



## SANTA CLARA VALLEY VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

### NEWSLETTER

**JANUARY 2016**

VALERIE BRONS, MRCVS, *President*

RICH HOGE, DVM, *Treasurer*

LEIGH STEVENS, DVM, *Program Coordinator*

ALEISHA NESSET, DVM, *CVMA Governor*

JULIA LEWIS, DVM, *CVMA Delegate*

MARILYN THELEN, *Executive Director*

### **JANUARY MEETING**

DATE: **TUESDAY** EVENING, JANUARY 26, 2016

TIME: DINNER 7:00PM – PROGRAM 7:30 PM

PLACE: DOUBLETREE BY HILTON, 1995 S. BASCOM AVE., CAMPBELL

### **Strategies to Recover Your Inactive Clients**

Speaker:

**Matthew Sanregret**, Vice President of Customer Success, Sikka Software

Matt has a Bachelor's degree in Business/Marketing from California State University, Chico. He has been involved in software sales, marketing, and customer service for the past 25 years. Matt's previous experience includes Product Line Director with ImproMed, Vice President of Sales at VETECH Software, and National Sales at THEOS Software Corporation. Matt has participated in 1000+ software installations in the animal health field.

**This dinner meeting and CE are graciously sponsored by Sikka Software and Vijay Sikka, President and Founder.**

This program will be valuable for office managers and client relations staff as well as the veterinarians in a practice.



**Please RSVP no later than January 25** to Marilyn (marilynthe@aol.com) to be sure there is adequate food and seating.

**THANK YOU TO OUR 2015 SPONSORS:** Vetoquinol and Katie Mitchell, Animal Scan and Sage Veterinary Centers, Bayer Animal Health and Pat McBride, Dechra Veterinary Products and Jen Ball, Santa Clara Drug and Dr. Vishal Purohit, VISC (Veterinary Insurance Services Company) and Mark Maeyama and Matt Smith, Merck Animal Health and Kelly Evans, Sirius Puppy & Dog Training and Dr. Ian Dunbar, Dr. Lauren Flato

**FUTURE SCVVMA MEETINGS 2016:** March 29 (may move to March 31), May 31, July 26, September 27, November 29

### **SCVVMA MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE**

Santa Clara Valley VMA membership dues have not changed for 10 years! Thanks to our generous sponsors, members are able to enjoy buffet dinners, continuing education presented by experts in their fields (2 hrs. per meeting), networking opportunities, and bi-monthly newsletters with free classified ads. Individual dues are \$200.00. Practice dues (4 or more DVMs) are \$800.00. You may bring your payment to the meeting, or mail a check made out to: **SCVVMA**, 26186 Mt. Bache Rd., Los Gatos, CA 95033.

### **FUTURE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

**CVMA Spring Seminar:** March 4-6; Yosemite, CA; [www.cvma.net](http://www.cvma.net)

**Western Veterinary Conference:** March 6-10; Las Vegas; [www.wvc.org/conference](http://www.wvc.org/conference)

**Sage 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Small Animal Symposium:** March 20, 2016; San Francisco

Airport Marriott; contact (925) 627-7243; 7.0 hrs of CE

**AAHA Annual Conference:** March 31-April 3; Austin, TX; [www.aaha.org/austin](http://www.aaha.org/austin)

### **VETERINARIAN WANTED**

Wanted: Relief Veterinarian San Jose/Saratoga

Our 2.5 doctor practice is looking for a relief veterinarian to help cover for 8 weeks during a maternity leave from mid March through mid-May 2016. Experience and comfort with pocket pets and birds are a huge plus. We value client service and team work in a mutually respectful environment. Our clinic offers comprehensive veterinary care including wellness and preventative health care, surgery, dentistry, digital x-ray, in-house laboratory and computerized records. Please send resume or contact [anisset@westvalleypetclinic.com](mailto:anisset@westvalleypetclinic.com) or [jfulton@westvalleypetclinic.com](mailto:jfulton@westvalleypetclinic.com) for more information.

### **VETERINARIAN WANTED**

AnimalScan is seeking an associate veterinarian with a strong interest and experience in anesthesia who is looking to learn and further develop that skill set. To find out more about AnimalScan, please visit [www.animalscan.com](http://www.animalscan.com).

This veterinarian will be responsible for patient care and management, especially anesthesia, during MRI scans at our new Campbell location. The individual will work closely with SAGE Centers for Veterinary Specialty and Emergency Care doctors and staff, including the opportunity to participate in rounds, as well as manage client communication and MRI referrals from outside the SAGE practice. The Campbell veterinarian will work closely with our MRI tech to facilitate quality patient care and imaging as well as overall management of the day-to-day activities at this facility.

We are seeking someone interested in anesthesia as it relates to challenging patients and who has the ability to be agile and flexible in managing a daily schedule. We seek a team player who

can work well with other DVMs and veterinary technicians on a daily basis. Training and supervision of this position will be done with our Medical Director and Board Certified Anesthesiologist in Redwood City, and real-time case consultation will be available for challenging patients. Clearance to work around a 1.5 Tesla superconducting magnet is required. Benefits include vacation, assistance with CE, medical, prescription, vision, dental, life, AD&D, short term disability and long term disability, flexible spending account, pet insurance and 401k plan. Workday is Monday thru Friday with no emergency or weekend work unless desired by the candidate. Salary is commensurate with experience. For questions regarding the position contact Dr. Kris Kruse-Elliott at AnimalScan Redwood City, (650) 480-2001. To apply, send resume and references to Dana Guffy, Director of Human Resources for AnimalScan at [dana.guffy@animalscan.org](mailto:dana.guffy@animalscan.org).

### **VETERINARIANS AVAILABLE FOR RELIEF WORK**

Margaret Young, DVM, (408) 309-9847, (408) 778-0515, maydvm@gmail.com

Laurie Droke, DVM, (650) 454-6155, laurie@sanpedroanimalhospital.com

Rick Shapiro, DVM, (408) 973-0961, aquila9@rocketmail.com

Jack Ehlinger, DVM, (310) 947-2589, belgianvet@gmail.com

### **NEW LABOR LAW: AB1513**

A new law became effective on January 1, 2016, that impacts the way you pay anyone who does piece-rate work for you, usually groomers who are paid on commission. If you have a groomer who is an employee, not an independent contractor, who is paid solely on commission, this law may require you to change the way you calculate that employee's compensation. Governor Gerry Brown signed into law legislation that re-defines piece-rate compensation and requires separate hourly wage payment for "nonproductive" time as well as separate payment for rest and recovery periods to those employees. This law has profound implications for employers which historically compensate employees based on piece-rate and activity-based formulas.

California's Third Appellate District Court heard a case brought by an employee against Safeway and concluded:

"Rest periods must be separately compensated in a piece-rate system... Under the California minimum wage law, employees must be compensated for each hour worked at either the legal minimum wage or the contractual hourly rate, and compliance cannot be determined by averaging hourly compensation. Thus... a piece-rate compensation formula (*such as employee groomers paid solely on commission*) that does not compensate separately for rest periods does not comply with California minimum wage law. Please consult with someone familiar with California HR law to avoid fines for compensation violations.





### EDITORIAL

Hey, you caregivers in veterinary practices – stop and think for a moment about how often you impact another person’s life. Every day that you help a pet. Sure, I assume that you entered the field to be advocates for four- and two-legged companions, some with fur and some with feathers. (And some of you would include scales and legless creatures in your advocacy repertoire.) So step back and take a look at how you are helping your fellow humans improve their lives.

“The general belief is that there are health benefits to owning pets, both in terms of psychological growth and development, as well as physical health benefits,” says Dr. James Griffin, a scientist at the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. New research from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that after following more than 600 boys and girls, ages 4 to 10, for a year and a half, that of those who had a dog, only 12 percent showed signs of anxiety. Among the group that did not live with a dog, 21 percent did. The study researchers noted that having a dog around the house actually lowers levels of the stress hormone cortisol.

Other research also suggests that pet ownership may hold special benefits during childhood.

“When children are asked who they talk to when they get upset, a lot of times their first answer is their pet,” says Griffin, an expert in child development and behavior. “This points to the importance of pets as a source of comfort and developing empathy. In fact, therapists and researchers have reported that children with autism are sometimes better able to interact with pets, and this may help in their interactions with people.”

Many pet owners would agree that a pet can fill your heart with love. So maybe it’s fitting that the presence of a pet can help improve cardiovascular health. According to the CDC, pets can decrease your blood pressure, cholesterol levels, triglyceride levels, and feelings of loneliness. Pets can increase your opportunities for exercise and outdoor activities, as well as provide opportunities for socialization. (Imagine: the CDC promoting human socialization!)

One National Institute of Health (NIH)-funded study looked at 421 adults who had suffered heart attacks. A year later, the scientists found that dog owners were significantly more likely to still be alive than were those who did not own dogs, regardless of the severity of the heart attack.



Another study supported by the NIH followed more than 2,500 older adults, ages 71-82, for 3 years. Those who regularly walked their dogs walked faster and for longer time periods each week than others who didn't walk regularly. Older dog walkers also had greater mobility inside their homes than others in the study.

Pets are a great way to beat the blues. Pets combat feelings of loneliness and boost your mood, and their devotion and silliness even bring you feelings of joy and happiness. Not only do they give unconditional love, but they may also give their owners a sense of purpose, which can be crucial for those struggling with depression or illness. Animal-assisted therapies are increasingly offered in hospitals and nursing homes nationwide. Clinicians who watch patients interacting with pets say they can clearly see benefits, including improved mood and reduced anxiety.

"You can see the difference it makes in so many of these patients when a pet is at their bedside," says Dr. Ann Berger, who works to relieve pain in patients with life-threatening illnesses at the NIH Clinical Center. I think the pets add a bit of normalcy to a very difficult situation. The pet will sit calmly, and the patients don't have to talk to anyone. They can just pet."

People have lots of reasons for owning pets. A growing body of research suggests that owning or interacting with animals has the added benefit of improving human health. So along with giving pets hugs and credit for enhancing our lives, reward them by actively advocating for lifelong healthcare. Do not let those that claim that pet spending is discretionary undermine a pet's true value. Educate your clients about the benefits that these voiceless companions bring to our lives. You wouldn't recommend skipping vegetables for the sake of McDonald's 2 for \$2 menu (I hope).

And **thank you** – all of you who work in veterinary medicine – for contributing to healthy and enriched *human* lives!

*Marilyn*

# SIRIUS

puppy & dog training

Visit [www.SIRIUSpup.com](http://www.SIRIUSpup.com) for the best puppy and dog training resources



Voted best puppy training classes in the San Francisco Bay Area  
7 years in a row!



Our SIRIUS blog is filled with training tips for puppy owners



Download our complimentary ebooks and customize them with your contact information



All SIRIUS students receive two online dog training videos with their course

And please help us spread the word about our opt-in database of breeders that housetrain and socialize their puppies with people.

1 800 419 8748    [admin@siriuspup.com](mailto:admin@siriuspup.com)    [www.SIRIUSpup.com](http://www.SIRIUSpup.com)



[www.sagecenters.com](http://www.sagecenters.com)

## **SAGE Campbell**

907 Dell Ave., Campbell CA 95008

Ph: (408) 343-7243

### **Cardiology**

Sara Johns, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

### **Emergency/Critical Care**

Mary Aslanian, DVM, DACVECC

Erin M. Johnston, DVM

Lisa Kim, DVM

Elizabeth (Beth) Kollar, DVM

Amy Mayfield, DVM

Lindsey Nielsen, DVM, DACVECC

### **Internal Medicine**

Amanda Blackburn, DVM, DACVIM

Brigid Nicholson, DVM, DACVIM

Catherine Rivara, DVM, DACVIM

Andrea Struble, DVM, MPVM, DACVIM

### **Neurology**

David Raczek, DVM, DACVIM (Neurology)

Christina Vitale, DVM, DACVIM (Neurology)

### **Oncology**

Christine Fahey

DVM, DACVIM (Oncology)

Mike Kiselow

DVM, DACVIM (Oncology)

Steve Shaw

DVM, DACVIM (Oncology)

### **Physical Rehabilitation**

Jill Kuhl, PT, MS, DPT, CCRT

### **Surgery**

Angela Banz, DVM, DACVS

Bill Banz, DVM, DACVS

William E. Scherrer, DVM, DACVS

Andy J. Staatz, MS, DVM, DACVS

**Veterinary Specialties:** Internal Medicine • Surgery • Emergency/Critical Care • Oncology  
Neurology • Cardiology • Alternative Medicine • Physical Rehabilitation