network with your colleagues from around the state.

The Winter 2022 MVMA is scheduled for January 21-22 at the Best Western Gran Tree Bozeman.

MVMA Appeals Directly to Montana Local Health Departments for Elevated Veterinary Vaccine Status

On January 5th, the State of Montana, as well as other states across the nation, moved essential workers down to Phase 1C in the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out impacting veterinarian's elevated access. While some of our membership still qualify under Phase 1B due to age and health issues (age 70 years and older, American Indians and other people of color who may be at elevated risk for COVID-19 complications, and persons aged 16-69 with high-risk medical conditions), others outside these categories do not. Although MVMA actively advocated at the state level for veterinarians to be elevated back to Phase 1B, this did not occur mainly due to supply issues.

After discovering that supply, demand, and distribution efforts are varying at the local level, MVMA leadership pursued action through direct contact with local health officials across the state asking for their consideration to allow veterinarians and their staff to be vaccinated as supply becomes available.

To keep abreast of the latest state vaccine roll-out plans, visit the Montana Department of Health and Human Services website at: <https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/cdepi/diseases/coronavirusvaccine>. The most

Please watch for MVMA emails regarding the latest updates about bills impacting the veterinary profession and act when called upon to submit testimony or contact your local legislators.

prudent recommendation MVMA can offer, however, is to contact your local and Tribal health departments. Contact information for those agencies can be found at: <https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/cdepi/diseases/coronavirusvaccine>.

Executive Committee Transitions

Two MVMA Executive Committee transitions occurred during recent months with Dr. Scott Damby, Cactus Veterinary Service, in Lewistown, joining the Board this past August and Dr. Mark Albrecht retiring from the Board in early January.

MVMA Board Member Mark Albrecht, DVM, Retires

MVMA Board member, Mark Albrecht, submitted his resignation to the Executive Committee sharing that he was retiring from his practice, Gallatin Veterinary Hospital, and planned to pursue other adventures that would not allow him to fulfill his Board commitments. Mark will be greatly missed on the MVMA Board as he has provided sage guidance to the Association and has been an outstanding advocate for the veterinary profession and his colleagues around the state.

A native of North Dakota, Dr. Albrecht, attended Colorado State University receiving his DVM in 1992. He then did a rotating small animal internship at the University of Missouri, followed by a 3-year small animal surgery residency at the University of Minnesota. During his esteemed career, Mark opened a referral surgery practice in the Bitterroot Valley, helped open the surgical portion of a specialty practice in Omaha, Nebraska, was a staff surgeon at Denver's Alameda East Clinic, and eventually returned to Montana owning the Gallatin Veterinary Hospital and Montana Veterinary Surgical Service, P.C.

Mark shared the following sentiments regarding his resignation:

"Thank you MVMA and all of Montana, you have welcomed me since 1996! What a wonderful place to work and live. I am embarking on retirement which an old vet friend from the Seattle area once told me was just what it says, 'putting on a new set of tires and heading off where you choose.' My choice currently is to sail - possibly around the world, and to spend time outdoors. For now, that means summer and fall in the mountains, including Montana, and the winters sailing in a warmer climate. As such, I can't give the MVMA what it needs and deserves from a Board member. My days as a referral surgeon are about done, however I will continue to teach and consult when I choose.

My advice is to find common ground. There is ground that is shared by new and old vets, male and female vets, by mixed animal, food animal, equine and small animal vets. Use that common ground and the MVMA to help the profession and each other. Our profession is strongest when we look at the common ground first - we can sort out the little stuff later but we have to focus on the big picture and we have a lot of common ground when the big picture is what we use as our lens. Be neighbors and colleagues, shake hands across a fence or better yet share that common ground with no fence. I am humbled and honored to have had the opportunity to serve the men and women of the MVMA!"

In accordance with the MVMA bylaws, Mark's position on the MVMA Executive Committee will be filled during a membership election during the 2021 Summer Meeting. Thank you, Mark, from the MVMA Board, staff and members for your outstanding service to the Association.

Meet MVMA's Newest Board Member – Scott Damby, DVM, Lewistown

In the absence of a Summer 2020 membership meeting, the MVMA Board, during an August conference call, proceeded to seat Board



Mark Albrecht sailing across the Bay of Biscay, on a trip from Ireland to Portugal

MVMA Updates continued on page 4

MVMA Updates *continued from page 3*

nominee, Dr. W. Scott Damby, of Lewistown, to the Executive Committee.

Dr. Damby completed his undergraduate studies at Montana State University and received his DVM from Oregon State University's College of Veterinary Medicine in 1989.

He owned and operated Cactus Veterinary Service in Lewistown until November 2020, at which time he was fortunate to sell the practice to Drs. Logan and Whitney Potts, who now operate under the name of Clear Creek Vets. Under this arrangement, Scott will remain employed by the new owners for one year from the sale date. In addition to practicing in Lewistown for 26 years, Dr. Damby also practiced in Chinook, Montana and Klamath Falls, Oregon.



Scott Damby, DVM
New MVMA
Board Member

Scott shares, "I was an older student, graduating at 37 years old, and figured I would have to work twice as hard to keep up with my younger associates - which I've attempted ever since."

He has been married to his wife, Connie, for 37 years and has two children, Emily, an elementary school teacher in Hamilton, and Zach, a DVM and MVMA member in Stevensville.

In addition to serving on the MVMA Board, Scott says, "My vision of retirement includes excessive bicycle touring, a horse drawn chuckwagon catering business and savoring family time, again trying to catch up on lost time. I am very thankful for and proud of my profession. It has provided me a challenging and rewarding lifestyle."

Welcome, Dr. Damby, to the MVMA Board.

Power of Ten Events Paused

The Summer 2020 MVMA Newsletter featured the newly selected, outstanding class of participants in the Power of Ten program – an initiative designed to cultivate leadership

capacity in recent graduates. The group was able to meet in August via Zoom for an Insights Discovery training by Heidi Hulon, DVM, CCFP, Elanco Animal Health, focusing on understanding and improving interpersonal relationships. After the cancellation of the Winter MVMA Meeting, which was to be their first in-person gathering, the class voted to pause the program and wait for the opportunity to proceed in-person this summer. MVMA looks forward to the continuation of the program and providing meaningful networking opportunities for our up-and-coming leaders.

MVMA Scholarship Grant Applications Due May 30

Each summer, MVMA awards two, \$2,000 scholarship grants to Montana students enrolled in any Veterinary School. Applications will be available in March and are due May 30. MVMA student members will be sent applications via email. In addition, application announcements will be made in the monthly MVMA email news. For more information, contact Jenny Bloomquist at jennyb@montana.com.

MVMA's Online Job Board Transition A Success

Late last fall, MVMA launched a new Online Job Board through our website to post clinic position openings or resumes and it has proven to be a successful transition and service. The service is free to members; however, members will need their website login information to post a job opening. In addition, there is a "featured posting" upgrade option which costs \$50 to move the posting to the top of the board and allow the posting to be published on the Google Jobs Network. If you have questions regarding the service, please contact MVMA Association Coordinator, Jenny Bloomquist, at jennyb@montana.com.

Please note, relief services, practice sales or equipment sales notices are still posted through the MVMA office and those submissions should be emailed to jennyb@montana.com.

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MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome New MVMA Members!

The following members were approved during the August 2020 and January 2021 Board meetings. A final general membership confirmation will voted upon during our next in-person membership meeting.

LIFE

Bruce Beatty
New Ulm, MN

Donald Beck
Baker

STUDENT

Paige Bodner
Colorado State
University

Cody Boyce
Washington State
University

Anne Carroll
Colorado State
University

Cora David
University of
Florida

Matthew Meuli
Washington State
University

Sarah Myers
Washington State
University

Sadie Reddick
Washington State
University

Shea Stevens
Oregon State
University

AFFILIATE

Andrea Mullen
Palmdale,
California

FULL

Danielle Baer
Bozeman

Ryan Black
Bozeman

Grace Clifford
Manhattan

Sarah Clinton
Laurel

Carmen Coots
Missoula

Zachary Damby
Hamilton

Stacey Davidson
Ennis

Angela Davis
Billings

Ann DiPastina
Livingston

Heidi Hagen
Missoula

Madison Hayward
Florence

Kelsey Heiberg
Belgrade

Kelsey Hogue
Helena

Ellen Holbrook
Livingston

Anne Hutton
Wisdom

Kaitlynn Ivory
Missoula

Katelyn Jaqueway
Schoharie, New York

Diana Kuehn
Bozeman

Jessica Malberg
Whitefish

Alexander Moore
Whitefish

Stacey Morgan
Helena

Magdalena Niedermeyer
Stevensville

Meredith Owen
Bozeman

Tricia Prine
Greenough

Kelsey Rehm
Helena

Garrett Ryerson
Bozeman

Carl Shaia
Hamilton

Terry Slaten
Cullman, AL

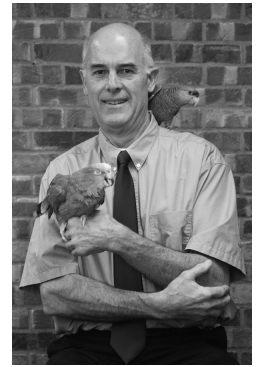
Heather Toyne
Manhattan

Michael Whitmore
Havre

McCaide Wooten
Missoula

In Memoriam - Donn William Griffith, DVM

Donn William Griffith, DVM, passed peacefully on August 1, 2020, surrounded by his loving family, from complications of Progressive Supranuclear Palsy.



Donn William Griffith, DVM

Known as Dr. Donn to thousands of devoted pet owners, he devoted his professional life to the care of dogs, cats, pocket pets, and exotic animals. He attended Purdue University, where he played football and proudly pledged Sigma Chi before serving with the United States Air Force Reserve. He completed a B.S. in Physiology from The Ohio State University and returned to Purdue to earn his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. In 1970, he moved to Dublin, Ohio to build a veterinary hospital and start a practice, also serving as the veterinarian to the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, while teaching and earning his M.S. in Zoo Preventative Medicine from OSU. He also started the first veterinary service in West Yellowstone, Montana in 1980. In addition, he explored and achieved certifications in acupuncture, chiropractic, and herbal medicine. He founded Ohio Holistic Veterinary Hospital and served as president of the American Holistic Veterinary Medical Association. After 51 years of practice, Donn retired in August 2019.

He is survived by his adoring wife of 43 years, Gayle Pyke Griffith, his children and grandchildren.

In Memoriam - Elmer Davis, DVM

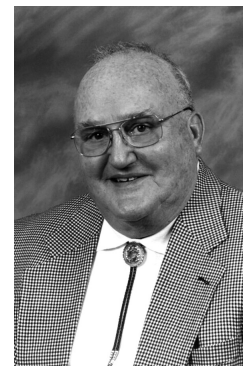
Dr. Elmer Davis passed away Monday, January 25, 2021 of natural causes just a week after his 88th birthday. A native of Topeka, Kansas, he graduated from Kansas State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in feed technology in 1956. He then served three years with the Air Force, including 1 ½ years as a navigator at Malmstrom AFB. He met and married Doris Jean Dehon before returning to Kansas State University to continue his education. He received his Master of Science degree in animal nutrition in 1962 and completed his work for his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in May of 1964. He then purchased Central West Animal Clinic where he practiced for more than 40 years before retiring. After selling his practice, he

worked at Skyline Veterinary Clinic for 14 years.

During his lifetime, he served his community as a Board Member of the Great Falls Pre-Release Center, Great Falls School Board, Westside Kiwanis Club, founding member of Valley Community Bible Church, and a member of Community Bible Chapel in Stockett, Montana.

He is survived by his wife Doris Davis, son Ford Davis and daughter Kim Kruger. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Tammy Barker.

Dr. Davis's obituary stated, "Elmer was an honored member of the Montana Veterinary Medical Association."



Elmer Davis, DVM

USDA Awards Grant to Crazy Mountain Veterinary Service

As reported in the November 1, 2020 Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association, The National Institute of Food and Agriculture within the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced in September that it had awarded nearly \$3 million in grants to support rural veterinary services through the Veterinary Services Grant Program (VSGP).

The purpose of the VSGP is to relieve veterinarian shortage situations and support veterinary services. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis to qualified entities to develop, implement, and sustain veterinary services through education, training, recruitment, placement, and retention of veterinarians, veterinary technicians, and students of veterinary medicine and veterinary technology. Grants are also be made to establish or expand veterinary practices in rural areas.

One of ten 2020 grant recipients, Crazy Mountain Veterinary Service, will use its funds

to educate beef producers and young people about beef cattle veterinary medicine. "During hands-on educational sessions, producers will learn what veterinary conditions they can effectively treat and what problems need prompt interventions by a veterinarian," according to the grant objectives. "We also hope to inspire young people to consider beef production or food animal veterinary medicine as careers."

Owned by MVMA Past President, Dr. Katie Rein, Crazy Mountain Veterinary Service has three offices in Montana located in White Sulphur Springs, Harlowton and Wilsall. MVMA Power of Ten graduate, Dr. Rebecca Gibbs, is also on the staff and involved in the grant implementation, as well as Dr. Mandy Britt.

For more information regarding the grant program and the application process, visit: <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/veterinary-services-grant-program>

"We also hope to inspire young people to consider beef production or food animal veterinary medicine as careers."

ALLIED PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

TORIGEN PHARMACEUTICALS

Making Cancer Treatment Affordable and Accessible at Veterinary Clinics

About Torigen Pharmaceuticals, Inc.:

Torigen Pharmaceuticals is comprised of cancer researchers, veterinarians and veterinary professionals focused on providing the most advanced cancer care solutions for companion animals. Co-Founded by Ashley Kalinauskas, Torigen began as a spin-off from the University of Notre Dame. The company holds multiple patents around the novel cancer vaccine technology. To date, more than 1,000 dogs, cats, horses and other species across the United States have been treated with their Autologous Cancer Vaccine. In 2018 Torigen's immunotherapy won the KC Animal Health Corridor Innovation Award.

About Torigen's Autologous Cancer Vaccine:

Torigen's Autologous Cancer Vaccine is a form of active immunotherapy consisting of cells harvested from the patient's own tumor regardless of tumor type. This whole cell cancer vaccine is made using a novel method to preserve tumor associated antigens (TAAs). The goal of cancer immunotherapy is to increase presentation of TAAs to the immune system, which may increase the likelihood of a successful response and activate specific cytotoxic T-cells against the cancer.

A recently published preliminary study in BMC Veterinary Research revealed a greater than 3-fold increase in survival of the dogs treated with their Autologous Cancer Vaccine over those receiving surgery alone for patients diagnosed with hemangiosarcoma. The median survival time of the vaccinated dogs was the same as dogs treated with MTD chemotherapy, without reported adverse events. The 1-year survival rate was 12.5% for the vaccinated dogs compared with 0% for dogs treated with surgery alone or surgery followed by MTD chemotherapy.

Torigen's goal is to provide affordable and accessible cancer treatment option to patients whether being treated by their family veterinarian or a veterinary oncologist.

To learn more about Torigen Pharmaceuticals and receive a free tumor collection kit or schedule a lunch and learn for your practice please reach out to us at 860.519.9956 or send an email to info@torigen.com.

Experimental Autologous Cancer Vaccines created Torigen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. are provided under 9 CFR 103.3 via USDA Center for Veterinary Biologics oversight for use under supervision/prescription of a licensed veterinarian. Safety & efficacy have not been established.

Torigen's goal is to provide an affordable and accessible cancer treatment option.

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- Fracture repair

Oncology:

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- Tumor staging
- Chemotherapy
- Palliative care
- Electrochemotherapy

Internal Medicine:

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- Bronchoscopy
- Rhinoscopy
- Cardiology
- Endocrinology
- Gastroenterology
- Management of complex cases

Advanced Imaging:

- 16-slice helical CT scan
- High resolution ultrasound
- Fluoroscopy



- Joshua Jackson, DVM, DACVS
- Jason Wheeler, DVM, DACVS
- Kelly Carlsten, DVM, DACVIM-Oncology
- Britt Culver, DVM, DACVIM-SAIM

We welcome referrals from you and strive to provide exceptional care and seamless communication throughout the process.

To refer a case to us there are a couple of options to start the referral.

- Visit our website and choose the Bridger Veterinary Specialists section of the website. Choose the referral tab and referral login. This will take you to our online portal where you can submit your referral. This portal will also provide medical records related to the visit that you can access. If you need login info for our portal please contact our office and we will send you your account info.
- Email patient information, medical records, radiographs and the reason for the referral to info@bvspets.com.
- Questions about a potential referral? Our veterinarians are always willing to answer questions about a case prior to you sending the case to us.

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info@bvspets.com

UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION (USAHA) REPORT

Submitted by Dr. Sherrie Nash and Dr. Jeanne Rankin



MVMA has been a member of USAHA (United States Animal Health Association) since 2008 due to Montana being intermittently infected

with Brucellosis as a result of Yellowstone National Park wildlife interacting with cattle. Veterinarians, producers and the industry are a minority voice in animal health, disease control, animal welfare, food safety and public health, which is made up of primarily state and federal animal health officials. USAHA and the AAVDL (Association of Accredited Veterinary Diagnostic Labs) communicate, coordinate and find solutions to create and amend current law, as well as policy regulating animal health, trade, small and large animal emergency preparedness and response in addition to animal welfare.



*Dr. Sherrie Nash and
Dr. Jeanne Rankin.*

Doctors Sherrie Nash (MVMA supported) and Jeanne Rankin (private practice) represent Montana private practitioners on numerous committees including; Animal Emergency Management, Cattle and Bison Health (ID, TB, Brucellosis, Trich), Equine Infectious Disease, Foreign and Emerging Animal Disease, Global Animal Health and

Trade. Other committees that also meet are Animal Welfare, Sheep and Goats, Camelids and Cervidae, Swine, Poultry, Wildlife, Scrapie & ID, Aquaculture, Parasitic and Vector Borne Diseases, Biologicals, One Health and the association NAHLN (National Animal Health Laboratory Network) which have their meeting in conjunction with USAHA.

Why is USAHA participation important to MVMA members?

Small animal diseases and research are part of the One Health, Animal Welfare and Emergency Management committees. With COVID-19 now infecting cats, mink, ferrets, and zoos, the research and case studies are being presented, reviewed, and discussed by the membership at the scientific level. This ultimately affects private practitioners, as well as laboratory and regulatory levels. Animal Disaster Preparedness through evacuation and sheltering, including co-sheltering of people and their pets, is more problematic now with the new coronavirus being found in cats from homes that have positive humans in them. Zoonotic and public health disease investigations, research and solutions are presented through yearly meetings and often monthly conference calls. This information helps front line practicing veterinarians answer clients' questions and also brings concerns back to regulators and researchers. In addition, private veterinarians can ask pet owners and producers their thoughts on changing rules and regulations if they are aware of what state and federal veterinarians are discussing.

New and emerging equine diseases like African Horse Sickness – spread by the same flies that spread Bluetongue - should be a concern in Montana, as well as other states. This horrible disease is 70-95% fatal and has taken over in Thailand. Experts believe that the United States is fertile ground for this disease, as West Nile virus was introduced in a similar manner. Because equine travel for international events has become increasingly more common, this disease could be brought back to the United States with or without the Culicoides flies.

Perhaps not quite as important to Montana, but still of concern, is the introduction of African Swine Fever (ASF) which is devastating pork production throughout the world. China was the number one pork producer until ASF destroyed their industry. It is expected to take decades for China to recover. ASF has infected Europe and Asia and continues to infect more countries.

New programs and communications are generated from USAHA such as the Interstatelivestock.com website that is a one stop for livestock and equine movement requirements for veterinarians and producers to use for timely information for interstate CVI's. The EDCC (Equine Disease Communication Center) is a partnership started with USAHA, AAEP and many equine associations to create a place that equine enthusiasts and veterinarians can find disease outbreak information by disease or state. Anyone can sign up to receive alerts whenever an equine disease is diagnosed by a state animal health official, avoiding the social media explosion of incorrect information.

Summary Statement

Private practitioners are the first line of defense against critically managed diseases and are the trusted source of communication between producers, pet owners and the state and federal animal health officials. This voice is a minority and often not heard in national meetings which can create problems in implementation and consumer buy-in for regulated animal health programs. During this past October annual meeting, a rallying cry from the District-At-Large leadership to increase industry membership and participation was heard across all the state and federal animal health district meetings as boots-on-the-ground veterinarians and animal producers' input is quietly dying away. MVMA is one of these important voices.

Selected Committee Reports

Animal Welfare Committee

This committee addressed pets and COVID 19, and what was happening around the country regarding pet treatment when people are staying home more and paying more attention to them. AVMA and USDA have taken a pro-active approach to information whenever a pet cat or dog is found to be positive which seem to be limiting any mass relinquishment of pets. Many locations are seeing a higher adoption rate.

The American Swine Veterinarians presented the impacts of COVID 19 on meat packing plants with shutdowns and reduced capacity of 42% in the swine industry as 2.5 to 3 million hogs had to find alternate pathways. Local at-home slaughter increased, as well as changes in decreasing breeding sows. It was interesting to see the modifications made in plants to separate workers with plexiglass dividers plus wearing of masks, shields and other PPE which will protect workers from other contagious diseases, as well as corona virus.

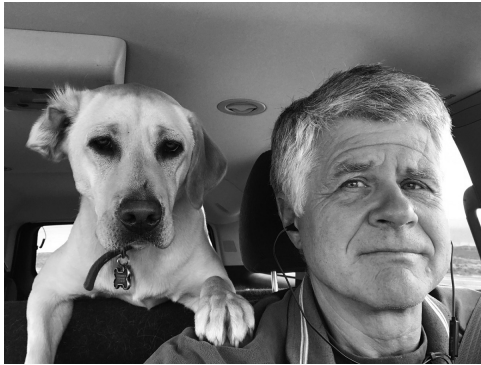
TB Committee - Human to Cattle Transmission

Humans become infected through raw dairy products and direct contamination with TB. It was always assumed that humans could not infect cattle, until recently. There is highly suggestive data that this may not be so due to a case recently in North Dakota. Several Hispanic dairy workers were sick with clinical signs of TB in herds where bovine TB has been found with no genetic trace to other bovine cases.

United States cattle herds continue to become infected with TB and the source is unknown in more than 50% of the cases found. A one health approach is needed to address the issue of human to cattle spread.

Private practitioners are the first line of defense against critically managed diseases and are the trusted source of communication between producers, pet owners and the state and federal animal health officials.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Tony Woodward

DVM, AVDC

*Montana Pet
Dentistry and
Oral Surgery
Now Full-Time*

Tony Woodward, DVM, AVDC is pleased to announce that he is now seeing patients full time in Bozeman. Dr. Woodward has practiced dentistry and oral surgery in Bozeman part-time for the past 10 years. Initially, he had commuted from his Colorado practice to work in Bozeman 2-3 days each month, and then made Bozeman his permanent residence five years ago. Dr. Woodward has limited his practice to dentistry and oral surgery since 2000 and became board certified in dentistry in 2004. The practice is seeing patients in a new location at 2401 Riata Road, in Bozeman, at Alpenglow Animal Hospital.

In addition, in early March, Dr. Woodward's team will also be seeing cases twice each month in Missoula. This second location will be much more convenient for patients in the Flathead

and Bitterroot valleys, as well as surrounding areas. Veterinarians in this area may be familiar with Dr. Woodward's dental resident, Dr. Charles Felz, who practiced in the Missoula area for four years prior to training with Dr. Woodward. Specific dates and location will be announced in the near future.

The practice services include minimally invasive fracture repair, treatment of oro/maxillofacial trauma and oral neoplasia, treatment of fractured teeth, root canal therapy, placement of prosthetic crowns, surgical periodontal therapy, oral medicine, periodontal disease assessment, difficult extractions, repair of palatal defects and treatment of orthodontic issues.

Prior to moving to Montana, Dr. Woodward operated the largest veterinary dental training facility in the United States, hosting over 350 students a year for 15 years. He has lectured and taught over a hundred dental training labs all over North America, including here in Montana, and will be offering dental education

lecture/lab events in Bozeman when conditions allow them to be done safely. If you would like to be notified of upcoming class dates, contact Dr. Woodward at montanadentalrecords@gmail.com.

Dr. Woodward is happy to consult with you on any cases and is available to look at any dental X-rays in which you have questions. If you call, in many cases he can consult with you while your patients are anesthetized.

For further information, contact Dr. Woodward at 406-599-4789.



USAHA Report continued from page 11

FY2020 Brucellosis in the USA

- 1 New Montana DSA livestock herd: single reactor cow, herd will employ once yearly testing and all adjacent premises test annually and were negative.
- 1 New Idaho DSA captive Elk herd: initial whole herd revealed 3 reactor elk cows, 1 suspect elk cow and 5 reactor bulls. One of the females was a wild elk thought to be the transmission source to captive herd. The cattle herd on the premises is a separate epidemiologic unit with a negative whole herd test in February.
- 5 New Wyoming DSA herds (3 beef, 2 bison): routine testing detected herds with 1-2 positive animals each. Beef herds' quarantines removed in spring and summer 2020. One bison herd to have annual testing, second bison herd was detected in September, and tested in October.

Brucellosis removal from Select Agent List

USDA and Human and Health Services (HHS) are the federal government leads in favor of de-listing of brucellosis as a select agent. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is still considering the de-listing. The committee's recommendation is that this is sufficient for the current time, but we need to follow-up. De-listing of Brucellosis is essential if any research is to be done to control elk-cow transmission.

Cattle ID Subcommittee

Electronic tags are being used across the nation in trials and studies to determine whether high frequency or low frequency is the best technology and it turns out that "it depends" upon who is using the tag and for what purpose. Technology neutral has come to mean Ultra High or Low frequency RFID tag, not any ranch drop-down tag, plain back tag, or metal tag. There are some dual frequency tags that can be read individually during ranch operations and also from a greater distance and at the speed of commerce at markets through panel readers. All the options are electronic devices, and to encourage use by producers and veterinarians, free orange OCV "veterinary-official tags" are given by USDA to state veterinarians to replace the orange Bangs metal tags.

One of consequences of this is the state identifier is no longer imprinted on our Montana tags so that visual tracing at ranches or markets is no longer possible. The Brucellosis tags are orange with USDA and OCV printed on them. Veterinarians can purchase orange tags from MWI or other vendors and have MT and OCV placed on them, but that cost must be passed onto the client, whereas the USDA tags are free.

For additional committee reports, please visit the MVMA website at: www.mtvma.org. More information and resources regarding USAHA can be found at: usaha.org.

BSVTA UPDATE

The Big Sky Veterinary Technician Association (BSVTA) has been busy navigating this interesting year of events. We had to cancel our CE events planned but are busy working on getting an Equine Anesthesia CE set up for the summer of 2021, and Small Animal Anesthesia set up for October 2021.

The BSVTA is currently pursuing a bill for Technician licensure during the 2021 legislative session, with Senator Walt Sales as the sponsor.

We have been meeting with Senators and Representatives discussing the bill. If you have any questions regarding the bill, please contact either Marcia Cantrell, CVT, marciacantrellcvt64@gmail.com or Eli Olind, CVT, ropentie_eli@hotmail.com.

Eli Olind, CVT - President-Elect, BSVTA
bigskyvettech.org



MONTANA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE UPDATES

Board Members

Barbara Calm, DVM
Kila

Rebecca Mattix, DVM
Bozeman

Paul McCann, DVM
Havre

Tia Nelson, DVM
Helena

Katie Rein, DVM
Harlowton

Kateri Nelson,
Public Member
Billings

Staff

Rhonda Morgan
Executive Officer

Jennifer Stallkamp
Board Counsel

Montana Board of Veterinary Medicine

PO Box 200513
Helena, MT 59620-0513
406-444-5711
boards.bsd.dli.mt.gov/vet

Next Meeting Date

March 22, 2021
8:00 am

New Executive Officer

Rhonda Morgan is the new Executive Officer for the Board. She has been with the Department of Labor & Industry, Business Standards Division for 5 years. She also administers the Board of Realty Regulation and the Board of Alternative Health Care, and previously worked on the Board of Athletic Trainers.

Jean Lindley, DVM, Retires from Montana Board of Veterinary Medicine



After serving for 23 years, Dr. Jean Lindley recently retired from the Montana Board of Veterinary Medicine. MVMA extends its sincere appreciation, on behalf of veterinarians across the state, to Jean for her

dedicated service.

Fellow Board member, Rebecca Mattix, DVM, shares, "Jean has given years of service on the Board of Veterinary Medicine. She has been a wealth of knowledge for new board members. She is kind, gracious and fair in her dealings with licensee complaints. I will miss her wisdom and insight on this board. Thanks, Jean, for all the help you have provided me over the past eight years!!"

When asked to reflect on her service, Jean provided the following comments:

"I don't know that I have anything profound to say about the 23 years I spent on the Board of Veterinary Medicine. It would take a doctoral dissertation to explain everything that goes on or has gone on."

The changes that have occurred as Veterinary Medicine has advanced, as technology has come to the forefront, as the political climate has exerted an influence, and as interpretation of the Montana Code has evolved, have all greatly affected what the Board can and cannot do.

It has been an eye-opening experience and a great education, sometimes frustrating, but I am glad I was able to serve. I have had the pleasure of working with some very dedicated, sharp and knowledgeable colleagues and staff. I feel that I practice better medicine because of it, and I certainly keep very comprehensive medical records!

I wish my successor all the best."

Cordially, Jean Lindley, DVM

Governor Appoints New Board Member

Dr. Katie Rein, Harlowton, has been appointed by Governor Greg Gianforte to replace Dr. Lindley on the Montana Board of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Rein, past MVMA President, attended Montana State University majoring in Biotechnology and Animal Systems, earned both her BS and DVM from Washington State University and completed a Large Animal Veterinary Internship at Texas A & M University. She is the owner of Crazy Mountain Veterinary Service, PLLC, in Harlowton. Katie remains active in MVMA as the Power of Ten Facilitator, chairs the Food Animal Committee and is a valued member of the Legislative committee. In addition, she has served her local community as a board member and Vice Chairman of the Wheatland County Memorial Hospital Board. Thank you, Dr. Rein, for accepting this appointment and continuing to provide leadership for Montana veterinarians.



Health Insurance Inspired by You

AVMA members, their employees, and their family members now have access to affordable health care through the AVMA Trust Association Health Plan (AHP).

- **100% coverage of rabies vaccine** and titer testing in PPO plans
- No health information required to enroll your practice
- **No restrictions** on pre-existing conditions
- The AHP team focuses solely on veterinary practices
- Premium rates are guaranteed through December 31, 2021

For eligibility and enrollment, visit:

AVMATrustAHP.com

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AVMA UPDATE

Hello Montana Veterinarians,

I am pleased to introduce myself as your new District XI Director on the AVMA Board of Directors (Board). I cannot wait until we can meet in person, it was to be one of the highlights of being a director, but for now, let me say a brief hello.



Sandy Willis

DVM, DACVIM

District XI Director,
AVMA Board of Directors

sandy7957@comcast.net

206-817-9227 (cell)

I am a small animal internist/ACVIM diplomate with Zoetis Reference Laboratories in Mukilteo, Washington. I consult with our clients on all kinds of different questions, have written and given much of our continuing education, and serve generally as the jack of all trades at the lab. It is a rewarding job, always busy, and always unpredictable.

I am a UC Davis graduate, trained at the University of Minnesota and the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan.

My journey in organized veterinary medicine began years ago when I said yes to chairing a Seattle King County VMA committee. Over the years I kept on saying yes, who wouldn't want to work on important projects with amazing colleagues, and have served in the WSVMA, the AVMA House of Delegates (House) and the House Advisory Committee (HAC).

When the opportunity came up to run for the position of District XI Director, I decided I just had to go for it. The support of House members within our district was hugely important as was the mentoring, and friendship, of former district director, Dr. Rena Carlson from Idaho.

District XI consists of the states Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Alaska, Oregon and Washington. Eleven district directors make up the AVMA Board in addition to the AVMA President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, Vice President and Treasurer (nonvoting); sixteen members in total. The BOD is the administrative body of the AVMA. It determines AVMA's policies within the limits of the association bylaws and promotes the AVMA's mission and strategy. The Board works closely with the AVMA Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer Dr. Janet Donlin and the many talented AVMA staff. District Directors serve a six-year term.



*AVMA Delegates Dr.
Rex Anderson and Dr.
Bill Duncan.*

The House membership represents 70 state, territorial and allied organizations— a delegate and an alternate delegate from each organization. The House sets association policies and elects the seven-member HAC, which makes recommendations to both the House and the Board of Directors. The House meets twice a year: each summer at AVMA Convention and each winter at the Veterinary Leadership Conference. Drs. Rex Anderson and Bill Duncan represent Montana in the House, and Dr. Anderson also serves on the HAC. His prospective of a mixed animal practitioner is invaluable. As director, I serve as an AVMA resource for the MVMA and Montana veterinarians, and assist Drs. Anderson and Duncan who represent your interests in the House.

All entities within the AVMA have met virtually since early spring. The first ever virtual Summer 2020 HOD meeting was a huge success with over 150 participants sitting in for the two-day meeting in addition to break out sessions for the seven reference committee meetings. We voted on resolutions, discussed COVID-19 as our Veterinary Information Forum (VIF) topic, and gained

insights on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. The 2021 Winter HOD Meeting was held in conjunction with the Veterinary Leadership Conference (VLC) in early January 2021. This meeting was also virtual and a huge success. Over 30 folks from our district attended the VLC, many of them coming together for our virtual District Caucus meeting where introductions were made, we discussed individual state issues, then Dr. Anderson, HAC Vice Chair, reviewed the resolutions and VIF topics that the HOD would discuss during their meeting. Drs. Anderson and Duncan will be providing their report from the 2021 Winter HOD meeting during the next MVMA meeting.



We are getting the work done but we all miss the camaraderie of being together in person.

A few items of interest to draw your attention to:

Antimicrobial Resistance: The AVMA, advised by the Committee on Antimicrobials, has been working intensively to address the critical issue of antimicrobial use and resistance. In August, they published “Antimicrobial Resistant Pathogens Affecting Animal Health in the United States.” Please see avma.org/antimicrobials.

AVMA Axon: AVMA Axon is the digital education platform for the AVMA. Two great programs: The Workplace Wellbeing Certificate Program, available on AVMA Axon, has been updated with additional CE credit and easy sharing options. The AVMA is finalizing the development of a Brave Space Certificate Program, which encourages dialogue among those who hold differing views, identities, and experiences and which includes seven modules. Please go to www.avma.org/axon to check out all the continuing education available to members and non-members.

AVMA Trust Retirement Plan: The AVMA is pleased to offer a retirement plan exclusively

for AVMA members as another valuable member benefit. The new AVMA Trust Retirement Plan is now available to practice owners and self-employed veterinarians. Visit avmalifeplans.com/ARP or for questions, or to schedule a personal consultation, email AVMATrustRetirementPlan@transamerica.com or call 312-596-5336.

COVID-19: The AVMA is monitoring the situation regarding the next COVID relief legislative package and continues to advocate for the following on behalf of small business and the profession. The HOD shared experiences of dealing with COVID during the recent Veterinary Information Session (VIF) in January. The AVMA is currently tracking access of veterinary team members to the COVID-19 vaccine, which as all knows, varies state to state. For the latest information about COVID-19 and veterinary medicine, please visit avma.org/Coronavirus.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion: The AVMA and Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) have invited several key

*The first
ever virtual
Summer
2020 HOD
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participants.*

AVMA Update continued on page 19

PRACTICE SPOTLIGHT



Clark Fork Veterinary Clinic

Pictured left to right:
Shannon Nielsen, DVM
Samantha Thomas, DVM
Betsy Price, DVM

3707 N. Frontage Rd.
Deer Lodge, MT 59722
406-846-1925
clinic@clarkforkvet.com
www.clarkforkvet.com

The Clark Fork Veterinary Clinic has been serving the Deer Lodge Valley and surrounding tri-county areas since 1961. We are a full-service mixed animal practice providing dental, medical, and surgical care. We work with all species and strive to provide the best health care management for any animal we treat – whether our patient is a beloved family pet or a ranch animal. We are a 4-doctor practice, with 3 customer service representatives and 11 support staff (assistants, kennel assistant, manager). Our facilities include small and large animal treatment areas, x-ray, a small animal surgery suite, indoor boarding kennels, a laboratory, and a pharmacy. We also offer ambulatory services and work with referral practices in the area to provide the best possible care for our patients.

What is special about our clinic is how we prioritize our culture and core values over everything else, they set the tone for what we do. We believe everyone at our practice needs to be goal-oriented to grow personally, as well as professionally. We have monthly staff meetings to keep everyone informed. One of our favorite days of the year is our Annual Kickoff event where we close the clinic for the day and we

conduct staff development, set our community service plans for the year, discuss the metrics of the practice and how to improve upon them.

We hold our core values as a daily priority. By embodying our core values, we create a culture that is respectful, rewarding, and empowering. This enables us to grow both individually and as a team, in a fun and safe environment. Our core values are growth mindset, compassion, excellence, ethical and passionate. We are professionals that care about and teach each other and our clients.

Our staff development is continually growing and improving. Our assistants are all working toward becoming Certified Veterinary Assistants through an online program and on hands training. We continually strive to make sure our staff is learning more about our industry whether in the clinic or outside in the community. We pride ourselves on our Communication Training that our staff gets at on-boarding. It consists of mock scenarios where we practice and learn how to interact with clients and each other.

We love to have our annual cattle producer, equine and small animal client meetings. During these meetings, we host our clients in a rotating venue for a meal, bring in speakers or our doctors discuss a pertinent topic to give back to our wonderful clients and community. Each month, we offer promotions through the clinic, such as Equine Wellness month; where we go to surrounding areas for annual vaccines and exams, as well as discounts on dental floats.

We use our Community Care Fund through the AVMA on a regular basis. We strive to solicit donations biannually at different civic fundraising events. Our latest donation drive was the FurEver Loved Pet Walk; it was held

at the local golf course and one of our doctors and clients organized the event. People in the community could go on a walk-in memory of the pets they have lost over the years and make a small donation. We advertised heavily, had a good turnout, and raised several thousand dollars for our Care Fund! Our other main fundraiser event is Santa Paws, where we have a booth at our local Christmas Stroll. Our clients and patients can take their pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus for a small donation to the fund. The fund is then used for needy pets and families in our community.

Thank you for taking the time to read about us and our practice! We sincerely care about our patients and their owners. Stop by to see us and experience authentic, Montana hospitality

and care. We love helping our patients have a happy and healthy life with their owners! Check out our website for more information, clarkforkvet.com.

MVMA extends its appreciation to Clark Fork Veterinary Clinic for submitting this practice spotlight, and we are proud to have all three of the clinic doctors as MVMA members.



AVMA Update *continued from page 17*

veterinary organizations to join together in a Commission for a Diverse, Equitable, and Inclusive Veterinary Profession, to collectively establish actionable goals that promote DEI to serve all stakeholders in the veterinary community. The AVMA has retained L+C Creative Group as the consultant to assist them in the ongoing development and launch of the commission, as well as consulting with the AVMA on the development of an overall DEI strategy; several meetings have already taken place. This is a long-term strategy planned to stimulate significant change.

Federal Advocacy Efforts: The AVMA and American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) are seeking changes in the Senate to the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act. The changes would add more veterinary expertise to the entities created by the legislation. The bill has already passed Congress.

Veterinary Technicians: The AVMA has created a new webpage, "Utilizing veterinary technicians to improve practice success," offering best practices, tips, and advice to fully utilize veterinary technicians in practice.

A working group, created in response to the HOD VIF topic on Veterinary Technician Utilization, has submitted a progress report outlining a comprehensive, science-based approach to gather data needed to effectively address the barriers preventing the appropriate utilization of veterinary technicians. A research group has been identified to conduct the initial and secondary phases of the proposed research; the survey should roll out later this year.

Wildfire/Hurricane Disaster Relief: The AVMA's charitable arm, the American Veterinary Medical Foundation (AVMF), continues to respond with financial aid to areas affected by disasters. The AVMF also provides disaster grants that help veterinarians and veterinary students cover immediate expenses and basic necessities after disasters and reimburses the costs of veterinary care provided to animals. To donate, please visit avmf.org/donate.

Thank you for all you do to serve the animals and people during this incredibly challenging time. My best to you all for 2021. Feel free at any time to contact me.

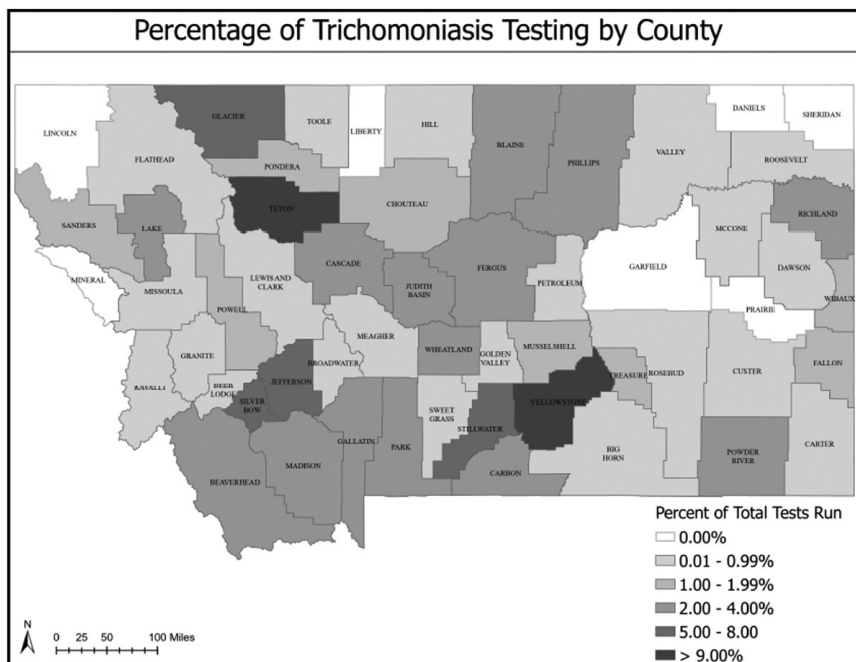
DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK UPDATES

Tag Shortage:

MDOL and USDA would like veterinarians to be aware that there continue to be delays in both the manufacture and distribution of official ID (brucellosis vaccination, silver metal brite tags, and RFID tags) from the USDA warehouse due to impacts from COVID-19. Please be aware of these delays and anticipate tag needs ahead of your traditional tag ordering schedule. If you find yourself short on tags, please reach out to MDOL at (406) 444-1587. Through previous communication with veterinarians, MDOL has identified several thousand tags (brucellosis vaccination, silver brite tags, and RFID) that can be made available from other Montana veterinarians. Thank you to everyone who so generously offered up tags from their supplies!

Veterinary Diagnostic Lab:

MVDL is operating in a building that is now 60 years old. We have a proposal in this legislative session as part of the LRBP (Long Range Building Program) to construct a \$25M facility adjacent to the current building on the Montana State University (MSU) campus. Benefits of a Montana-based laboratory include: (1) Capturing critical surveillance data. When samples go out of state, our office can't provide you with useful information about the incidence of disease. (2) Sending samples out of state is likely to cost producers more. Many laboratories have surcharges on out-of-state samples. (3) We will suffer a greater impact during emergencies. During a disrupting disease event, the high influx of samples tests the capacity of any laboratory. Having an in-state facility allows us to prioritize our samples for analysis which reduces the extent of harm on Montana families, and businesses. (4) We are building capacity for state response. The MVDL has loaned equipment to public health for COVID testing and was capable of transitioning to providing tests for humans. We hope that you will consider lending support for maintaining our in state veterinary lab capacity.



Disease Reporting:

We recognize that we can improve our communication to Montana veterinarians about disease incidence from disease reports and laboratory submittals. The chart to the left reflects submission by county to the Montana Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (MVDL). For the calendar years 2019-2020, 9,045 trichomoniasis tests were conducted from 49 Montana counties.

Using a similar format, we are committing to providing regular updates about reportable disease statistics in Montana. As a reminder, if you are using diagnostic labs other than the MVDL, you are required to report positive disease results to our office. This can be done via our online reporting tool found at <https://app.mt.gov/>

accessgov/liv/Forms/Page/liv/efee2a64-0c73-4d43-bd6c-31686ae05dc6/0/1 or by emailing test results to livresults@mt.gov. Following disease reporting, you may be contacted by one of the veterinarians in the office for additional information. To help with test result interpretation, we strongly encourage including a clinical description of animals and vaccination history when requesting serologic testing.

Transition to Electronic CVIs:

In response to feedback received from MVMA, the Department has modified our implementation schedule for transition to Montana veterinarians issuing electronic certificates of veterinary inspection (eCVIs). For 2021, veterinarians will be allowed to issue up to 20 paper certificates. Full implementation of the requirement for veterinarians to issue all CVIs electronically will occur January 1, 2022.

This graduated implementation allows veterinarians who write the fewest certificates to postpone their investment in time and technology for a small number of clients. Likewise, this 'ceiling' approach gives veterinarians the discretion to utilize paper certificates for select movements that may require complex certificates, such as shipments with large numbers of animals with non-sequential identification. This phase-in will still allow us to meet the Department's goal of reducing incoming paper data by 50%.

For additional information about the transition and issuing eCVIs, please consult the December Stockquotes at <http://liv.mt.gov>. Additionally, questions can be directed to Animal Health staff at (406) 444-2976.

Next Board of Livestock Meeting Date

Thursday, February 18, 2021, 8:00 am - Virtual

DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK ANIMAL HEALTH BUREAU	
PO Box 202001 301 N Roberts Street Helena, MT 59620-2001 General Inquiries: (406) 444-2043 FAX: (406) 444-1929 Import Permits: (406) 444-2976 Standard permits available 24 hours	
Martin Zaluski: (406) 444-0782 State Veterinarian	Tahnee Szymanski: (406) 444-5214 Assistant State Veterinarian
Eric Liska: (406) 444-3374 Brucellosis Program Veterinarian	Anna Forseth: (406) 444-2939 Program Veterinarian
Brooke Ruffier: (406) 444-9525 Import Office Manager, equine six-month passports (EECVI), alternative livestock	Britta Sekora: (406) 444-2892 Import permits, NPIP, poultry imports, brucellosis vaccination certificates
Leslie Doely: (406) 444-9622 DSA/Brucellosis program, brucellosis testing reimbursements	Keelin Gilkey: (406) 444-2977 Import permits, import quarantines, permit violation letters
Kaylee Hiel: (406) 444-5200 Import permits, veterinary supply orders, exotic imports, blanket permits	Cinda Young-Eichenfels: (406) 444-3703 Administrative assistant to the state veterinarian, administrative rules
Sara Starkey: (406)-444-1587 Seasonal grazing, export health certificates, veterinarian accreditation, veterinarian address changes, rabies, b-ovis, trichomoniasis, biologics	



Martin Zaluski
DVM,
State Veterinarian



Tahnee Szymanski
DVM, Assistant
State Veterinarian

Woolover® Limited

Fit N Forget (FnF™)

Beef Calf Cover



All beef ranchers are seeking to maximize their returns from their operation. A main income generator is the number of live calves that make weaning. The weather during late winter and spring can, and does, influence the number of new-born beef calves that survive some very brutal weather that can literally devastate the very survival of these new-borns.

Woolover® Ltd, based in New Zealand, is no stranger to devastating stock losses. In fact, Woolover® Ltd was "born of necessity" back in 1993 after two snowstorms, 10 days apart, claimed the lives of 2 million lambs and 40,000 calves. **The answer is WOOL.**

MWI Animal Health, based in Boise, Idaho, and Kim Holt, drew our attention to USDA figures that suggested towards 80,000 new-born beef calves perish annually from hypothermia. Woolover® Ltd then set about designing and making a beef calf cover that was totally biodegradable, made from wool, is designed to fit an 85 lb new-born beef calf, and would simply "fall off" after 3- 4 weeks having ensured the new-born beef calf survived, was accepted by the mother, and captured some additional growth rates along the way.

The Result: The Woolover® **Fit N Forget (FnF™) Beef Calf Cover.**

- New-born calves fitted with the **FnF™ Beef Calf Cover** are simply not at risk of dying from hypothermia, and they will grow faster.
- The cover is totally biodegradable with wool providing the warmth and absorbency to wick moisture away from the hide and the Hessian Substrate providing some strength. Be it rain, snow, windchill or, simply from the birth process, covering a new-born beef calf with the **FnF™ Beef Calf Cover** makes sound financial sense. The cover will last for up to 3 – 4 weeks and then falls off.
- Designed for an 85 lb. live weight beef calf at birth, which is the optimum weight, but will also fit smaller calves.
- Wool is providing the warmth, is absorbent, breathable, comfortable to wear, is totally biodegradable and will ensure the Thermo – Neutral Zone, being the heart/ lung area, is kept at a constant temperature, both day and night despite the worst possible conditions = survival.

*Dr. Clint Hilt, leading Veterinarian with MWI Animal Health, based in Power, Montana, who assisted with a trial of 50 **FnF™ Beef Calf Covers** on his clients' new-born calves said, "**THESE COVERS ARE LIVESAVERS.**"*

*The trial was conducted on a day when it was -23 degrees Fahrenheit and, by simply fitting a **FnF™ Beef Calf Cover** to a new-born, the actual hide temperature of the calf increased by 32 degrees Fahrenheit in four minutes!*

The Woolover® Limited **FnF™ Beef Calf Covers** are available from: bbajackets@gmail.com or phone: Busse Barron Acres [BBA] 715 296 7596. They are sold in bales of 100 units, outers of 10 units with 20 units strapped together to minimize freight costs. Single or any other number will also be supplied.

www.woolover.co.nz

For more information, contact: David Brown, Managing Director of Woolover® Limited | 214 Rutland Street | Papanui, Christchurch 8052 | david@woolover.co.nz

Medicine Creek Bovine Health and Consulting

P.O. Box 614 White Sulphur Springs, Montana
406 223 2080

Email: hammerbeef.sager97@gmail.com

Website: www.medicinecreekbovinehealth.com

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USDA-APHIS –VS – MONTANA | Directory - Montana Field Operations Personnel

208 N. Montana Avenue, Suite 101 | Helena, MT 59601 | Phone: (406) 437-9450 | FAX: (406) 449-5439 | Email: VSPSMT@usda.gov

Name	Unit	Position	Location	Work	Cell	Work - Direct
Beutelschies, Scott	SPRS	Area Veterinarian In Charge	Helena	(406) 437-9450	(406) 594-2086	(406) 437-9451
Hughes, Janet Alverson	SPRS	Area Epidemiology Officer	Helena	(406) 437-9450	(406) 403-4200	(406) 437-9455
Leidorf, Yvette	SPRS	Animal Identification Coordinator	Helena	(406) 437-9450		(406) 437-9457
Jaumotte, Kristen	SPRS	Administrative Officer	Helena	(406) 437-9450		(406) 437-9458
VACANT	SPRS	Program Assistant - Veterinary Accrediation	Helena	(406) 437-9450		
Bowden, John	SPRS	Program Assistant - Program Records	Helena	(406) 437-9450		(406) 437-9456
FIELD PERSONNEL						
Bailey, Glen	SPRS	Veterinary Medical Office	Anaconda	(406) 439-2900	(406) 439-2900	
Kaleczyc, Emily	SPRS	Veterinary Medical Officer	North Central MT	(406) 438-2930	(406) 438-2930	
Thompson, Brent	SPRS	Veterinary Medical Officer	Billings	(406) 655-4356	(406) 208-2965	
Green, Clint	SPRS	Veterinary Medical Officer	Miles City	(406) 351-2441	(406) 351-2441	
BOZEMAN DIAGNOSTIC LAB						
Knopp, Doug	SPRS	Microbiologist	Bozeman	(406) 994-4885		
GREAT YELLOWSTONE AREA PERSONNEL						
Clarke, Ryan	S & P	Epidemiologis - (Brucellosis)	Belgrade	(406) 388-5162	(406) 539-6899	
Bigelow, Becky	S & P	Wildlife Disease Specialist - GYA	Bozeman	(406) 697-9991	(406) 697-9991	
NIES PERSONNEL						
Becker, James	NIES	VMO (Port)	Sweetgrass	(406) 335-2142		
Lee, Kenneth	NIES	Veterinary Medical Officer / Port VMO	Scobey	(406) 487-5955	(406) 478-0045	

UPCOMING MVMA MEETINGS

Summer 2021

August 26-28

Clarion Inn Copper King Hotel &
Convention Center
Butte

Winter 2022

January 21-22

Best Western Plus Gran Tree Inn
Bozeman

Summer 2022

June 23-25

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
Billings

Winter 2023

January 13-14

Best Western Plus Gran Tree Inn
Bozeman



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MVMA CONTACTS

2020-2021 Executive Committee

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President-Elect	Car Voss, DVM Glendive
Vice President	Vacant
Secretary/Treasurer	Nancy Belk, DVM Winnett
Director	Bart Ladd, DVM Stevensville
Director	Scott Damby, DVM Lewistown
Past President	Beth Blevins, DVM Ronan
AVMA House Advisory Council Representative	Rex Anderson, DVM Red Lodge
AVMA Delegate	William Duncan, DVM Missoula

Staff

Executive Director	Stuart Doggett stuart@montana.com
Association Coordinator	Jenny Bloomquist jennyb@montana.com
Association Coordinator	Deedee Grubbs dgrubbs@montana.com

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Schaumburg, IL 60173-4360
Phone: 800-248-2862
www.avma.org