

# WINTER 2022 NEWSLETTER



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings from Eastern Montana!

This year has been no less challenging than 2020. Not only do we have to deal with concerns about Covid-19, but we are dealing with severe drought, especially in eastern Montana. Covid-19 forced us to cancel our winter meeting and reschedule our summer meeting. Our summer meeting was held in August in Butte, Montana. Despite the hassles of rescheduling, the meeting was well attended and a great success. Many people commented about how good it was to have interaction and education with their veterinary colleagues.

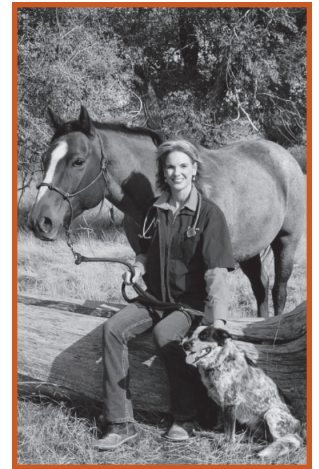
Dr. Nancy Belk is working hard to plan the 2022 Winter MVMA meeting scheduled for January 21-22 in Bozeman. Registration information is included in this newsletter. Some of the topics at this meeting include rural practice issues, small animal dentistry, small animal clinical pathology topics, as well as beef and equine topics. We encourage you to come, learn, and network!

As your incoming president, I have several goals for this organization. The first goal is to provide high quality, clinically relevant continuing education to your scope of practice. I greatly enjoy learning new advancements or practical tips I can use in my daily practice. I have spent the past year planning the Summer 2022 MVMA meeting including large and small animal topics that I hope you will find beneficial. Second, I seek to be an advocate for those in rural veterinary practice. A veterinary practice greatly benefits a rural agricultural

community, however, practicing in a rural area has its own set of challenges. Some of the topics at our conferences are directed towards addressing these issues. In addition, I want to seek solutions to the labor shortage of support veterinary personnel, veterinary technicians and assistants. Finding and keeping qualified support personnel is a dilemma in all areas of Montana, as well as nationally.

Finally, I wish to encourage veterinarians to influence and educate the public. We are the "experts" in animal health care and husbandry. "To whom much is given, much will be required." (Mark 12:48) We need to be active providing veterinary guidance to the public regarding animal health issues.

As your new president, I am receptive to hearing your ideas, suggestions, and concerns. We can work together to benefit the veterinary community in our state!



**Cara Voss, DVM**  
2021-22 MVMA President  
Dawson County Veterinary Clinic  
Glendive, Montana

*Cara Voss, DVM*

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# MVMA ASSOCIATION UPDATES

## MVMA Members Reconnect at 2021 Summer Meeting in Butte



Pictured left to right, Ed Peretti, DVM, Barr Gustafson, DVM, Lt. Governor Kristen Juras, and entertainer Wylie Gustafson.

A record number of MVMA members gathered at the Copper King Convention Center in Butte for the 2021 Summer Meeting, and attendee evaluations deemed the event a great success. Dr. Ed Peretti, MVMA Past President, was responsible for planning the event and presented a slate of speakers that were relevant and timely. In their evaluation, one attendee shared, "I probably have not enjoyed a meeting more in over 30 years of attending CE." Another said, "It was fantastic to gather for a CE meeting! I hadn't realized how much I had missed this interaction and education with colleagues. Thank you MVMA for organizing and hosting a great meeting!"



MVMA would like to extend special recognition to Boehringer Ingelheim and AmerisourceBergen-MWI Animal Health for sponsoring the Friday evening dinner and entertainment. A complete listing of all the 2021 Summer Meeting sponsors and trade show exhibitors can be found on page 7. The support of these business partners is essential for MVMA to host quality meetings. Please be sure to thank their representatives when conducting business with them.

In addition to obtaining 14 hours of continuing education, MVMA members discussed current veterinary issues during committee meetings, attended the trade show featuring valued allied business partners, were entertained by Wylie Gustafson (with a special duet featuring his sister, Montana Lt. Governor Kristen Juras) and participated in the general membership business meeting where state and national Association leadership, as well as the Montana Board of Veterinary Medicine and Montana Board of Livestock leaders, provided updates on happenings within the veterinary profession.

### MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

#### Glendive Veterinarian Cara Voss, DVM Assumes MVMA Presidency

During the Summer 2021 Membership Meeting, Cara Voss, DVM, of Dawson County

Veterinary Clinic in Glendive, was elected MVMA President for the 2021-2022 term. Dr. Voss replaces Ed Peretti, DVM, of Amherst Animal Hospital in Butte, who will now serve in the capacity of Past President on the MVMA Executive Committee.



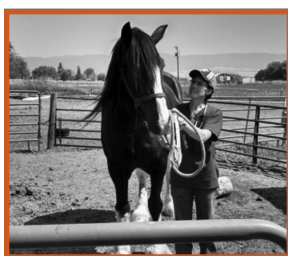
**Cara Voss, DVM**  
**MVMA 2021-2022 President**

A native of North Carolina, Dr. Voss earned a bachelor's degree in Animal Science from North Carolina State University and her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from Mississippi State University. Upon completion of veterinary school, she practiced in mixed animal practices in Kansas, South Dakota, Texas, and Montana. She and her husband, Dr. Kyle Voss, are the current owners of the Dawson County Veterinary Clinic and have served the community since 2003. She enjoys both equine and small animal practice, with a particular interest in general equine medicine, equine reproduction, and small animal theriogenology.

Dr. Voss and her husband have two teenage sons and enjoy showing steers, pigs and horses, as well as working cattle. She also has a passion for breeding and showing quarter horses.

In addition to Dr. Voss's appointment to President, Nancy Belk, DVM, Winnett, moved into the position of President Elect and Scott Damby, DVM, Lewistown, assumed the role of Vice President. Members also elected three new Board members including Linda Kauffman, DVM, Stevensville, as Secretary/Treasurer, and Barr Gustafson, DVM, Browning, and Julie Oghigian, DVM, Bozeman, as Directors on the Executive Committee.

### Meet the Three New Board Members:



**Linda Kauffman, DVM**  
**MVMA Secretary/  
Treasurer**

A native Nebraskan, Dr. Kauffman grew up on a hog and cattle farm and was motivated by her involvement in 4-H, caring for piglets and calves on the farm, and encouragement from an uncle to pursue a career as a veterinarian. She attended the University of Nebraska for her undergraduate degree and earned her DVM from Kansas State College of Veterinary Medicine in 1983. Dr. Kauffman then held an internship in Large Animal Medicine and Surgery at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatchewan, Canada. Her practice experience began with relief work in Montana and Nebraska followed by a mixed animal practice partnership in Coffeyville, Kansas for seven years. In 1993, Dr. Kauffman returned to Montana relief work until starting Burnt Fork Veterinary Clinic in Stevensville during 1999. The clinic has grown to include four, full-time veterinarians, is in the process of a physical expansion and includes Linda's daughter, Laura Frazee-Sonsteng, as Practice Manager. Linda currently works part time focusing mostly on small animal practice, enjoys trail riding and is cherishing her title as "Grandma."

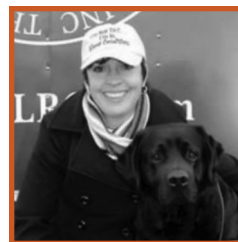


**Barr Gustafson, DVM**  
**MVMA Director**

Dr. Gustafson was born and raised in Conrad, Montana. He graduated from the Oregon State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1985. Barr, his wife, Colleen, and children, Greta and Owen, operate a cow/calf operation southeast of Browning on the Two Medicine River. His

veterinary practice generally serves ranchers in the surrounding area. Daughter, Greta, is a sophomore at Washington State University on her way to becoming a third generation Montana veterinarian. Son, Owen, is a senior at Dickinson State University and will return to the ranch allowing Dr. Gustafson time to give back to MVMA, an organization he feels has served him well throughout his career.

Dr. Julie Oghigian has been working in the veterinary profession for well over 30 years, with over 21 of those in practice as a small animal veterinarian. She graduated from Washington State University's College of Veterinary Medicine and chose to pursue a prestigious rotating internship at the nation's third largest small animal referral hospital.



**Julie Oghigian,  
DVM, CVA**  
**MVMA Director**

Dr. Oghigian has a strong interest in canine reproduction, canine sports medicine and rehabilitation, feline medicine/surgery, dentistry, Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine (TCVM), zoo animal and wildlife medicine/rehabilitation. She has a passion for working and service dogs, and was the staff doctor at Guide Dogs of America for almost five years during which she was very excited to see the advancements and growth of the GDA veterinary program. Dr. Oghigian is also a Certified Veterinary Acupuncturist (CVA), having undergone extensive training through the International Veterinary Acupuncture Society.

Outside of work, Dr. Oghigian loves spending time with her husband, who grew up in Montana, and their children, as well as competing with her champion Labrador retrievers in the AKC conformation ring and performance venues.

*"I hadn't realized how much I had missed this interaction and education with colleagues. Thank you MVMA for organizing and hosting a great meeting!"*

**MVMA Updates** continued on page 4



*MVMA Updates continued from page 3*

### **New MVMA Members Approved**

The following membership applications were approved during the 2021 Summer Membership Meeting. The MVMA Board, staff and membership extends a sincere welcome to all of these valued members!

#### **LIFE**

*(transitioned from Full membership to Life status)*

Patti Ethridge <i>Bigfork</i>	Deborah Yarborough <i>Kalispell</i>
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#### **FULL**

Terry Adkins <i>Sand Coulee</i>	Bobbi Knudsen <i>Chinook</i>
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Janet Alviar <i>Missoula</i>	Amy Krier <i>Bozeman</i>
---------------------------------	-----------------------------

Douglas Altrogge <i>Polson</i>	David Linzey <i>Boone, North Carolina</i>
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Douglas Bower <i>Conner</i>	Jessica Quigg <i>Billings</i>
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Garrett Bronec <i>Vaughn</i>	Daniel Roe <i>Shepherd</i>
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Shura Bugreeff <i>Victor</i>	Frank Tarplee <i>Hamilton</i>
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Jerald Cospers <i>Polson</i>	Nicole Tennent <i>Bozeman</i>
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Lori Giuffre <i>Clancy</i>	Travis Wilfong <i>Helena</i>
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Gary Goldstein <i>Plymouth, Minnesota</i>	Mathew Witzel <i>Missoula</i>
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### **2021 Honor Roll Recipients Recognized**

During the Summer Meeting's Friday evening festivities, Dr. Beth Blevins, 2019-2020 MVMA President, recognized the 2021 Honor Roll Recipients. Each year, MVMA pays tribute to three Montana veterinarians who hold historic license numbers. This year, recipients included the following, long-time MVMA members.

**Stanley Swartz, DVM - #513**

Hamilton, Montana

**Albert Stoddard, DVM - #519**

Broadus, Montana

**Dean Holmes, DVM - #524**

Harlowton, Montana

### **Register Now for the 2022 MVMA Winter Meeting**

The 2022 MVMA Winter Meeting will be held January 20 - 22 at the Best Western Plus GranTree Inn in Bozeman. Dr. Nancy Belk, MVMA President Elect, has gathered a variety of outstanding speakers, from both Montana and across the United States, to present 14 hours of pertinent continuing education. See page 17 in this newsletter for all of the meeting details and registration form. You can easily register online by going to the MVMA website: [mtvma.org](http://mtvma.org).

Please note, given the increase in Bozeman area tourism, please make your hotel room reservations as soon as possible. There are a limited number of rooms available at the reduced rate of \$93/night plus taxes. Discounted rates will be honored until sold out or December 23, 2021. Call 406-587-5261 and request the MVMA block, group code: MVMA122.

### **Mark Your Calendar Now for the 2022 MVMA Summer Meeting**

Be sure to mark your calendar and plan to attend the 2022 MVMA Summer Meeting scheduled for June 23-25 to be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Billings.

### **MVMA's Online Job Board**

Are you looking to fill a staff position or are you looking for a new job? If so, be sure to use the MVMA Online Job Board through our website to post clinic position openings or resumes. 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. Office staff may also post ads for MVMA members for free using a discount code. If you have questions regarding the service or your staff would like to use the discounted

#### **AFFILIATE**

Kurt Smith  
*Portland, Oregon*

#### **STUDENT**

Ally Bummer  
*Washington State University*

Caden Colombik  
*Washington State University*

Greta Gustafson  
*Washington State University*

Lainee Jo Hill  
*Washington State University*

Jessica Horan  
*Washington State University*

Justine O'Donnell  
*Washington State University*

Morgan Ridley  
*Washington State University*

Logan Peterson  
*Washington State University*

Wyatt Phillips  
*Washington State University*

Josephine Quinn  
*Washington State University*

Lynn Short  
*Washington State University*

Kyle Topp  
*Washington State University*

code to post for you, please contact MVMA Association Coordinator, Jenny Bloomquist, at [jennyb@montana.com](mailto: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](mailto:jennyb@montana.com).

### **MVMA Awards Scholarship to WSU Student Lynn Short**

MVMA is pleased to announce the Association has awarded second year Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine student, Lynn Short, a \$2,000 scholarship grant. Lynn is a non-traditional, first-generation



**Lynn Short, WSU Veterinary Student**

#### **2021 MVMA Scholarship Recipient**

college student and mother of two young boys who postponed her education for many years to care for a parent who was ill. As she shared in the following acknowledgment to MVMA members, the selection was very meaningful to Lynn and her family.

Applications for two, \$2,000 scholarship grants will be available this winter and due May 1. Any Montana student who has completed at least one year of veterinary school is eligible to apply. The scholarship winners will be announced during the 2022 Summer Meeting in Billings. For more information, contact Jenny Bloomquist, MVMA Association Coordinator, at [jennyb@montana.com](mailto:jennyb@montana.com).

*“As the recipient of the MVMA grant, I wish to extend my most heart-felt gratitude to the entire MVMA membership. Receiving any scholarship is a humbling experience, but to be recognized by such a distinguished group of veterinarians makes this award even more special.*”

*I still remember times from my childhood growing up in the Bitterroot Valley of Montana that made me want to become a veterinarian. Times like when Dr. Linda Kauffman vaccinated my junior rodeo horse that was well known for being “needle shy” without her even knowing she had received the shot, or when Dr. Bart Ladd came out to the farm in the middle of the night to help with a dystocia and probably saved our heifer and her calf. Dr. Jack Ward was instrumental when we started breeding foundation Quarter Horses, and Dr. Shawn Gleason has ‘saved our bacon’ more than once over the last 20 years. These folks were my heroes growing up and I wanted to be just like them.*

*I had to put dreams on hold for a bit making this challenge even more difficult as a non-traditional aged student with children, but the support that I have received from family, friends and those that I will soon be able to consider my colleagues reassures me that I will make it through and honestly the old saying that if you do what you love you’ll never work a day in your life is so true. While this journey has come with many late nights studying, worry, stress, and time away from my family, I wouldn’t trade it for anything.*

*I am now five years in with a degree in microbiology and my first year of vet school complete. In another five years, I would love to be back working with the great veterinarians in Montana continuing my education through their mentorship. In ten years, I hope that I can provide the same support to the next generation of veterinarians while furthering our profession and helping clients reach their animal related goals. I am passionate about cattle and horses but enjoy working with all animals and haven’t settled on just one path for my career yet. One thing I do know, is that I am driven to be the best that I can be and give back to a lifestyle that has brought me so much joy over the years.*

*Thank you again, for believing in the importance of this profession, and in me.”*

**“I still remember times from my childhood growing up in the Bitterroot Valley of Montana that made me want to become a vet.”**

*MVMA Updates continued from page 5*

### **In Memoriam**

#### **Edward John “Ike” Sheehan**

*Dr. Bob Sager, MVMA Eulogy Committee Member, shares the following obituary for Ike Sheehan, a long-time Montana Diagnostic Laboratory employee who provided valuable services to Montana veterinarians for decades.*



Edward John “Ike” Sheehan, Butte native and long-term resident of Bozeman, passed away on October 9, 2021, in his home, surrounded by loved ones, after a full life and a short battle with cancer. Ed attended all Catholic schools growing up, graduated from Butte Central in 1951, and later graduated from Carroll College in 1956 with a bachelor’s degree in Biology. He was drafted into the US Army on July 9, 1956 and was honorably discharged after serving for two years. Ed began his career at the US Department of Agriculture in Helena in November of 1959. Two years later, he transferred to the Marsh Diagnostic Lab in Bozeman where he worked in the Serology Lab as a Microbiologist, until his retirement in 1995. Ed tirelessly poured his time, love, and energy into caring for everyone; family, friends, the community, even total strangers. His generosity knew no bounds. He regularly volunteered at Resurrection Parish, Mountain View nursing home, and Eagle Mount, and delivered communion to many homebound residents in Bozeman. Ed was preceded in death by his beloved wife Marian and survived by three sons and their families.

#### **Marilyn Marie Robertson**

Marilyn Marie Robertson passed away on November 5, 2021, at her home in Bozeman’s Aspen Point. She was born Marilyn Marie Miller on July 27, 1930, in Sharon, Pennsylvania. Her father left when she was young, and by the time she was eight, she and four siblings were taken from her mother in Colorado and placed in a

Denver orphanage. Although she was adopted by an older couple from Rocky Ford, Colorado, unfortunately, most of her childhood was very challenging but she was always grateful for the neighbors, teachers, and church members who helped her during that time.



In high school, Marilyn was very active in 4-H, winning a trip to the National 4-H Congress in Chicago, Illinois. On August 28, 1953, she eloped with Gerald (Jerry) Robertson, whom she had met through 4-H. Jerry was in the Navy, stationed in Alameda, California. After his commitment to the Navy was fulfilled, they both attended Colorado State University where Marilyn obtained a degree in Home Economics and Elementary Education. She taught school to help support their family while Jerry completed his Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine.

In June of 1961, they moved to Bozeman where Jerry had a one-year contract with Bozeman Veterinary Hospital. The stars aligned and they never moved from the Gallatin Valley. During their early years in Bozeman, Marilyn was a stay-at-home mom, volunteering as a Camp Fire Girls and 4-H leader. She eventually became the office manager/bookkeeper at Jerry’s clinic.

She was elected president of the National Auxiliary of the American Veterinary Medical Association, after serving as president elect and four years as treasurer. She also held every office in the Montana Auxiliary.

Marilyn is survived by her husband of 68 years, Jerry, whom she often said was “the best thing that ever happened to her.” She is also survived by her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren who described her as the family cheerleader and loving mother and grandmother she never had.

*MVMA Updates continued on page 8*

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*Thank you!*

# WIMU WHITE COAT CEREMONY

Submitted by *MVMA Past President Beth Blevins, DVM*

## WIMU Class of 2025

*Pictured left to right:*

Caden Colombik  
Miles City

Lainee Hill  
Townsend

Kyle Topp  
Sidney

Jessica Horan  
Moore

Morgan Ridley  
Billings

Justine O'Donnell  
Billings

Logan Peterson  
Sidney

Josephine Quinn  
Great Falls

Ally Bummer  
Plentywood

Wyatt Phillips  
Livingston

On August 19, 2021, the 23rd Annual Convocation, otherwise known as the White Coat Ceremony, took place live and in person for Montana, Idaho and Washington students and virtually for Utah students, at the Beasley Coliseum on the Washington State University campus. If the pandemic has taught us nothing else, it has taught us to be resilient, resourceful and to “think outside the box.” Dr. Dori Bjoresson, Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine, couldn't be there in person but was able to deliver a video message to the students. Though Utah's students couldn't join in at the campus,

they participated in the ceremony via live feed. Amazingly, the connections worked! Dr. David Ard, Past President of the Idaho Veterinary Medical Association, gave an inspiring welcome to the profession for the students and a trip down memory lane to when he commenced on his career. Dr. Leslie Sprunger had things well organized, the students received their coats and a lovely reception took place afterwards on the coliseum concourse. Ten Montana students prepared to embark on an education to lead them to a career in veterinary medicine while those of us doing the coating reminisced on a

life well spent pursuing that career. The very best part of our career may be the awesome stories we have to tell and the total absence of boredom! Thirty-five years post graduation, I am still very thankful that veterinary medicine was my career and life's path.



**MVMA Updates** continued from page 7

## MVMA Supports State FFA Vet Science Team

MVMA and individual member, Dr. Bruce Sorensen, Belgrade, were among various sponsors who helped support the Grass Range FFA Vet Science Team as they represented Montana during the National FFA Convention held in November in Indianapolis, Indiana. The team earned top honors during the Montana FFA Convention and then placed 7th in the nation during the National Convention. Team members included Nola Goss (2021 graduate), Morgan Corean (2021 graduate), Layton Tucek (senior) and Caden Seaholm (senior). Morgan also placed 9th individually on the national stage. Gabriele Drishinski is the Grass Range FFA Advisor. Congratulations and thank you for your interest in veterinary science!





No practice is totally free from slips and trips, unexpected business interruptions, or extreme weather. When risk strikes, are you prepared?

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# AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICINE ASSOCIATION UPDATES

## Message from District XI Director Sandy Wills, DVM, DACVIM

Hello Montana Veterinarians,



MVMA was honored to host Dr. Lori Teller, AVMA President Elect, and Dr. Sandy Willis, for the 2021 Summer MVMA Meeting in Butte.

Pictured left to right, Dr. Willis, Dr. Rex Anderson, MVMA member and AVMA newly elected AVMA House Advisory Committee Chairman, Dr. Teller, and Dr. Bill Duncan, MVMA's AVMA Delegate

As a brief introduction, I am the 2020-2026 District XI Director on the AVMA Board. District XI encompasses Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Alaska, Oregon and Washington. I am a small animal internist with the recently formed Zoetis Reference Labs and worked for Phoenix Lab previously. I was bitten by the “organized

veterinary medicine” bug years ago by a colleague and have loved the camaraderie and opportunity to give back to my profession.

I was delighted to visit with many of you in Butte during the MVMA Summer Meeting, my first in-person visit to a veterinary association as district director. It was a great meeting with very timely and interesting topics. Everyone was friendly and welcoming. Thank you to the MVMA.

The following is an update on AVMA activities, particularly those that are member focused.

### 2021 AVMA Convention and New AVMA Leadership

The AVMA had a very successful virtual AVMA Convention, July 29 through August 1, with 3,700 attendees. The HOD met in person and virtually, electing Dr. Jose Arce, small animal practitioner from Puerto Rico and LSU graduate (Go Tigers!) as AVMA president. Small animal practitioner from La Crosse, Wisconsin, Dr. Doug Kratt, is now immediate past president. Dr. Lori Teller is

our new president-elect. Dr. Teller is a clinical associate professor of telehealth at Texas A&M University. Dr. Teller was most recently chair of the AVMA Board of Directors (BOD).

Former AVMA BOD Chair Dr. Rena Carlson and former AVMA Vice President Dr. Grace Bransford have announced their candidacies for the 2022-2023 president-elect.

Dr. Jennifer Quammen, cofounder of a veterinary coaching business, announced her candidacy for the 2022-2024 AVMA vice presidency, the position representing the AVMA to the colleges of veterinary medicine.

The AVMA Board of Directors elected Dr. Karen Bradley, Vermont, as their chair and Dr. Ronald Gill, Illinois, as Vice Chair.

### Upcoming CE

AVMA Veterinary Leadership Conference 2022: January 6-9, Hybrid, Chicago. This is a great leadership event for emerging leaders from our state associations.

AVMA Convention 2022: July 29 – August 2, Philadelphia.

### Veterinary Workforce Challenges

Veterinary Workforce Challenges, Practice Productivity and Veterinary Technician Utilization are key priorities to be included in the 2022 Strategic Plan. The AVMA Business and Economic Forum just wrapped up and there were many discussions around workforce issues, practice efficiency, pet owner surveys, student debt and much more. These challenges are nicely described in a commentary written from an economic perspective by Dr. Matt Salois and veterinary viewpoint by Dr. Gail Golab in a new JAVMA Commentary “Are We in a Veterinary

Workforce Crisis?”, available online now and previously published in the September 15, 2021 issue of JAVMA.

The new AVMA 2021 Economic State of the Profession Report is available in the AVMA Store under the Economic and Market Research Reports section at [www.avma.org](http://www.avma.org). Free to members, there is a cost for nonmembers. The Economics Division reviewed results of three major annual surveys to create an indispensable resource for veterinary students entering the workforce, practicing veterinarians looking for an enhanced understanding of economic issues shaping the profession, and educational and business leaders in the veterinary sector.

The AVMA Working Group on Veterinary Technician Utilization, in collaboration with the AVMA Economics Division and the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine, presented results of their survey on technician utilization at the Business Forum. The AVMA will be moving forward on recommendations and tools based on the results of this survey. At this time, please find “Utilizing Veterinary Technicians to Improve Practice Success,” which offers best practical tools to fully utilize veterinary technicians in practice, on the AVMA website.

A new ebook, “Language that works: Changing the way we talk about veterinary care” is available exclusively to AVMA members at [www.avma.org/Language of Care](http://www.avma.org/Language of Care). It is an essential guide for the veterinary team to use when discussing value of veterinary medicine and encouraging pet owners to prioritize wellness visits.

### **Telehealth (important tool as we review challenges to veterinary workforce)**

AVMA continues work to provide educational tools for members on how to incorporate telehealth effectively and efficiently into

veterinary practices.

“The AVMA Guidelines for Use of Telehealth in Veterinary Practice” is a step-by-step reference guide on telehealth and regulations, including use in conjunction with VCPR, and was sent out with JAVMA earlier this year, as was the 2021 AAHA/AVMA Telehealth Guidelines for Small Animal Practice. Both are available online. Also online, at [avma.org/coronavirus](http://avma.org/coronavirus), are tips from veterinary practices that adopted curbside care during the pandemic.

State advocacy efforts in telemedicine continue to support the requirement for a physical examination or timely visits as a premise to establish a VCPR and not establishment of the VCPR by telemedicine alone.

### **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

AVMA/AAVMC Commission for a Diverse, Equitable and Inclusive (DEI) Veterinary Profession was established last November with 16 members. The commission worked this past year to establish actionable goals that promote diversity, equity and inclusion throughout the veterinary community. Many representatives of affinity groups are involved.

The AVMA Board reviewed the full strategic diversity, equity and inclusion framework during the September Board meeting. BOD will be adding specific DEI items to the 2022 overall AVMA strategic plan and budget this November to include creating more opportunities for diverse members to participate in AVMA volunteer leadership, expanding DEI content in AVMA programming, expanding collaboration with strategic partners for DEI programs, improving collection of member and student information as related to DEI, and performing an internal DEI audit of the association.

**State  
advocacy  
efforts in  
telemedicine  
continue to  
support the  
requirement  
for a  
physical  
examination  
or timely  
visits as a  
premise to  
establish a  
VCPR.**

**The AVMA, in collaboration with many other veterinary associations and groups, remains committed to offering members access to a wide range of resources that support healthy living and self-care.**

**AVMA Updates** continued from page 11

**AVMA Axon** (CE Center) offers a new Brave Space Certificate Program. This webinar helps to explore the impact of stereotyping, unconscious bias, and workplace harassment and offers numerous tools and information for veterinarians to become better allies for equitable treatment for all. Also new on Axon, “Cowboys and Pit Crews,” Dr. Atul Gawande’s keynote address from the 2021 AVMA Virtual Conference and “Princess Found: You are more than your title” Princess Sarah Culberson’s general session address from the conference.

### **Wellbeing**

The AVMA, in collaboration with many other veterinary associations and groups, remains committed to offering members access to a wide range of resources that support healthy living and self-care. Webinars and toolkits for veterinary workplaces and veterinary colleagues, the Workplace Wellbeing Certificate Program, free suicide prevention training for all veterinary professionals, and other wellbeing resources are available at [www.avma.org/wellbeing](http://www.avma.org/wellbeing).

### **AVMA Federal Advocacy Efforts**

Hot off the press: The Paws Off Act of 2021, fully endorsed by the AVMA, was introduced into the House of Representatives. This bill would require food containing the sugar substitute xylitol to include a warning label specifying its toxic effects.

### **American Veterinary Medical Foundation**

The AVMF has created a new Leadership Guild to recognize major contributors committed to the mission of the AVMF. New AVMA Certificates for First Responders will be launched shortly with a \$80k grant from AVMF for AVMA to develop this training program to help prepare veterinarians who volunteer to serve on local or regional disaster teams. [www.avmf.org](http://www.avmf.org).

If you have any questions or feedback, please don’t hesitate to reach out and let me know what is on your mind.

Sandy Willis, DVM, DACVIM

[Sandy7957@comcast.net](mailto:Sandy7957@comcast.net)

Cell: 206-817-9227

### **AVMA House of Delegate Report from MVMA’s AVMA Delegate Bill Duncan, DVM**

The most pertinent update for Montana’s veterinarians from the recent House of Delegates (HOD) meeting is the re-election of Dr. Rex Anderson, Absarokee, to a three-year term on the House Advisory Committee (HAC). The HAC is the leadership committee for the HOD and the members have elected Dr. Anderson as their chairman. He is now the liaison between the HOD and the AVMA Board of Directors. Rex has been selected by the HOD for one of the most demanding, prestigious positions in the AVMA. I am certain that he will excel, as usual. (See accompanying feature on Dr. Anderson on page 14.)

The AVMA is constantly working on its members’ behalf in a wide range of activities. We all know about AVMA’s trust that provides insurance for us, be it professional liability or health, but you should also know that AVMA is focused on veterinarian and staff well-being, continuing education, educational debt, state and federal legislative advocacy, emerging diseases, dog importation. The list goes on ad nauseam. If it concerns veterinary medicine, the AVMA is focused on it. One of the most important functions of your AVMA is in governmental relations. This is where the AVMA really has our backs in monitoring, advancing or defeating legislation at the national level. For example, the AVMA advocacy is largely why you can legally have controlled substances in your practice vehicle and why you don’t have to write a prescription for every medication

dispensed in treating a pet. The most important thing you and I can do to help our AVMA in this area is to contribute to the PAC. Please give, any amount is welcome. It can be a small amount on a monthly basis. This opens doors to get our message across to legislators on both sides of the aisle.

Remember, it is the members, all 98,000 of us, that gives the AVMA clout. It is the volunteer leadership that steers the organization but any member can bring forth a discussion topic through our information forum. As the HAC chair, Dr. Anderson has recently asked delegates for suggestions for the upcoming HOD session. Do you have an issue we need to deliberate? Please feel free to contact Rex or myself on any AVMA topic. Also, remember to thank Rex when you see him for his many years of volunteerism advocating for you, his fellow veterinarians.

Bill Duncan, DVM  
 MVMA's AVMA Delegate  
 bill.duncan7@gmail.com  
 406-728-6900

**Agriculture Animal Liaison Committee and the Council of Veterinary Services Report**

For the past five years, I have been your honored representative on these AVMA entities. Below, you will find a yearly report from the last in-person meeting held in Chicago on October 1, 2021.

This is also my last year of a second-term appointment and, if you have any thoughts on being nominated, please contact Dr. Duane Colmey, myself, or Rex Anderson. It would be nice to continue to have a Montana representative.

One of the main concerns is with emerging diseases such as AFS (African Swine Fever as it has been diagnosed recently in the Western hemisphere) and the continued shortage of large animal veterinarians in rural practice.

One topic discussed and recommended to the Board was the continuation of no interest on student loans that will cease in January 2022. We have recommended this continuance of no interest on federal student loans.

The most discussed item was the rewriting of the Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics and the concern for veterinary safety and wellbeing regarding taking emergency calls for non-client cases, especially on out calls in rural areas. The veterinary oath was revisited and agreed that society, concern for veterinary wellbeing issues, and personal safety are issues of concern now that were not present years ago.

Other items of interest discussed:

1. Errors in human food labeling
2. Export delays on meat products
3. Surgical procedures by non-veterinarians
4. Model Veterinary Practice Act rewriting
5. Guidelines for show horse veterinarians
6. ET and other technician's policies
7. One Health Concept
8. CWD disease increase in large areas
9. Electronic CVI policies

Bob Sager, DVM, DABVP (Beef Cattle Production Medicine), PhD, AAVN  
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**Remember,  
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 members,  
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 clout.**

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### Rex Anderson, DVM

#### Newly Elected Chairman of the AVMA House Advisory Committee

In her book *Show Up and Be Your Best Self*, executive coach Cathy Quartner Bailey, shares, “Great leaders don’t set out to be a leader... they set out to make a difference. It’s never about the role—always the goal.”

Long-time MVMA member, Rex Anderson, DVM, certainly fits Ms. Bailey’s description of a “great leader,” volunteering his valuable time and talents on behalf of our state association membership, with a humble and purposeful intent. After serving in many leadership roles on the state and national levels, Rex was recently elected by his colleagues from across the country to serve as Chairman for the American Veterinary Medical Association’s House Advisory Committee.

When MVMA asked Rex to respond to a few questions for this spotlight, he reluctantly agreed and insisted, “I really don’t want to emphasize anything about myself, mostly I want to encourage participation.” We are grateful he obliged and shared his time on a recent flight back from an AVMA meeting to share the following responses.

**MVMA:** Tell us about Rex Anderson.

**Dr. Anderson:** *As a young kid, I was raised in northern Illinois, coming to Montana two days after turning 18. Following four interesting years working in Virology at the MSU Vet Research Lab, I graduated from Montana State University with a degree in plant and soil science. I was accepted to Colorado State University as a WICHE student and received my DVM from the program (January ‘85).*

*In the fall of 1985, my partner and I purchased*

*a long-time mixed animal practice in Absarokee requiring significant effort to attain viability. Some of my hobbies and interests include vintage motorcycles, bicycling, music, community theater, horseback riding (horses aged out), aviation, cooking & BBQ, golf, skiing, kayaking, all not often enough. What began as a hobby business in the late 1980’s resulted in an additional aspect of my career involving sales and service of wood, pellet, and gas stoves - fireplaces - and inserts.*

**MVMA:** Explain to our membership the responsibilities of your new AVMA position and the path you took to attain the position.

**Dr. Anderson:** *My current position in AVMA is the Chairman of the House Advisory Committee which is a seven-member committee that leads the AVMA House of Delegates (HOD). The HOD represents all member veterinarians in the AVMA. I am currently serving my second, three-year term on this committee, following many years as a delegate or alternate, representing Montana in the HOD. Along with my current position, I will serve on the AVMA Board of Directors and the Strategic Management Committee for the current year. It’s truly an honor to gain the confidence of my fellow delegates from across the country to serve in this significant role, leading the HOD. The AVMA is surprisingly complex; understanding and appreciation come with experience. The staff is phenomenal, capable and devoted to AVMA. Volunteer leaders from across the country are equally inspiring.*

**MVMA:** How has your practice and the profession evolved during your career?

**Dr. Anderson:** *My practice schedule has become a bit frustrating due to monthly meetings and travel but I like to think that the commitment is worthy of some sacrifices.*

**Our profession would be a mess without the unified voice we gain through organized veterinary medicine. Taking ownership in your profession’s future is reasonable, important and rewarding. Most of all it’s necessary.**

**MVMA:** What inspired you to become involved in AVMA and move through leadership progression?

**Dr. Anderson:** A number of prior Montana delegates encouraged me to be a candidate for an unexpired delegate term in 2004. After a few times being recycled, I was learning much more about AVMA and how I might make a better contribution.

**MVMA:** What are the benefits/challenges of being involved?

**Dr. Anderson:** The benefits of being involved are mostly related to meeting, interacting with and working alongside such amazing members of our profession to resolve issues related to the practice of veterinary medicine and formation of AVMA policy, strategy and function. We truly feel like a family of volunteers over time. The challenges of being involved include learning to understand the AVMA and how to be effective. Balancing time away from family and practice are additional challenges.

**MVMA:** How has AVMA's role and programming changed during your tenure?

**Dr. Anderson:** AVMA has grown significantly during my tenure. Our profession has changed profoundly and AVMA has had to adapt to changing views, needs, and requirements of our 98,000 members. Service in the HOD has also been evolving from a very frustrating experience to a much more rewarding experience. We hope to continue to improve this trend going forward.

**MVMA:** What guidance would you offer young veterinarians regarding involvement in MVMA and AVMA?

**Dr. Anderson:** I encourage any and all veterinarians to participate in our state association (MVMA), as well as AVMA. There are numerous volunteer opportunities at all levels. While some folks have natural leadership

skills, others of us need to learn along the way, which is absolutely fine. I have been encouraging our members to participate for many years and, fortunately, everyone finds significant value in serving the profession. Our profession would be a mess without the unified voice we gain through organized veterinary medicine. Taking ownership in your profession's future is reasonable, important and rewarding. Most of all it's necessary.

**MVMA:** Any additional information you would like to share with your fellow MVMA members?

**Dr. Anderson:** Volunteer Leadership positions are routinely posted on the AVMA website and I am very happy to assist anyone willing to consider a position. We have a number of MVMA members serving on AVMA Councils and Committees, but we can do better. Advocacy at the state and national levels certainly provide many additional opportunities to participate. Please consider volunteering for your profession, it's worthwhile.

MVMA extends its sincere appreciation to Dr. Rex Anderson for his willingness to "show up and be his best self" on the national level on behalf of his fellow Montana veterinarians. He is a genuine, personable, and respected leader who most certainly is more about the goal, than the role.

**Thank you, Rex!**



# MONTANA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE REPORT

## SEPTEMBER 28 MEETING RECAP

### Dr. Rebecca Mattix Recognized for Service on Board



**Rebecca Mattix, DVM and Eva**

During the Montana Board of Veterinary Medicine's September 28, 2021 meeting, Dr. Rebecca Mattix, Bozeman, was recognized for her many years of diligent service as a Board member. Dr. Jeanne Rankin, Raynesford, was selected by Governor Gianforte to fill Dr. Mattix's

Board position. MVMA extends its sincere appreciation to Dr. Mattix for the time and effort she devoted to carrying out the Board's mission "to protect the health, safety and well-being of Montana citizens through the regulation and oversight of veterinary medicine and the licensing of competent professionals." Dr. Mattix will remain involved as a public representative on the Board's newly formed Veterinary Technician License Type Committee. When asked by MVMA to provide a reflection on her Board service, she shared the following.

*"I enjoyed my time on the Board of Veterinary Medicine. It was a privilege working with my colleagues. It was so much more than answering complaints and reviewing applications for licensure. I am proud that we worked together with the Big Sky Veterinary Technician Association to establish licensing for veterinary technicians. I was impressed with the amount of effort the MVMA put in to keep up to date with changes that were occurring on the licensing board.*

*I am grateful for all the hard-working staff, attorneys and executive teams at the*

*Department of Labor who guide us through this process. It has been an honor serving the great State of Montana to keep our public and our veterinarians safe through the efforts of the Board of Veterinary Medicine.*

*I would encourage all of you to consider serving on the Board of Veterinary Medicine, the Board of Montana Veterinary Medical Association or the AVMA. We all have a voice and this is a way to help shape policy in our profession.*

*Thank you for the opportunity to serve."*

### Dr. Jeanne M. Rankin Appointed as New Board Member

Jeanne M. Rankin, DVM, FADD, a third generation Montanan, received her B.S. in Animal Science from Montana State University and her DVM from Colorado State University. She practiced predominately equine, small ruminant, camelid, and pet veterinary care for 17 years before joining the Montana Department of Livestock in November of 2004 as the Assistant State Veterinarian and later as the Acting State Veterinarian. She developed a passion for animal health education and biosecurity, local animal emergency preparedness and response, and is trained as a Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostician. Dr. Rankin gained further experience with MSU Extension as an Associate Specialist in AgSecurity and Animal Health. She is a Past President of the MVMA



**Jeanne M. Rankin,  
DVM, FADD  
Montana Board of  
Veterinary Medicine**

**Board of Veterinary** continued on page 23





**2022**  
**WINTER MEETING**

**JANUARY 20-22, 2022**

**BEST WESTERN PLUS GRANTREE INN • BOZEMAN, MONTANA**



# ••• AGENDA •••

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

3:00 – 6:00 pm MVMA Board of Directors Meeting

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 21

6:30 – 8:00 am Registration

7:00 – 8:00 am Breakfast Buffet

### 8:00 AM – NOON

#### Large Animal Session .....4.0 CE

*Benjamin Newcomer, DVM, PHD, DACVIM, DACVPM (Epidemiology), DABT Associate Professor and Dairy Cattle Veterinarian Veterinary Education, Research, and Outreach (VERO) Program Texas A&M and West Texas A&M Universities*

#### Control of Bovine Reproductive Pathogens

Reproductive efficiency is key to the sustainability and profitability of any cattle enterprise. Infectious pathogens, including viral, bacterial, and protozoal agents can negatively impact the reproductive success in our cattle herds. While biologicals exist as a tool to aid control of certain pathogens, other are managed primarily by management strategies. In this presentation, the main pathogens (e.g., bovine herpesvirus 1, bovine viral diarrhea virus, Leptospira spp., Neospora caninum) of concern to the producer, and their control, will be discussed.

#### Toxic Plants Found in Forages

Toxic plants are a common finding in many pastures and hayfields. When grazing, most animals will avoid consumption of toxic plants because of disagreeable tastes of the plant or through learned behavior by the animal. However, when these same plants are incorporated in hay, the animal's ability to avoid their consumption is hampered. The most common plant toxicities associated with contaminated hay are those caused by nitrate-nitrite, perilla mint, and pyrrolizidine alkaloids, although other noxious weeds commonly cause problems, as well.

#### Epigenetic Changes Due to Late-Gestation Stress in Cattle

Fetal programming, as it relates to bovine medicine, is an emerging concept defined as the effect of environmental conditions during embryonic and fetal development on the future health, welfare, and productivity of the calf. Recent evidence shows that stressors in late gestation have potential long-term effects on the developing fetus regarding growth and fertility, among others.

#### Diagnosis of Neurologic Disease in Ruminants

Neurologic disease occurs frequently in cattle and other food-producing species. However, despite the commonality of disease occurrence, arrival at a specific diagnosis is often difficult due to a variety of factors. This presentation will review the neurologic exam and discuss practical diagnostics that can be used in the work-up of commonly encountered neurologic cases.

#### Small Animal Session .....4.0 CE

*Tony M. Woodward, DVM, DAVDC Montana Pet Dentistry and Oral Surgery*

#### The Business of Veterinary Dentistry - It's OK to Make a Profit

This lecture will cover how to develop your dental department to

provide state of the art care, high client satisfaction and the highest profit margin of any aspect of small animal veterinary medicine.

#### Periodontal Pockets - What's the Deal?

Proper treatment of periodontal pockets can be confusing at times. This presentation will simplify the process and give you solid guidelines for providing the appropriate treatment modality.

#### Case-Based Dental Radiology - The Common Stuff

After briefly reviewing normal radiographic anatomy, dental radiographs from a variety of common conditions will be presented. Participants will have a chance to form their own opinions before the answer is given and then each case will be discussed.

#### When to Hold 'em and When to Fold 'em

Despite our best intentions, some teeth cannot be saved and should just be extracted. This presentation will help you decide when a tooth is a lost cause.

Noon – 1:30 pm Lunch Buffet/MVMA Committee Meetings

### 1:30 – 5:30 PM

#### Large Animal Session .....4.0 CE

*Jonathan H. Magid, DVM, MS, DACVIM Equine Veterinarian*

#### Equine Dentistry for Planet Earth

- What are we doing here? A quick review of oral anatomy and our goals for dental work.
- This doesn't have to be a fight! Some thought of safety, sedation, pain control, and useful nerve blocks.
- This is the old way, you will not see that again. Or will you? Discussion of instruments from molar cutters and the Johnson's Universal Float to today's Buck Rogers instruments.
- The Abnormal: what to do about it, what to accept, when to stop, and freakin' miniature horses!
- Take some radiographs! Really!
- Why is he always covered in blood? Tooth extraction using things you probably already have at the clinic and a lot of patience. And taking more radiographs...
- Stranger things: truly odd things that are actually straightforward to fix. And some that aren't.
- Far, far away: Things you should refer to someone you don't like that much.
- Just no! Things not to do, because you have ethics, and you are not that trainer's poodle.

#### Small Animal Session .....4.0 CE

*Elizabeth Layne, DVM, DACVD BluePearl Veterinary Specialists/Montana Veterinary Dermatology*

#### The Dermatology "TPR"

A case-based review of in-house dermatologic tests to increase diagnostic accuracy and improve treatment outcomes. Primarily small animal focused, but concepts are applicable to all species.

#### Update on Feline Atopic Dermatitis

This two-part, case-based lecture will cover the 2021 ICADA systematic reviews on feline allergic skin disease, including pathogenesis, diagnosis, and treatment.

# ••• AGENDA •••



## Phone a Friend! Dermatology Cases from Remote Consults

Approach to the most common dermatologic problems faced by general practitioners based on phone, text, and email questions. Primarily small animal with some equine cases.

5:30 pm Social Hour – Hosted Bar and Hors d’oeuvres

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

6:30 – 8:00 am Registration

7:00 – 8:00 am Breakfast Buffet

### 8:00 AM – NOON

#### Large Animal Session .....4.0 CE

Anita C. Dennison, DVM, MS

Medical Team Coach, Blue Heron Consulting

#### Practicing in the Now- Surviving and Thriving in Today’s Rural Practice

Rural veterinary medicine possesses its’ own unique set of challenges, more so in the past year. This four-hour session aims to uncover strategies and resources to create and maintain ethically sustainable rural veterinary medicine, even in tumultuous times. The keys to thriving are effective leadership and management. Success encompasses practice management, financial literacy, leadership, keeping-up-with-the-times, and conflict resolution. Within these, pricing, Profit and Loss Statements, leadership, and conflict management in day-to-day interactions with clients and staff are essential. Feel free to bring your own challenges, price list and P&L to this interactive session.

#### Small Animal Session .....4.0 CE

Sandy Willis, DVM, DACVIM

Small Animal Internist, Zoetis Reference Laboratories

#### Optimize Your Results Through Sample Submission

This talk provides a brief overview of sample collection to optimize quality of results for CBC, urinalysis, chemistries and parasitology, cytology, histopathology and microbiology. Bring your questions.

#### Urinalysis: The Complete Story

We will discuss when and why to perform a urinalysis and then dive into the techniques of the urinalysis including determination of physical and chemical properties, including use of urine cortisol: creatinine and urine protein: creatinine tests. We will then discuss the technique of urine sediment exam and review to include WBC’s, RBC’s, bacteria, crystals and epithelial cells.

#### Blood Smear Evaluation

Hematology analyzers have dramatically improved over the last few years. In addition to a review of the histograms provided by the analyzers on each CBC, blood film evaluation can be crucial to interpretation of analyzer results, and to ensure their accuracy. In this talk, we will discuss blood film preparation and interpretation to include platelets, white cells, red cells, and RBC inclusions.

## When Cytology Steals the Deal: A Guide to Successful Sample Submission

Cytology is an important tool in diagnosing many conditions. In this session, attendees will gain a further understanding of the use of cytology as a diagnostic tool and how it can improve case management. We will discuss sample collection techniques, how to optimize sample quality, and review how samples are processed. The pitfalls of cytology and how to address them will be mentioned. A few cases will demonstrate basic concepts of inflammation and neoplasia. We will also close with a brief discussion of digital cytology.

#### Feral Cat Spay/Neuter Project

As a bonus talk, attendees will be introduced to the Feral Cat Spay/Neuter Project located in Lynnwood, Washington, learn a little about trap-neuter-return and what the FCSNP clinic and other like-minded nonprofits do to serve free-roaming cats.

Noon – 2:00 pm Lunch Buffet/MVMA General Membership Meeting

### 2:00 – 4:00 PM

#### Joint Small and Large Animal Session .....2.0 CE

#### Montana Tuberculosis Update

Tahnee Szymanski, DVM

Assistant State Veterinarian, Montana Department of Livestock

The Montana Department of Livestock is working through epidemiological investigations associated with the detection of tuberculosis in animals that originated from two Montana herds. The animals were identified in July and September 2021 through slaughter surveillance. These animals originated from a beef herd in Blaine County and a beef herd in Madison County. Information on the disease along with an update on the investigation will be provided.

#### Brucella canis in Montana

Anna Forseth, DVM, MPVM

Program Veterinarian, Montana Department of Livestock

Erika Schwarz, DVM, MPH, PhD

Microbiology Section Head, Montana Veterinary Diagnostic Lab

During the fall of 2020, the Department of Livestock noted an increase in *Brucella canis* diagnoses in Montana. Further investigation identified common findings relating to the source of infected dogs. In response, the Department implemented testing requirements of high-risk populations of dogs. This session will discuss epidemiological findings, diagnostic tests options, case management recommendations, and public health implications.

#### Electronic CVIs and More

Tahnee Szymanski, DVM

The Department of Livestock will review recent updates to regulatory documentation and technologies including the extended equine certificate of veterinary inspection, issuing and printing eCVIs in the field, recording official ID on your eCVI, available electronic platforms, RFID tags, and more.

**Thank you!**  
**2022 Winter Meeting Sponsor:**



*MVMA extends both recognition and appreciation to Dr. Nancy Belk, MVMA President Elect and 2022 Winter Meeting Chair, for the time and effort she has devoted to planning this event.*



**Benjamin Newcomer, DVM, PHD, DACVIM, DACVPM (Epidemiology), DABT**  
*Associate Professor and Dairy Cattle Veterinarian Veterinary Education, Research, and Outreach (VERO) Program Texas A&M and West Texas A&M Universities*

After receiving his DVM from the University of Florida in 2002, Dr. Newcomer joined a large dairy practice in central California and practiced dairy production medicine for two years. He then served with the Christian Veterinary Mission in Central African Republic for two years assisting pastoralists and small farmers with their livestock. Dr. Newcomer joined the faculty of the Auburn College of Veterinary Medicine in July 2008 where he completed a PhD in bovine virology and served as a food animal clinician in the Large Animal Teaching Hospital. Dr. Newcomer's current position is Dairy Cattle Veterinarian for the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine's VERO Program located in Canyon, Texas at West Texas A&M University.



**Tony M. Woodward, DVM, DAVDC**  
*Montana Pet Dentistry and Oral Surgery*

Dr. Woodward has been involved in veterinary practice since 1981.

During that time, he has owned six

practices, ranging from equine/small animal to a small animal dental specialty practice. Since 2000, he has limited his practice to dentistry and oral surgery. He is board certified in veterinary dentistry by the American Veterinary Dental College and is currently involved in a dental referral practice in Bozeman, Montana. He has lectured internationally on veterinary dentistry, has averaged over 30 lecture/labs a year for the past 16 years and is the co-founder of the first veterinary dental teleradiology service, VetDentalRad.com. Dr. Woodward has taught thousands of veterinarians how to improve dental care in their patients and currently teaches dental training classes in Bozeman. Dr. Woodward is a past president of the Colorado Veterinary Medical Association and a member of the Morris Animal Foundation's Veterinary Honor Roll.



**Jonathan H. Magid, DVM, MS, DACVIM**  
*Equine Veterinarian*

Originally from Salt Lake City, Utah, Dr. Magid graduated from Colorado State University School of Veterinary Medicine in 1990.

After spending six years in a private mixed practice, he completed a residency program

in Equine Internal Medicine at the University of Illinois. While there, Dr. Magid was a Clinical Instructor in Equine Medicine and earned his master's degree with advanced training in equine internal medicine, equine dentistry, equine surgery, and lameness diagnosis and treatment. He also is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (DACVIM).

Dr. Magid then practiced veterinary medicine in Montana while consulting at Antech Diagnostics, a national veterinary diagnostic laboratory. In 2005, he relocated to Central Texas and began his mobile equine practice which has grown to provide clinic and hospitalization facilities at his ranch in Bertram, Texas.



**Elizabeth Layne, DVM, DACVD**  
*BluePearl Veterinary Specialists/Montana Veterinary Dermatology*

Dr. Elizabeth Layne grew up in Missoula, attended the University of Washington and then Colorado State University for veterinary school on the WICHE program. She moved home to Montana after receiving her DVM

in 2002 and practiced for two years in Ronan in a mixed-animal practice. She moved to Bozeman in 2004, working in small-animal practice until 2013, when she began dermatology specialty training at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Layne achieved certification by the American College of Veterinary Dermatology (ACVD) in 2017. She stayed on at the UW-Madison as a clinical instructor for two years before moving to BluePearl Veterinary Specialists in the Salt Lake Valley. She was appointed a co-editor for the journal Veterinary Dermatology in 2021 and serves on the ACVD Research and Grants committee. She sees dermatology cases approximately every eight weeks in Bozeman through Montana Veterinary Dermatology (mtvetderm@gmail.com).



**Anita Dennison, DVM, MS**  
*Medical Team Coach Blue Heron Consulting*

Dr. Dennison is a third-generation veterinarian and completed her undergraduate studies at Pepperdine University and Colorado State University in the areas of Microbiology, Biology, Anatomy

and Neurobiology. She graduated from the Colorado State University Veterinary School program in 2000 and continued her studies at CSU to pursue an Internship in Large Animal Medicine. Dr. Dennison then completed a Master of Science degree through the CSU Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Pathology, and a partial Residency in Food Animal Medicine and Surgery. Throughout her career, Dr. Dennison has owned and operated: a large-animal medical and surgical center, a private mixed-animal practice, an online veterinary supply company, and a large-animal ambulatory practice. She has also served as an adjunct professor for Western University College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Dennison practiced for 5 years as a small-animal animal emergency veterinarian and as a relief veterinarian throughout the western United States. In addition, she has served as a consultant and attending veterinarian for multiple human trauma medicine training companies, ranging from paramedics and law enforcement to the U.S. Military and its allies. She has recently facilitated development and AVMA accreditation of the Western Colorado Community College Veterinary Technology Program.

# ... SPEAKERS ...



**Sandy Willis, DVM, DACVIM**  
*Small Animal Internist*  
*Zoetis Reference Laboratories*

Dr. Sandy Willis is the small animal internist for Zoetis Reference Laboratories based out of the Seattle lab. She graduated from the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine and is board certified in the ACVIM. Dr. Willis is past president of the Washington State Veterinary

Medical Association, served as a delegate from Washington to the AVMA House of Delegates and was elected to the AVMA House Advisory Committee in 2015. In August 2020, she assumed the position of AVMA District XI Director, which includes the states of Washington, Oregon, Alaska, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. Dr. Willis is chair of the board for the Feral Cat Spay/Neuter Project in Lynnwood, Washington and a member of the South Everett Mukilteo Rotary. After a year of little travel and too many Zoom meetings, Dr. Willis is excited to be traveling around her district, getting to meet veterinarians and staff, learn of their opportunities and challenges, and experience the beauty of our region. Dr. Willis serves as staff for her two cats Fiona and Micki. She enjoys hiking and cycling, traveling, wine appreciation, the arts and reading.



**Tahnee Szymanski, DVM**  
*Assistant State Veterinarian*  
*Montana Department of Livestock*

Dr. Szymanski is a Montana native and 2004 graduate from the Oregon State University College of Veterinary Medicine. Prior to joining the Department of Livestock in 2008, Dr. Szymanski worked in a large animal ambulatory practice. As the Assistant

State Veterinarian, Dr. Szymanski is responsible for the Animal Health Bureau. This includes the state trichomoniasis program; traceability; import requirements; disease reporting; public health issues; as well as other cattle, equine, and poultry disease programs. Outside of work, she enjoys hiking, kayaking, snowshoeing, and camping with her daughter, Campbell.



**Anna Forseth, DVM, MPVM**  
*Program Veterinarian*  
*Montana Department of Livestock*

Dr. Forseth is a program veterinarian for the Montana Department of Livestock in Helena, focusing on emergency preparedness and zoonotic disease programs. Anna is a Montana native and received her DVM from Colorado State University in 2016 and a Masters in

Veterinary Preventive Medicine from Iowa State University in 2020. Prior to taking the position with the Department of Livestock,

Anna spent two years with the Swine Medicine Education Center in Ames, Iowa working on swine research and teaching, and clinical consultation with Smithfield Hog Production-Midwest. Outside of work, Anna, her husband and two kids can usually be found spending time with family and friends or working cattle at the family ranch in Fairfield.



**Erika Schwarz, DVM, MPH, PhD**  
*Microbiology Section Head*  
*Montana Veterinary Diagnostic Lab*

Dr. Schwarz is a Clinical Veterinary Microbiologist at the Montana Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory in Bozeman, Montana. As Microbiology Section Head, she provides diagnostic technical expertise, veterinary consultation, and oversees daily operations and clinical

testing in the Bacteriology, Virology, Molecular Diagnostics, and Serology sections. Erika received her Bachelor of Science, Master of Public Health, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from the University of Florida. She is a classically trained virologist and has an extensive background working with a wide variety of human and animal pathogens. Her professional interests include infectious diseases at the human-domestic animal-wildlife interface, diagnostic techniques for high-consequence pathogens, translational medicine, and One Health. Outside of the lab, she and her husband enjoy working with their horses, skiing, hiking, kayaking, and biking.

## REGISTRATION

- **14 Continuing Education Credits**
- **Pre-Registration - before January 3**
  - MVMA Member - \$350
  - Non-MVMA Member - \$480
  - Technician/Office Staff - \$175
- **After January 3 or On-Site Registration**
  - MVMA Member - \$390
  - Non-MVMA Member - \$520
  - Technician/Office Staff - \$215
- **Free for CVM Students or Life Members** (no CE)
  - pre-registration is required; meal tickets must be purchased

**Online:** Quickest & easiest – pay by credit card at [www.mtvma.org](http://www.mtvma.org)

**Mail:** Complete the enclosed registration form and mail with payment to: MVMA, P.O. Box 6322, Helena, MT 59604

**Questions?** Contact Jenny Bloomquist, MVMA Association Coordinator, at 406-447-4259 or email at [jennyb@montana.com](mailto:jennyb@montana.com)

*Proceedings will be available online one week prior to the meeting. Printed proceedings will not be made available at the meeting. Once attendance is verified, CE certificates will be mailed within two weeks after the meeting.*

## ROOM RESERVATIONS

A block of MVMA rooms has been reserved at the Best Western Plus GranTree Inn, Bozeman, at the rate of \$93/night plus taxes. **Discounted rate will be honored until sold out or December 23, 2021.** Call 406-587-5261 and request the MVMA block, group code: MVMA122.



**Best Western PLUS**



# REGISTRATION

## Montana Veterinary Medical Association 2022 Winter Meeting Registration

Best Western Plus GranTree Inn – Friday, January 21 & Saturday, January 22

**Registration Available Online!** Save postage, time and pay with a credit card: visit our website, [www.mtvma.org](http://www.mtvma.org).

**Please Print**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ First CE meeting?  Yes  No  
*As it should appear on your name badge*

Clinic \_\_\_\_\_  
*Provide only if it is used for your mailing address*

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Two Day Rate (Friday & Saturday) – includes registration and all meals			
Total of 14 CE Hours	Through Jan. 3	After Jan. 3	Your Fee (includes meals)
MVMA or VMA Member of Other State (not practicing in Montana), <i>Life Member requesting CE</i>	\$350	\$390	
Non VMA Member	\$480	\$520	
<input type="checkbox"/> Technician <input type="checkbox"/> Office Manager	\$175	\$215	
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Member <input type="checkbox"/> Student <b>No CE Awarded</b>	free	free	

One Day Rate – includes registration and all meals for one day				
Friday: 8 CE Hours	Saturday: 6 CE Hours	Through Jan. 3	After Jan. 3	Your Fee (includes meals)
MVMA or VMA Member of Other State, <i>Life Members requesting CE</i> Check: <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday		\$285	\$325	
Non VMA Member Check: <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday		\$415	\$455	
<input type="checkbox"/> Technician <input type="checkbox"/> Office Manager Check: <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday		\$145	\$185	
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Member <input type="checkbox"/> Student <b>No CE Awarded</b> Check: <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday		free	free	

Guest/Life/Student Meals	Guest Name:	Meals Fee – Life without CE, Students, Guests ONLY	
Both Days – all meals			\$130
One Day Check: <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday		Friday only	\$80
		Saturday only	\$50
Friday Evening Reception Only			\$25

Please let us know if you and/or your guest have any dietary restrictions:

Total Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Lodging:**

A block of MVMA rooms has been reserved at the Best Western Plus GranTree Inn, Bozeman, at the rate of \$93/night plus taxes. **Discounted rate will be honored until sold out or December 23, 2021.** Call 406-587-5261 and request the MVMA block, group code: MVMA122.

**Send Registration to:** MVMA  
PO Box 6322  
Helena, MT 59604 fax: 406-442-8018

**Questions?** Call or email Jenny:  
406-447-4259  
info@mtvma.org

**Board of Veterinary** continued from page 16

and continues to remain active on several state and national committees. Dr. Rankin also raises a small herd of registered Gelbvieh cattle, as well as AQHA performance horses, near Raynesford, Montana. In her spare time, she sings in the Great Falls Symphonic Choir and Great Falls College MSU Choir.

### Officer Elections

New officers were also elected during the meeting. Dr. Barbara Calm, Kila, was elected President and Dr. Tia Nelson, Helena, was elected Vice President. Additional Board members include: Dr. Paul McCann, Havre, Dr. Katie Rein, Harlowton, Dr. Jeanne Rankin, Raynesford and Public Member Kateri Nelson, Livingston.

### Meet the New President

Dr. Calm settled in Montana in 1984 after graduating from Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine, opening a tiny clinic in the woods up Truman Creek. Calm Animal Care moved to downtown Kila in 1985. As the practice grew so did her family, and both of her children spent much of their childhood in the clinic. In 1997, Dr. Calm began working toward accreditation in veterinary acupuncture and in veterinary chiropractic, achieving both in 2002. While traditional veterinary medicine remains at the core of the practice, Barbara is happy to offer these options for treating her patients and



**Barbara Calm, DVM**  
**President,**  
**Montana Board of**  
**Veterinary Medicine**

receives referrals from other veterinarians all over Montana. When away from the practice, Barbara's greatest joys are playing music and being a grandma.

### New Board Committees Established

Two new Board committees were established during the September meeting. The Veterinary Technician License Type Committee will create a development and implementation plan for this new licensing process. The Board and staff are committed to a transparent process that includes all profession stakeholders.

### Veterinary Technician License Type Committee Members

- Marcia Cantrell, CVT (public)
- Dr. Rebecca Mattix (public)
- Dr. Jeanne Rankin (Board)
- Dr. Katie Rein (Board)

In addition, the Board established a Jurisprudence Exam Committee to review the exam and modify identified issues.

### Jurisprudence Exam Committee Members

- Dr. Barbara Calm
- Dr. Paul McCann
- Dr. Tia Nelson

Committee meeting dates, times, agendas and minutes can be found on the Board's website at [boards.bsd.dli.mt.gov/veterinary-medicine](http://boards.bsd.dli.mt.gov/veterinary-medicine).

### CE Audit

Kelly Walsh, Montana Board of Veterinary Medicine Executive Director, reported that a 10% random CE audit of the timeframe between May 31, 2020 – May 30, 2021 found audited licensees to be 100% compliant.

### Board Members

- Barbara Calm, DVM,  
Board President - Kila
- Tia Nelson, DVM, Board  
Vice President - Helena
- Paul McCann, DVM –  
Havre
- Jeanne Rankin, DVM -  
Raynesford
- Katie Rein, DVM -  
Harlowton
- Kateri Nelson, Public  
Member – Livingston

### Executive Director

Kelly Walsh

### Board Contact Information

P.O. Box 200513  
Helena, MT 59620-0513  
406-444-5711  
[boards.bsd.dli.mt.gov/vet](mailto:boards.bsd.dli.mt.gov/vet)

### Professional Licensing Customer Service

(406) 444-6880  
[dlibsdhelp@mt.gov](mailto:dlibsdhelp@mt.gov)

### Next Board Meeting Date

January 10, 2022  
8:00 am – Noon

# MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK UPDATE

The state of Montana is currently investigating two tuberculosis slaughter traces related to slaughter of a lesioned cow at a Minnesota slaughter plant on July 31, 2021 traced to a beef herd in Blaine County, and a lesioned cow slaughtered in Idaho on September 14, 2021 that was traced to a beef herd in Madison County.

## Blaine County:

The Blaine County animal, an 11-year-old cow, was detected with lesions on postmortem inspection at a Minnesota slaughter plant on July 31, 2021. The animal was positively matched to the herd of origin through official ID collected at slaughter and genetic match of the lesion to tissue submitted with official identification. The animal was purchased as a bred heifer in 2011. Official ID and movement records showed the animal went from ranch of origin, through a Montana livestock market, and direct to slaughter. Total herd size is between 500-1000 head. The cow herd is approximately 350 head. The family also maintains a small dairy herd to produce milk for home consumption.

The first whole herd test (excluding 400 calves on feed) generated 28 CFT responders, four of which subsequently tested positive on gamma interferon assay, and one animal that tested invalid. All dairy animals were CFT negative. On farm euthanasia and tissue collection of the four gamma non-negative animals revealed four lesioned animals, three of which were histocompatible, and confirmed by PCR as being *Mycobacterium bovis*.

Genomic DNA of the *Mycobacterium bovis* strain was completed. This isolate has acquired 14 SNPs from the most recent common ancestor with a 2006 isolate from a fed steer originating in Aguascalientes, Mexico. Other isolates in this phylogenetic group are of Mexican origin. This represents a new introduction into the United States.

The affected herd has approximately 45 epidemiological contacts including neighbors, trace-ins, and trace-outs. The scope of the investigation also involves the Fort Belknap reservation. Related epidemiological testing is just beginning. Wildlife surveillance will also be implemented by Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks. For additional information on testing requirements of epidemiologically linked herds, please see the included table.

## Madison County:

The Madison County animal, a three-year-old cow born on the ranch, was detected with lesions on postmortem inspection at an Idaho slaughter plant on September 14, 2021. The animal was positively matched to the herd of origin through official ID collected at slaughter and genetic match of the lesion to tissue submitted with official identification. The animal was a 3-year-old cow born on the ranch of origin. Movement records show animals went from farm of origin, through Montana livestock market, direct to slaughter.

The initial whole herd test is nearly complete. Of approximately 3000 head tested, 61 responders on the caudal fold test (CFT) were identified. Of the CFT responders, 59 tested negative on the gamma interferon test, and two samples were being repeated after initially being assessed as invalid. All CFT responder animals will have tissues examined at slaughter, with the gamma interferon test being utilized primarily to determine which animals should be necropsied versus submitted to slaughter under inspection. Trace outs to approximately 30 states are anticipated should this herd be classified as affected. Risk factors being evaluated include purchases, transmission from employees, neighbor herds and wildlife. Although wildlife is not believed to be a source of infection, wildlife surveillance will be part of a thorough epidemiological investigation.



**Martin Zaluski**  
DVM,  
State Veterinarian



**Tahnee Szymanski**  
DVM, Assistant  
State Veterinarian



## Baseline Guidance for Requirements of Epidemiologically Linked Herds:

	ADJACENT HERD – DIRECT CONTACT	ADJACENT HERD - W/SPATIAL SEPARATION	TRACE IN	TRACE OUT	COMMINGLED
<b>QUARANTINE REQUIRED: REQUIRED FOR Q RELEASE:</b>	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
			One negative test of all test eligible	Purchase of animals from source herd and euthanize/collect tissues OR one negative test of all test eligible	One negative test of all test eligible
<b>TESTING REQUIRED IF NO Q ISSUED:</b>	One negative test of all test eligible within 6 mos.	One negative test of all test eligible within 12 mos.			
<b>MINIMUM AGE TO TEST:</b>	2 years	2 years	2 years	2 years	2 years
<b>ASSURANCE TEST AT &gt; 12 MOS.</b>	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes

*Please note, this table represents baseline testing requirements. If the additional risk factors are identified, the Department may require more stringent testing or age requirements.*

## UNITES STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION (USAHA) REPORT

*Submitted by Dr. Jeanne Rankin*

### Equine Committee

Dr. Angela Pelzel-McCluskey, USDA, reported a huge uptick in unsanctioned Quarter Horse racing, with thousands of horses moving in and out of 21 states and at least 72 locations that are spreading Equine infectious Anemia and Piroplasmosis. The Spanish social media advertisements include horses' names, purses, and locations and even a Standardbred race in Connecticut. Some animals are running at sanctioned and unsanctioned races, increasing disease risk to animals playing by the rules. Since 2010, 494 cases of Equine Piroplasmosis and 321 cases of EIA have been documented in over 800 racehorses from these bush tract racing population. The USA equine herd health is also jeopardized by this iatrogenic transmission of EIA and Piroplasmosis through

shared needles, IV sets and blood doping, as interstate health requirements including CVI's and Coggins testing are not being followed. Animal welfare issues include illegal use of anabolic steroids, horses running with injuries on anti-inflammatories, unsafe track surfaces, electric shock devices and constant use of the whip. In May 2021, Tennessee State Veterinarian, Dr. Beatty, had several cases of EIA /Piroplasmosis positive horses that had run in these unsanctioned races. The AQHA is concerned for the welfare of the horses and urges federal oversight.

Other topics included the rise of Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis (VEE) in the USA and African Horse Sickness spreading around the world with close to 100% mortality.

*USAHA continued on page 26*

# A MESSAGE FROM THE BIG SKY VETERINARY TECHNICIAN ASSOCIATION (BSVTA)



The BSVTA has been busy at work getting things in line to help the Montana Board of Veterinary Medicine assume credentialing for Montana veterinary technicians starting January 1, 2023. A new seat will be added for a veterinary technician to sit on the Board. If you have a veterinary technician who is interested or have one in mind to nominate for the Board, information will be posted on this website when the opening is officially announced: <https://svc.mt.gov/gov/boards/contact.aspx>.

The BSVTA hosted a veterinary technician social event on October 8 and a Small Animal Anesthesia CE event on October 9. Donna M. Sisal, CVT, LVT, VTS (Anesthesia/Analgesia)

was our presenter. There were 55 technicians in attendance.

The BSVTA held a general membership meeting on October 9, as well. The following technicians were elected to the BSVTA Executive Board:

**Past President:** Shawni Hansen, CVT

**President:** Eli Olind, CVT

**President-Elect:** Trisha Stone, CVT

**Secretary:** Leah Anderson, CVT

**Treasurer:** Dixie Mack, CVT

**Certifications Coordinator:** Marcia Cantrell, CVT

**Director 1:** Alex Johnson, CVT

**Director 2:** Shandell Sando, CVT

**Director 3:** Danyale West

Contact information for board members can be found on [bigskyvettech.org](http://bigskyvettech.org).

Hope all is well,

Eli Olind, CVT - President, BSVTA

*USAHA continued from page 25*

## Brucellosis Subcommittee

The Brucellosis subcommittee reported no new herds in the DSA, but a very interesting presentation was made by CDC and USDA regarding Jersey cows that had been vaccinated with RB51 and shedding vaccine virus in milk causing human illness. In 2018 and 2017, human cases of RB51 Brucellosis were diagnosed in New York and New Jersey from a Pennsylvania raw milk dairy illegally shipping raw milk across state lines and a legal dairy in Texas. Both incidents were traced back to Jersey cows that were shedding bacteria in the milk, and one cow had a much higher bacterial lode in the left side versus the right side of the udder. USDA and CDC have studied these cows and necropsied to gain a better understanding of what is happening inside these animals. They found that

the RB51 variants were susceptible to Rifampin for the first time. Recent Montana legislation allowing the selling of raw milk makes this a huge issue for veterinarians and consumers as what is the correct procedure for recommending Brucellosis vaccination in cows that are being used for raw milk production? Within the DSA, vaccination is required but what happens if there is a Jersey cow used for raw milk production? Pasteurization destroys Brucella and TB, but with the rise in consumer demand for raw milk this is a potential zoonotic disease transmission. CDC recommends pasteurization of milk and the reconsideration of vaccination in heifers intended for raw milk consumption. USDA recommends only vaccinating in areas where Brucella exists, such as the DSA. Stay tuned for more discussion!

# PIMA MEDICAL INSTITUTE UPDATE

Pima Medical Institute has been thriving in Dillon, Montana, with a population of 47 students. Our students continue to push themselves through the first-year Veterinary Assistant Program into the Veterinary Technician Program. The Veterinary Assistant and Veterinary Technician Programs both have an externship as their last course before graduation. We asked two students to give us their feedback for you.

## Where are you completing your externship?

**Katelyn:** I am completing my externship at Skyview Veterinary Hospital in Billings, Montana.

**Kelsey:** For my Veterinary Technician externship, I am at Mountainview Veterinary Service in Twin Bridges, Montana.

## Why did you want to go there?

**Katelyn:** I chose my externship site since it focused on the day-to-day appointments and surgeries rather than the emergency side of things. The environment of this clinic is very welcoming and open to teaching you whatever you need to know.

**Kelsey:** I wanted to get more experience with large animals but still wanted to learn and practice with small animals. I wanted to work at Mountainview Veterinary Service because I wanted to become more experienced. Since I grew up around large animals, I wanted to further my education and skills.

## What types of practices are you interested in post-graduation?

**Katelyn:** I am interested in doing a mixed practice post-graduation, but am open to whatever type of practice that I am at, whether it be small, large, or mixed.

**Kelsey:** Post graduation, I would like to work at a mixed practice. Having both large and small animals personally to me keeps the workplace more interesting.

## Will you take the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE), and when?

**Katelyn:** I will be taking the VTNE early next year in the March to April open window.

**Kelsey:** I will take the VTNE once I am finished with my internship. I plan on taking it next spring when it is available.



## PIMA Contact Information

434 E. Poindexter Street  
Dillon, MT 59725  
800-477-PIMA

For more information regarding hosting an extern or hiring recent PIMA Medical Institute graduates, please visit [pmi.edu](http://pmi.edu).

## Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

**Katelyn:** In 5 years, I see myself being certified/licensed working on specializing in a specific area of the field.

**Kelsey:** In five years, I see myself working in a clinic with great people that fuel the same passion. From there, to become a homeowner one day with some acres out of town for the dogs and horses to run around. But, also take time and explore the world.



# UPCOMING MVMA MEETINGS

## Winter 2022

January 21-22

Best Western Plus Gran Tree Inn  
Bozeman

## Summer 2022

June 20-21

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel  
Billings

## Winter 2023

January 13-14

Best Western Plus Gran Tree Inn  
Bozeman

## Summer 2024

June 22 -24

Hilton Garden Inn  
Missoula



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**2022  
WINTER  
MEETING**  
*Registration Enclosed  
on Page 17!*

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## MVMA CONTACTS

### 2021-2022 Executive Committee

President	Cara Voss, DVM Glendive
President-Elect	Nancy Belk, DVM Winnett
Vice President	Scott Damby, DVM Lewistown
Secretary/Treasurer	Linda Kauffman, DVM Stevensville
Director	Barr Gustafson, DVM Browning
Director	Julie Oghigian, DVM, CVA Bozeman
Past President	Ed Peretti, DVM Butte
AVMA Delegate	William Duncan, DVM Missoula
AVMA Alternate	Rex Anderson, DVM Absarokee

### Staff

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

### Office/Contact Information

PO Box 6322  
Helena, MT 59604  
Phone: 406-447-4259  
www.mtvma.org

