



HUMANE SOCIETY
VETERINARY MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION

WINTER 2016



HSVMA In Action

2016 YEAR IN REVIEW



OUR MISSION: To protect and advocate for animals while providing leadership and service opportunities that support a humane veterinary profession.

SERVICE

ADVOCACY

EDUCATION

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Year in Review: President's Message

Gary Block, DVM, MS, DACVIM
HSVMA Board President

Summarizing HSVMA accomplishments and activity in such a small space is truly a difficult task but it is one I am proud to undertake. HSVMA growth continues with us now having nearly 9,000 members. We are particularly proud of our growing veterinary student membership and HSVMA chapters at numerous veterinary schools across the country. Our state representative liaison program now includes 12 highly motivated HSVMA members in 12 different states with these members actively engaging their state's VMA and increasing outreach and visibility of the HSVMA within the veterinary profession.



HSVMA Board President Dr. Gary Block testifies in support of a Rhode Island bill banning the sale of shark fins.
Photo credit: HSUS

Much of the effort of our organization revolves around advocating for animal welfare improvements. Our HSVMA team of staff and veterinary advisors continues to coordinate and multitask across the country so that veterinarians—both members and non-members alike—are involved in our activities that promote our animal welfare ethos. In a remarkable demonstration of organization and outreach, we were able to get more than 520 veterinarians in Massachusetts to endorse a successful ballot measure that will ban extreme confinement methods used on breeding pigs, veal calves and laying hens. Other successful legislation HSVMA has supported via member testimony, letters to the editor, petitions, and lobbying efforts include a ballot measure on trafficking in endangered species (Oregon), a bill requiring healthy animals formerly used in research to be made available for adoption (New York), a bill banning the use of bullhooks on elephants (Rhode Island), and the Orca Protection Act which bans future importation and breeding of captive orcas and allows their display only for educational, and not entertainment, purposes (California).

I am particularly proud of HSVMA involvement this year in the Compassionate Care Scholarship for Veterinary Students. This scholarship, funded in partnership with my veterinary hospital in Rhode Island, Ocean State Veterinary Specialists, recognizes

veterinary students who have demonstrated an interest in and commitment to animal welfare issues while in veterinary school. We were so impressed with the many applications we received for this award from students who are dedicating time and effort to animal welfare causes while undertaking a grueling four-year veterinary curriculum. I encourage you to read more about the winners in this publication.

On the education front, HSVMA continues to be a leader in our profession when it comes to science-based, RACE-approved animal welfare presentations. Free to members and

reasonably priced for non-members, our webinars in 2016 (all of which are archived) included “Old Cat Souls: Aging, Pain and Assuring Comfort,” “Small Animal Rehabilitation with Relevant Evidence,” and “Cost of Care: Impact on Animal Welfare and Veterinary Well-being”. Also during 2016, HSVMA sponsored a series of in-person RACE-approved CE sessions at the Animal Care Expo 2016 in Las Vegas on a variety of shelter medicine-related topics. Members routinely volunteer to speak at universities on a wide range of clinical and animal welfare topics and, in November, we sponsored our second Animal Welfare Symposium for Veterinary Students at Louisiana State University.

Thanks to the Alex & Elisabeth Lewyt Charitable Trust, the Rural Area Veterinary Services (RAVS) program was able to expand its services in underserved rural communities and allow more animals in need to gain access to critical preventative and often life-saving care. Thousands of pets and working animals benefit every year through the efforts of the HSVMA-RAVS team which includes veterinary and veterinary technician volunteers. The vet students who participate in this program not only gain valuable experience but many come away with a life-long commitment to community service.

HSVMA's strength is not only in our growing numbers but in veterinary professionals who are willing to volunteer their time and efforts to help educate and advocate for a more humane veterinary profession. Please consider contacting us if you would like to get more involved in any of these efforts at advocacy@hsvma.org.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Block".

Gary Block, DVM, MS, DACVIM
HSVMA Board President



HSVMA Board President Dr. Gary Block presents an HSVMA award to outgoing board president Dr. Paula Kislak.
Photo credit: HSVMA

HSVMA-RAVS

Windi Wojdak, RVT
Director, HSVMA-RAVS

Bringing essential veterinary care to rural communities in need

The HSVMA Rural Area Veterinary Services (RAVS) program combines high quality direct-care veterinary field clinics with clinical training for future veterinary professionals. We bring essential veterinary care to those in need and improve the health and welfare of animals in impoverished rural communities throughout the world.

RAVS U.S. based teams work primarily with Native American communities throughout the western United States. Our MASH-style mobile field clinics provide a range of services, including spay/neuter, preventive wellness and emergency care. RAVS helps thousands of families every year by keeping pets healthy and in their homes.

Our international equine teams provide essential care for thousands of horses, burros and mules each year in remote communities in Latin America, where working animals are integral to daily life for work and transportation. We also train local veterinarians and caretakers in basic health and husbandry, creating sustainable improvements in animal care that continue long after our clinics end.

Providing hands-on veterinary training and community service opportunities

RAVS provides veterinary students with hands-on clinical training and supportive mentorship from veterinary professionals who believe in exceptional patient care and a dedication to community service. As our student alumni graduate and move into practice, their RAVS experience helps them provide skilled and compassionate veterinary care to animals in communities everywhere.

Volunteers make a difference for animals, communities and the profession

At the core of the RAVS program are the incredible volunteer veterinarians and veterinary technicians who generously share their time and expertise to provide high-quality care for animals in need. These dedicated professionals come from a variety of backgrounds and experience but all share a passionate desire to be of service and a willingness to go the extra mile to reach those most in need.



The HSVMA-RAVS program is supported by a substantial contribution from the Alex & Elisabeth Lewyt Charitable Trust. The Trust is fulfilling the Lewyts' life-long vision by improving the lives of companion animals, reducing animal cruelty and euthanasia rates, and supporting programs for the general betterment of all animals. With the generous support of the Lewyt Trust, RAVS is able to expand our work to provide essential care to more animals in need.

SINCE 2003, HSVMA-RAVS HAS:

- Provided essential care for more than 114,000 animals in need.
- Trained over 5,000 veterinary students from 30 veterinary schools in field medicine, surgery and community outreach.
- Treated and improved care for animals on more than 42 Native American reservations, 35 non-native rural communities and 18 countries around the world.
- Trained over 1,000 local veterinarians and caretakers in developing countries around the world.
- Provided over \$23 million worth of free veterinary services.
- Engaged 2,000 professional volunteers in meaningful service and mentorship opportunities.



RAVS International Equine teams provided care for more than 1,200 working equids in 2016 as well as training for local care providers to improve the health and husbandry of working animals in Nicaragua, Peru and Guatemala.
Photo credit: Tanya tenBroeke

In 2016, HSVMA-RAVS field teams provided high quality preventative health care to more than 9,000 animals in dozens of remote communities. We delivered more than \$1.8 million in essential veterinary services, all at no cost to the communities or families served.



For families in under-resourced rural communities, a RAVS visit is often the only veterinary care available all year.
Photo credits: Shea Michelle

175 veterinary students from 27 veterinary schools participated in RAVS field programs in 2016.
Photo credit: Daniel Heddon

More than 140 professional and support volunteers contributed their time and expertise in 2016.



The RAVS veterinary student training program fosters both clinical development and a dedication to service through intensive hands-on experience and supportive mentorship.
Photo credit: Shea Michelle

At the heart of the RAVS program are the hundreds of dedicated volunteers who generously share their time and expertise to provide high-quality care for animals in desperate need.
Photo credits: Daniel Heddon

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

We need you! HSVMA-RAVS' ability to provide quality veterinary care and educational opportunities depends on the many dedicated veterinary professional volunteers who generously share their time and expertise in our field clinics each year. Applications are currently being accepted.

Check our clinic schedule and find more information on how you can get involved at hsvma.org/ravs.

Veterinary students work one-on-one in the field with experienced veterinarians and technicians, gaining skills, confidence and an understanding of the issues facing under-resourced communities.
Photo credit: Daniel Heddon



The RAVS San Carlos Outreach Project is an intensive community outreach project using a range of approaches from large scale field clinics to door-to-door outreach to address the most critical animal health and welfare issues in a high-risk focus community. Our Outreach Team has provided care to more than 2,000 animals on the San Carlos Apache Reservation this year with plans to continue to grow the project in 2017.
Photo credit: Anne Turyn

HSVMA-RAVS CONTINUING EDUCATION:

Veterinarians and veterinary technicians are eligible to receive up to 30 hours of RACE-approved continuing education credit for their participation in HSVMA-RAVS surgical teaching clinics.

HSVMA Advocacy in Action: 2016

Barbara Hodges, DVM, MBA
HSVMA Veterinary Advisor

In 2016 more than 1,000 veterinary professionals joined HSVMA in actively advocating for advancements in animal welfare nationwide. Our members—including veterinarians, veterinary technicians, veterinary medical students and veterinary technician students—in concert with our leaders, our veterinary advisors, our staff, and, at times, with other like-minded stakeholder groups, worked diligently throughout the year to achieve these improved welfare goals. Legislatively we advocated on the local, state and federal levels, reaching out within the veterinary profession and to elected representatives—some of whom are veterinarians themselves.

Legislative Efforts: Federal Legislative Advocacy

(PAMTA/PARA) Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act/Preventing Antibiotic Resistance Act.

This legislation was reintroduced by Rep. Louise Slaughter (D-NY), the only microbiologist in Congress, during 2016. It would amend the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act to ensure the safety and effectiveness of medically important antimicrobials approved for use in the prevention and control of animal disease, in an attempt to minimize the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. HSVMA collected veterinary signatures on a petition in support of this legislation, which is currently under committee consideration.

(PAST) Prevent All Soring Tactics Act.

The Prevent All Soring Tactics (PAST) Act was also reintroduced in the U.S. Senate by a strong, bipartisan group of cosponsors during 2016. The PAST Act would strengthen the Horse Protection Act of 1970 and allow for stronger crackdown on the widespread abuse within the highly competitive Tennessee walking horse show world. HSVMA activated our members in support of this legislation, which has now been referred to committee.

Legislative Efforts: State and Local Legislative Advocacy

Ballot Measure Banning Extreme Confinement of Farm Animals

HSVMA is part of a coalition which worked to ensure passage of Question 3, a Massachusetts measure to ban the use of three extreme confinement methods for farm animals: pregnant sow gestation crates, veal calf crates and laying-hen battery cages. The initiative, which now takes effect in 2022, will also limit the sale of agricultural products derived from animals subjected to these inhumane practices. More than 520 Bay State veterinarians joined HSVMA in endorsing this landmark reform.

Ballot Measure Banning Trade in Trafficked Endangered Species Animal Parts

HSVMA also supported Measure 100, an Oregon initiative to outlaw trafficking in parts of 12 species of endangered animals, including elephants, tigers and pangolins. This measure, which was endorsed by approximately 75 Oregon veterinarians and approved by Oregon voters in the November election, will take effect in July 2017.

Antibiotic Use in Animal Agriculture

HSVMA is supporting a Maryland bill that seeks to phase out the non-therapeutic use of antibiotics for farm animals. The bill is pending.

Gas Chamber Use in Shelters

HSVMA supported efforts to end the use of gas chambers in animal shelters in California, Michigan and South Carolina. The California and South Carolina bills were signed into law and the Michigan bill is pending.

Animal Abuse, Cruelty and Neglect

HSVMA supported a bill to allow law students to act as legal advocates for animals in Connecticut. This bill passed into law. A Michigan bill supported by HSVMA to increase penalties for animal cruelty convictions is pending.

Animals Used in Research

HSVMA supported bills in New York and Illinois requiring that healthy animals formerly used in research be made available for adoption. The New York legislation passed, but the Illinois measure stalled. In California, HSVMA also supported a successful bill ending the practice of pound seizure.



HSVMA veterinary members Drs. Jennifer Maas, Linda Breitman and Joann Lindenmayer speak in support of the Massachusetts ballot measure addressing extreme farm animal confinement. More than 520 Massachusetts veterinarians joined HSVMA in supporting this successful ballot measure. Photo Credit: HSUS

Hunting and Trapping

HSVMA supported bans on the trade in shark fins in Rhode Island and New Hampshire. The Rhode Island bill was signed into law but the New Hampshire bill failed.

Bullhook Use in Handling Elephants

HSVMA supported bills to ban the use of the bullhook in handling elephants in California, Rhode Island and Virginia. The Rhode Island and California bans passed. Unfortunately, the Virginia legislation stalled in committee.

Orca Protections

HSVMA supported successful passage of the California Orca Protection Act. This legislation bans future importation and breeding of captive orcas and allows their display only for educational purposes, and not for entertainment.

Wildlife Protections

HSVMA promoted protections for Yellowstone grizzly bears in Wyoming. HSVMA is actively opposing an effort to overturn recently implemented protections of native Alaska wildlife from extreme forms of trapping and hunting on National Wildlife Refuges.

Companion Animal Protections

HSVMA supported a California bill that exempts non-profit animal blood banks from sales and use tax. Although the bill passed both Houses, it was vetoed by Governor Brown.

HSVMA also supported a California bill providing good Samaritans with the right to rescue dogs from hot cars without liability. The bill has been signed into law.

HSVMA supported successful California legislation that prohibits the automatic labeling of dogs rescued from dog fighting activities as 'vicious,' and thus, gives them a chance at being individually evaluated behaviorally and, possibly being rehomed.

HSVMA supported bills opposing tethering in New Jersey and Massachusetts, both of which remain in committee.

In New York, HSVMA supported a bill that grants veterinarians partial professional continuing education credit for performing spay/neuter work. The bill was signed into law by Governor Cuomo.

Cosmetic and Convenience Surgeries

In Illinois, HSVMA supported a ban on devocalization which remains in committee.

In New Jersey, HSVMA is supporting a ban on the declawing of cats and other animals. HSVMA also supported a similar New York ban; however the bill did not pass.

Puppy Mill and Pet Store Regulations

In Massachusetts, HSVMA supported a bill to regulate the sale and treatment of puppies and kittens in pet stores. An amended version of the legislation is currently in committee.

In New Hampshire, HSVMA supported legislation to regulate puppy mills and pet shop sales. This bill remains in committee.

HSVMA supported a Michigan bill curtailing puppy mill activity. Currently, the bill's sponsor is seeking to amend the legislation with stricter limits on the number of breeding females allowed at these facilities.

HSVMA Veterinary Teams Advocate at 2016 Humane Lobby Days

Barbara Hodges, DVM, MBA
HSVMA Veterinary Advisor



Pam Runquist (HSVMA Senior Director of Veterinary Outreach), Dr. Barry Kipperman (HSVMA California State Representative), Dr. Barbara Hodges (HSVMA Veterinary Advisor) and Dr. Paula Kislak (HSVMA Board of Directors member) participated in the California Humane Lobby Day in May.

Photo Credit: HSVMA

CALIFORNIA

In May Dr. Barry Kipperman (HSVMA Board Member and CA State Rep), Dr. Paula Kislak (HSVMA Board member) and Dr. Barbara Hodges (HSVMA Veterinary Advisor) joined other HSVMA representatives in participating in California's Humane Lobby Day in Sacramento, CA. They focused their advocacy efforts on bills to: (1) end the use of the bullhook on elephants; (2) ban the use of carbon dioxide for euthanasia in animal shelter gas chambers, ending their use in the state entirely; (3) offer immunity from liability for good faith rescue of animals trapped in hot cars; (4) give canine victims of animal fighting a second chance by eliminating their automatic labeling as 'vicious' dogs and by individually evaluating their behavior for possible placement in new homes; and (5) end the importation and captive breeding of orcas and restrict future exhibition of these killer whales exclusively for educational, not entertainment, purposes.

CONNECTICUT

In March Dr. Melissa Shapiro (HSVMA CT State Rep) attended one in a series of four Connecticut District Humane Lobby Days which was held in Stamford, CT. She met and dialogued with four CT Senators and along with fellow constituents, she supported legislation allowing law students to advocate for and represent abused animals in court.

MASSACHUSETTS

In April Dr. Nick Dodman (HSVMA Leadership Council member and HSVMA MA State Rep) joined colleagues at Humane Lobby Day at the State House in Boston, MA. Their focus was on four pieces of animal welfare legislation including: (1) supporting increased protections of puppies and kittens, including where they are bred and sold; (2) supporting increased regulation and enforcement of illegal hunting practices; (3) supporting restrictions on the tethering of outdoor dogs; and (4) opposing both the weakening of restrictions on trapping and overturning the ban on Sunday hunting.

MICHIGAN

In May during Michigan Humane Lobby Day in Lansing, MI, Dr. Pamela Graves (HSVMA MI State Rep) advocated in support of three bills. This legislation was aimed at (1) establishing licensing and minimum standards for large-scale commercial dog breeding facilities; (2) requiring that euthanasia by injection be the only acceptable method used at animal shelters, thereby ending shelter gas chamber use and (3) increasing penalties for abuse, cruelty and neglect of companion animals.

NEW JERSEY

In March during New Jersey's Humane Lobby Day in Trenton, NJ, Dr. Nicole Feddersen (HSVMA NJ State Rep) lobbied on behalf of legislation concerning the tethering, confinement and provision of proper shelter for dogs.

NEW YORK

In April Dr. Eileen Jefferson (HSVMA New York State Rep) and Dr. Holly Cheever (HSVMA Leadership Council) attended New York Humane Lobby Day in Albany, NY. Joined by a number of their colleagues they opposed inhumane snare trap use and advocated in support of legislation to ban the non-therapeutic declawing of cats and to allow former research animals to be retired into adoptive homes.

State Representatives Extend HSVMA Outreach Nationwide

In October 2014 HSVMA launched a State Representative Program consisting of active volunteer veterinarian liaisons who conduct outreach on behalf of HSVMA to their respective state veterinary medical associations and the broader profession and who serve as resources on animal welfare-related issues for their states' veterinary communities. HSVMA State Representatives also help the organization with legislative initiatives, providing expert witness testimony, submitting legislative support letters, Letters to the Editor and other forms of outreach.

Our state representative team has grown to include twelve talented individuals:

CALIFORNIA	Dr. Barry Kipperman, DVM, DACVIM
COLORADO	Dr. Jon Geller, DVM, DABVP
CONNECTICUT	Dr. Melissa Shapiro, DVM
GEORGIA	Dr. Sharon Crowell-Davis, DVM, PHD, DACVB
ILLINOIS	Dr. Meredith Rives, DVM
MASSACHUSETTS	Dr. Nicholas Dodman, BVMS, DACVB, DAVAA
MICHIGAN	Dr. Pamela Graves, DVM
MINNESOTA	Dr. Karen Arras, DVM, MBA
NEW JERSEY	Dr. Nicole Feddersen, DVM
NEW YORK	Dr. Eileen Jefferson, DVM
OREGON	Dr. Katie Bahr, DVM
RHODE ISLAND	Dr. Gary Block, DVM, MS, DACVIM

For more information about the HSVMA State Representative program go to hsvma.org/statereps.



HSVMA Colorado State Representative Dr. Jon Geller works at a street dog clinic in Fort Collins in May 2016.

Photo credit: Holly Wosley Photography



HSVMA New Jersey State Representative Dr. Nicole Feddersen (second from left) joins representatives of the Humane Society of the United States and the Monmouth County SPCA as well as New Jersey State Senator Jennifer Beck (far right) at the grand opening of the Pet Food Pantry at the Monmouth County SPCA facility in Eatontown, New Jersey.

Photo Credit: Monmouth County SPCA

HSVMA Offers Wide Array of Online CE with Animal Welfare Focus

Lorna Grande, DVM HSVMA Continuing Education Advisor

Photo Credit: by iStockphoto



One of the most popular HSVMA member benefits is complimentary access to six live CE webinars per year in addition to more than two dozen archived webinars available on demand.

The humane focus of our RACE-approved webinar series is really catching on! Attendance is increasing and we are proud that more professionals are learning about

our webinars from their colleagues. Veterinary students are organizing webinar screenings as part of club meetings and one group at Purdue University even combined it with a dessert contest. We love vet students!

HSVMA is proud to have started an online conversation about the challenging topic of the cost of veterinary care with back to back presentations looking at the topic from different perspectives. These included Dr. Barry Kipperman talking about “*Cost of Care: Impact on Animal Welfare and Veterinary Well-Being*” and Dr. Doug Kenney who presented, “*Pet Insurance Primer for Veterinary Professionals*”. Both of these webinars are now archived for viewing and earning CE credits.

Also featured in our 2016 webinars were:

- “*Old Cat Souls: Aging, Pain, and Assuring Comfort*” with Dr. Elizabeth Colleran focusing on how chronic pain has been neglected in the feline species in large part because its manifestation in cats is unique.
- “*Introduction to Small Animal Rehabilitation with Relevant Evidence*” with Dr. Andrea L. Looney. This webinar presented evidence demonstrating physical rehabilitation is worthwhile for small animal patients.

WHAT MEMBERS ARE SAYING:

“I appreciate that such an important topic was addressed and was done so by a very knowledgeable professional with practical experience.”

— David Kowalek, BVMS, MRCVS

“Information was relevant and very important. I will share and recommend this to the doctors and staff at our hospital.”

— Kim Orr, CVT

“I loved this speaker - clear, able to communicate complex topics in a simple, understandable manner, and did not speak too fast.”

— Vanessa Flores, VMD

“Appreciated a presentation on a topic so rarely covered, and yet so prevalent in our daily practice lives.”

— Shannon Brown, RVT

“HSVMA is a reliable source for really good and relevant CE. I tell all my colleagues about you and encourage them to join.”

— Harriet Blanton, DVM

Archived Webinars

All HSVMA webinars are archived and available for viewing and earning CE credits on the HSVMA website, including other popular topics such as:

- Non-surgical sterilization
- Emergency wildlife care
- Nutrition
- Pain management
- End of life care
- Stress and compassion fatigue within the veterinary profession

For more information on upcoming and archived webinars visit hsvma.org/webinars.

HSVMA In-Person CE Events Feature Advocacy and Shelter Medicine Topics



Photo Credit: by Brian Blanco/HSVMA

For the seventh year in a row, HSVMA hosted an evening session at NAVC on a critical animal welfare topic. This year’s presentation featured Congressman Kurt Schrader, DVM, one of the three veterinarians serving in the U.S. Congress. Schrader, who has been a key advocate for animal welfare and the veterinary profession, spoke about his involvement with the Veterinary Medicine Mobility Act, the PAST (Prevent All Soring Tactics) Act and other federal legislation. Schrader also emphasized the importance of bipartisanship and was complimentary of the work that animal welfare advocates have done in the legislative arena. To view Schrader’s presentation at NAVC in its entirety, go to hsvma.org/navc_schrader.

Also during 2016, HSVMA sponsored a series of in-person RACE-approved CE sessions at the Animal Care Expo 2016 in Las Vegas on a variety of shelter medicine-related topics. Those included community cat issues, disease outbreaks in shelters, how nonprofit veterinary clinics can help fill the gap in providing access to care, managing public health concerns with rabies, parasites, and other diseases, and dog fighting investigations. For handouts from the 2016 sessions, go to animalsheltering.org/expo.

For more information on all HSVMA CE sessions and other events, go to hsvma.org/events.

HSVMA on Campus in 2016

HSVMA's Student Outreach Program continued to grow during 2016 with strong representation on campuses through our student chapter and representative program, an active Speakers Bureau, new educational programs and veterinary school partnerships that provided skills development opportunities as well as introduced students to the emerging field of animal welfare.

HSVMA Student Chapter and Student Representative Program

HSVMA extends our appreciation to the veterinary students who participated in our Student Chapter and Student Representative program during 2016, helping spread the word about the animal welfare advocacy and direct care opportunities available through HSVMA. HSVMA was proud to sponsor student chapters at 8 different veterinary schools in 2016 as well as student representatives at an additional 10 veterinary schools throughout the United States. Our chapter members and representatives were active in a number of direct care and advocacy initiatives during the year including:

- Lobbying for animal welfare legislation as part of Humane Lobby Days in several states;
- Participating in Pets for Life and other community wellness clinics;
- Coordinating World Spay Day events;
- Helping to organize the second annual HSVMA Animal Welfare Symposium for Veterinary Students at Louisiana State University as well as HSVMA Speakers Bureau presentations on more than 20 veterinary school campuses;
- Helping to coordinate more than 20 RAVS presentations on campus to spread the word about the valuable field service opportunities available through this program.

For more information on the HSVMA Student Chapter and Representative program, go to hsvma.org/students.

Education in Animal Welfare Topics

SPEAKERS BUREAU: During 2016 HSVMA hosted presentations on more than 40 veterinary school campuses with experts speaking on

a variety of animal welfare-related topics reaching more than 2,000 students. Those topics included community cat issues, animal cruelty reporting, wildlife rehabilitation, farm animal welfare, exotic animals, public health and an overview of the HSVMA-RAVS field service program opportunities.

WEBINAR SCREENINGS: Several HSVMA student chapters and representatives hosted screenings of one of the popular HSVMA webinar series on their campuses during 2016. Topics featured in campus screenings included cost of veterinary care, farm animal welfare and the veterinarian's role in reporting animal cruelty.

ANIMAL WELFARE ROUNDS: HSVMA's Animal Welfare Rounds offer veterinary students the opportunity to engage with veterinary experts as well as their peers on welfare-related topics. During 2016 HSVMA hosted online discussions related to ethical issues in veterinary training.

Skills Development Opportunities Offered by HSVMA

In addition to the RAVS program HSVMA promoted animal welfare-friendly skills development for veterinary students through a variety of training opportunities. Those included:

- Suture labs offered at Louisiana State University, Kansas State University, University of California Davis, and Michigan State University;
- Partnership with the University of Pennsylvania's Saving Lives by Saving Limbs, a surgery program that aims to save shelter animals through orthopedic repair. HSVMA is sponsoring this program in partnership with the Kislak Family Foundation.
- Veterinary student externships at the South Florida Wildlife Center, the Cape Wildlife Center in Massachusetts and the Cleveland Amory Black Beauty Ranch in Texas.

2nd Annual HSVMA Animal Welfare Symposium Hosted at Louisiana State University

Susan Krebsbach, DVM
HSVMA Veterinary Advisor

HSVMA hosted its second annual Animal Welfare Symposium for Veterinary Students at the Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine (LSU SVM) in November 2016. Veterinary students from eight different veterinary schools traveled to participate in the event (LSU, Mississippi State, Auburn University, Tuskegee University, Oregon State, Colorado State, UC Davis and Kansas State) alongside veterinary professionals (veterinarians and technicians) from the Baton Rouge area who received CE for attending.

The 2016 conference featured a full day of important and timely



HSVMA Board of Director member Dr. Barry Kipperman was one of the symposium presenters.
Photo credit: HSVMA

animal welfare topics that are often not included in traditional veterinary curricula, such as animal welfare assessment, reporting animal cruelty, equine welfare, cattle welfare, farm animal welfare, puppy mills, and cost of care issues. The symposium ended with an inspiring session on how veterinary professionals can get involved in their community and beyond to help animals in need and a panel discussion where attendees had the opportunity to engage with their peers on these critical issues.

It was a day full of rich information fueled by the engagement of students from across the country who were thirsty for this knowledge! The positive energy generated by the participants was so uplifting—provoking an unequivocal influence on the future of

HSVMA Promotes Veterinary Student Involvement in World Spay Day



Florida

Photo Credit: by Dr. Brian DiGangi/University of Florida



Western University

Photo Credit: by Dr. Zarah Hedge/Western University



Tuskegee

Photo Credit: by Tuskegee University

For the sixth consecutive year, HSVMA sponsored World Spay Day events involving veterinary students to promote awareness of the need for spay and neuter of dogs and cats as well as to help provide training opportunities for veterinary students in these life-saving surgical procedures.

World Spay Day is an annual campaign presented by The Humane Society of the United States, Humane Society International and HSVMA. Launched in 1995, it aims to encourage people to save animal lives by spaying and neutering companion animals and feral cats. World Spay Day is celebrated annually on the fourth Tuesday in February, but events take place throughout the month of February, which is recognized as Spay/Neuter Awareness Month.

HSVMA encourages veterinary students to participate in World Spay Day events because it is a great opportunity to help companion animals in their communities, while also gaining some hands-on training in surgical skills. For many students, the events foster a desire to continue to help address companion animal overpopulation during their veterinary school years and beyond.

In 2016, HSVMA sponsored World Spay Day events involving veterinary students from the University of Florida, Western University of Health Sciences, and Tuskegee University. These events provided sterilization surgeries to more than 100 animals in need as well as offering hands-on training to dozens of veterinary students in a variety of tasks, ranging from surgical prep and anesthesia monitoring to assisting with surgery.

In addition to the veterinary school event sponsorships, HSVMA also promotes participation in World Spay Day by all veterinary professionals as a way to address animal overpopulation. HSVMA annually awards World Spay Day Certificates of Appreciation to veterinary professionals who participate in an event. For ideas on getting involved in World Spay Day and to request a certificate of appreciation, go to hsvma.org/worldspayday.

HSVMA Animal Welfare Symposium, cont.



Animal Welfare Symposium attendees participate in a panel discussion at the end of the event.

Photo credit: HSVMA

"Hosting the Animal Welfare Symposium here at LSU School of Veterinary Medicine was really a stepping stone for the veterinary and shelter community. We were able to bring to light many issues that were never previously discussed in veterinary school."

— Summer Gilbert, LSU Class of 2018

"The HSVMA Conference opened the eyes of many veterinary students to ethical and moral dilemmas that we will see as practicing veterinarians."

— Jacquie Cobb, AUCVM Class of 2019

the veterinary profession.

HSVMA is thankful to the LSU faculty and staff who partnered with HSVMA to host the event, in particular, Drs. Wendy Wolfson and Brandy Duhon of the Veterinary Clinical Sciences department and Katie Fontenot, Outreach Coordinator, who were all so instrumental in making the symposium possible. Additionally, the HSVMA Student Chapter at LSU was a key participant, pitching in to help coordinate and volunteer at the event.

The symposium was followed by a special tour of the Pen Pals Animal Shelter at the nearby Dixon Correctional Institute. This shelter, which is funded by the Humane Society of the United States, operates inside a prison with inmates providing daily care for the animals while the LSU SVM visiting shelter medicine program provides routine medical and surgical services.

For more on the 2016 Animal Welfare Symposium, go to hsvma.org/awsymposium2016.

Compassionate Care Scholarship for Veterinary Students

2016 marks the first year HSVMA and Ocean State Veterinary Specialists of East Greenwich, RI teamed up to recognize veterinary students who have demonstrated a commitment to animal welfare issues in veterinary medicine.

While this is the first year HSVMA was involved in the scholarship, the program was initiated by Dr. Gary Block, HSVMA board president and OSVS owner, eight years ago because he knew how important it is to recognize students who are going above and beyond to help animals while pursuing a veterinary career. "Only a truly special veterinary student is capable of devoting significant amounts of time and effort to animal welfare issues while they are undertaking a grueling four-year veterinary curriculum," said Dr. Block. "This scholarship is a small effort to acknowledge and encourage those students who feel strongly enough to try and make a tangible difference in the lives of animals through educational, direct care, and legislative efforts."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS:



First Place: **ALEXANDRA SHAILOR**

*University of Pennsylvania
School of Veterinary
Medicine, class of 2017*

Alexandra Shailor discovered her passion for shelter medicine while she was an undergraduate, during an internship program at Dakin Humane Society in Springfield, Mass. Her time at Dakin Humane Society not only led to her longtime

status as a failed foster pet parent, but also led to her involvement with Kane's Crusade, a startup organization that works with low-income families to help them keep their pets.

Almost from the very beginning of her veterinary school career, Alexandra has been responsible for facilitating and coordinating student surgical opportunities at three area shelters as well as at larger scale spay/neuter events as the student surgical coordinator for the Shelter Medicine Surgical Opportunities Program. In this position, she has been involved in more than 700 surgeries including feline and canine spays and neuters, amputations, enucleations, and mass removals.

Alexandra's other activities include serving as the vice president/treasurer of the UPenn Shelter Medicine Club, serving on the UPenn Spay Day Committee, and participating in multiple vaccine clinics, including The Humane Society of the United States' Pets for Life program.



Second Place: **KELLY ARTHUR**

*Colorado State University
College of Veterinary
Medicine & Biomedical
Sciences, class of 2018*

Advancing animal welfare is the main reason Kelly Arthur decided to pursue a career in veterinary medicine. This passion started when she was a 10 year-old, after a

neighbor poisoned her puppy to stop his barking. "I look back on this as the pivotal moment in my life that made me realize animals need certain protections because of how they can be mistreated and are unable to fight back in many instances."

To help her better understand the human-animal bond and better communicate with clients, she helps clients making end-of-life decisions as a volunteer for the Colorado State University Pet Hospice Program, volunteers at vaccine clinics for the homeless, and fosters animals.

Kelly also has volunteered in an advocacy capacity with both the AVMA and Colorado Veterinary Medical Association, which has exposed her to legislation on a variety of topics, including advocating humane methods to control feral cat populations, attempting to ban tail docking in dairy cattle, and lessening the veterinary student debt burden. For the past three years, she also has participated in the Intercollegiate Animal Welfare Judging and Assessment Contest.



Third Place: **JOSEPHINE NOAH**

*University of California Davis
School of Veterinary Medicine,
class of 2017*

A 2011 HSVMA-RAVS wellness clinic at an Apache reservation in Arizona inspired Josephine Noah to explore her career change to veterinary

medicine. While volunteering at the RAVS clinic, she saw how prevalent Rocky Mounty Spotted Fever was in the area, and how the fear of contracting the zoonotic disease was negatively affecting the relationship between the community and their dogs.

Soon after the 2011 trip, Josephine started volunteering with the PAW Fund in the San Francisco Bay area. In her role as the volunteer coordinator and technician supervisor for the monthly vaccine/wellness clinics for the PAW Fund, Josephine has developed a skilled and dedicated team of volunteers, and guides them not only in vaccination techniques and protocols, but in compassionate communication.

After graduating in 2017, Josephine plans to join the PAW Fund as a part-time veterinarian, helping the organization expand their community outreach, medical services, and in-home euthanasia offerings.

HSVMA in Action During 2016



HSVMA Veterinary Advisor Dr. Barbara Hodges speaks with an attendee at the HSVMA booth at the NAVC 2016 event in Orlando.
Photo Credit: HSVMA



Cristina Christianson, HSVMA student representative at Purdue University, speaks to students prior to a screening of the HSVMA webinar, "Cost of Care: Impact on Animal Welfare and Veterinary Well-Being."
Photo Credit: Purdue University



Veterinary students and other interns at the Cape Wildlife Center.
Photo Credit: HSUS



Members of the team lobbying on behalf of the New York bill to ban declawing included (L to R): Matt O'Connor, Dr. Jennifer Conrad, Dr. Holly Cheever, Dr. Eileen Jefferson, Dr. Tina Waltke, Dr. Susan Whittred, and Brian Shapiro, HSUS New York State Director.
Photo Credit: HSUS

Dr. Becky Stuntebeck instructs University of Wisconsin veterinary students during an HSVMA-sponsored suture lab.
Photo Credit: Dr. Susan Krebsbach/HSVMA



HSVMA Member Benefits

INDIVIDUAL DISABILITY INSURANCE

Protect your most valuable asset, your ability to earn income!



While many people recognize the need to insure their cars, homes and their lives, they often neglect to insure their *most important asset*, their ability to work and earn an income. As a member of HSVMA, you are eligible to receive **premium discounts** of up to 20% on Individual Disability Insurance from the Principal Life Insurance Company. This program is managed by Wells Fargo Insurance Services.

PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE

Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association members can take advantage of professional liability insurance coverage through Wells Fargo Insurance Services.



Wells Fargo's exclusive veterinary professional liability insurance program provides access to exceptional, cost-effective proprietary insurance coverage, including:

- Animal bailee
- License defense
- No settlement clause

For more information, visit hsvma.org/insurance.

MEMBER BENEFITS, CONTINUED

Below, we have highlighted a few of the benefits HSVMA will continue to offer to our valued members throughout the coming year:

Continuing education opportunities

Through webinars, lectures and participation in HSVMA-RAVS, HSVMA will continue to offer multiple opportunities for members and non-members to earn CE through our programs. Learn more about these opportunities at hsvma.org/education.

Special discounts on publications and veterinary services

WILEY-BLACKWELL

Current HSVMA members are eligible for a 35% discount* on most Wiley-Blackwell publications. Wiley is a global provider of content-enabled solutions to improve outcomes in research, education and professional practice with online tools, journals, books, databases, reference works and laboratory protocols.



ABAXIS

If you work for or with a non-profit animal welfare organization—thanks to our friends at The Humane Society of the United States' Shelter Partner program—you can take advantage of special discounts on Abaxis Veterinary Reference Laboratory Services such as VetScan Rapid Tests, VetScan VSpro Cartridges, handheld analyzers and more.



If you are a current member, log in to your profile to learn how to take advantage of these discounts at hsvma.org/member_discounts.

If you are not yet a member, join us now at hsvma.org/join.

*35% Wiley-Blackwell discount is not available for German language titles or certain major reference works. For example, *Plumb's Veterinary Drug Handbook* is only eligible for a 20% discount.

STAY IN THE LOOP

Want to know what the HSVMA is doing? Make sure you are receiving our email updates and other news. Log onto www.hsvma.org to add your email to your member profile or email membership@hsvma.org.

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