



Newsletter

August 2020

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Greetings,

As the struggles of reopening continue, we as veterinarians have to decide how the process will occur for us. Since there are various guidelines for reopening, FVMA and AVMA have provided tools and resources to help assist in our aim to continue to provide patient care while maintaining the safety of our staff and clients.

Over the past four months, we have been challenged to maintain patient care with limited staff, limited supplies, and sometimes even limited hours. Cross training became a vital part of our sustainability. We had to get creative in our work model and utilize resources such as telemedicine to continue to provide for our clients and patients. We had to learn to be charming, informative, and explicit in our phone skills. We had to be understanding, encouraging, and supportive while dealing with our own stresses of this pandemic. Whether we wanted to or not strategic planning and risk assessment became a priority and still is. Our strength, determination, and love for veterinary medicine will continue to be our driving force over the next few months.

BCVMA will strive to do our part in keeping you up to date with current information on how COVID19 impacts the veterinary community and our way of practicing veterinary medicine. We are steadily working on ways to provide you access to continuing education in the months ahead.

During this pandemic many of us are pondering what we've gained, what we've learned, and most of all what is important to us. None of us know what the "new normal" will be but the question is what will your work model look like?

Stay safe and be well.

Stephanie Jones, DVM
President



Newsletter

August 2020

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Membership Information

Enjoy the camaraderie and top-notch continuing education offered by the BCVMA! We offer five great CE meetings per year, a newsletter, and the best Holiday Party in South Florida! Membership is \$130 yearly.

You can join or renew by visiting our website: www.BrowardCountyVMA.com or e-mail bcvma@mail.com for more information. We look forward to seeing you!

Vet Directory

Please visit our website [Veterinary Directory page](#) to view our compendium of local resources. If you'd like to add your information to this list, please email Laura at Lcarran@gmail.com.

2020 State of Florida DBPR Veterinary Board Meetings

The Board of Veterinary Medicine meets throughout the year at different locations throughout the state.

Attending any of these meetings will earn you up to five CE law credits and will teach you what really transpires in Disciplinary Procedures that the Board considers. You will benefit by learning how to abide by state DBPR regulations and how to avoid being disciplined because of a violation.

Friday, September 11, 2020 at 9:00 am
Stuart, FL

Please contact Linda Tinsley with any questions: linda.tinsley@myfloridalicense.com

IT'S TIME TO TAKE A BREATHER

Share Your Self-Care Ideas

We would love to hear what activities our members are doing with their staff to promote self-care and wellbeing during the pandemic.

You can post on the [BCVMA Facebook page](#) or [email us](#) and we will compile your ideas and share them with our members.



Upcoming Continuing Education

In person continuing education meetings are still on hold for now. With the current state of Covid 19 in South Florida, we are not going to have in person Bcvma meetings. We will be following local government ordinances and CDC guidelines. We hope to restart in person, dinner meetings at the Fort Lauderdale Country Club possibly by October, but we have to wait and see for the Country club and the county to give guidelines on meetings. In the mean time, there are plenty of online CE options that are free for the most part. Visit the website and get on email list for [Vetgirl](#), [Pet Poison Control](#), [Idexx](#), [Zoetis](#), [Clinicians Brief](#), [Assisi Vet](#), [USDA Vet CE](#), [Blue Pearl](#), [AVMA](#), [Nutramax](#), [Purina Institute](#), [SignalPET](#), and [Biogal labs](#).

Idexx Complimentary CE

The ABCs of the CBC

Presented by Dr. Dennis B DeNicola, DVM, PhD, DACVP

Wednesday August 19 at 7 pm

[Register Online](#)

Ophthalmology lecture, Dr. Dylan Buss DVM, MS, DACVO

Wednesday October 14 at 7 pm

(expected to be in person at Fort Lauderdale Country Club).

Nutramax Lecture

Wednesday November 4 at 7 pm

(expected to be in person at Fort Lauderdale Country Club).

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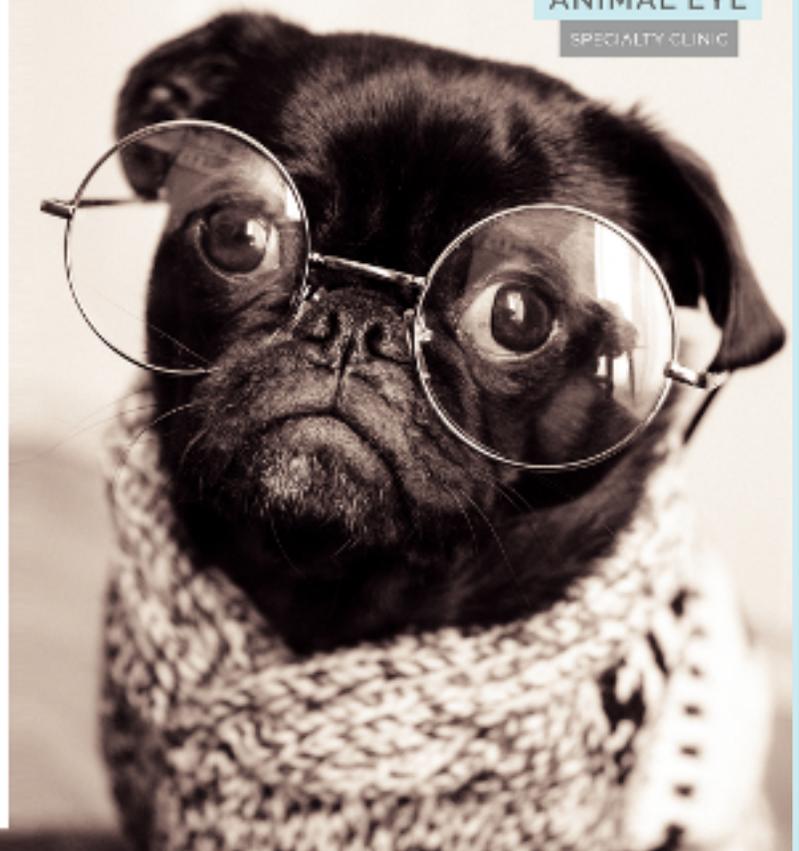
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PETS HELP THE HEART HEAL

Reading With Pets Across the Nation



Saturday, August 8th, 2020
12:00 pm EDT/9:00 am PDT
Instagram Live



Pets Help The Heart Heal is going Instagram live with its first Reading With Pets Across the Nation. Each month kids from all over will be reading to Dr. Jones and Max. The vision is to have kids of all ages from all around the world read to pets in different locations. This is a great opportunity for veterinarians, vet students, and vet techs to get involved. Visit www.petshelptheheartheal.org or email at drsdjones@petshelptheheartheal.org if you want to be a part of this literacy initiative.



Meet the Gambro Prismaflex and How it May Help Your Patient

Seth Ghantous, DVM, DACVIM
LeadER Animal Specialty Hospital

Meet the Gambro Prismaflex and How it May Help Your Patient

LeadER have been providing specialty care for Southern Florida since 1996. Of the large variety of cases seen on a daily basis, many involve kidney disease, toxicities and autoimmune diseases. Although many of these animals can be managed traditionally (IV fluids, decontamination procedures, specific antidotes, immunosuppressive drugs) there are those that cannot and will not survive without more advanced therapy. The Prismaflex provides continuous renal replacement which is ideal for small critically ill veterinary patients. However, its capabilities are not limited to hemodialysis as it can also provide plasmapheresis, hemoperfusion, and slow continuous ultrafiltration (SCUF). These are exciting methods of hemopurification and can help animals with otherwise untreatable toxicities, and refractory autoimmune disease. Additionally, the machine can provide slow continuous ultrafiltration which may be beneficial in treating cases of refractory heart failure.

Hemodialysis has been the most common use of extracorporeal therapies in veterinary medicine. Its application in veterinary species is generally for short term use to support patients after having an acute kidney injury that is thought to carry a favorable chance of recovery. It is generally not used in a chronic setting but there have been exceptions to this with some canine patients receiving chronic therapy for a year or more. Hemodialysis can also be used to remove small molecular weight toxins with small volumes of distribution and limited protein binding.

The Prismaflex can also be used to perform hemoperfusion which is a technique where blood is passed through a charcoal filter (or other specially created sorbent) to remove toxins that are too large or protein bound to be removed with a traditional filter used for hemodialysis.

When protein binding exceeds 95%, and/or in substances with molecular weights greater than 50,000 daltons, plasma exchange (aka plasmapheresis) may provide a better option for hemopurification. This technique involves passing the blood through a plasmafilter. In some cases, the filtered plasma is discarded and replaced with donor plasma while in others the filtered plasma is returned to the animal.



Meet the Gambro Prismaflex and How it May Help Your Patient

Seth Ghantous, DVM, DACVIM
LeadER Animal Specialty Hospital

Potential toxins that could be removed using hemodialysis vs hemoperfusion vs plasmapheresis would include but would not be limited to; NSAIDs, acetaminophin, alcohols, beta blockers, diltiazem, digoxin, procainamide, theophylline, enrofloxacin, amikacin, gentamicin, chloramphenicol, barbiturates, levitiracetam, vincristine, vinblastine, methotrexate, doxorubicin, cisplatin, carboplatin, insulin, caffeine, iron, aluminum, organophosphates, amanitin, colchicine, tramadol, tricyclic antidepressants, fluoxetine, chlorpromazine. For each substance the best modality for therapy would be determined by considering the molecular weight, degree of protein binding, and volume of distribution of each individually.

Autoimmune diseases as a whole are some of the most frequently encountered diseases in small animals. These syndromes can be difficult to control and the medications used for their therapy can have serious side effects. Plasmapheresis has been used to manage autoimmune disease in humans and efficacy has been demonstrated in myasthenia gravis, Guillain- Barre Syndrome, multiple sclerosis, glomerulonephritis, immune mediated thrombocytopenia, and Crohn's disease. More recently veterinarians have been using plasmapheresis to treat autoimmune disease including immune mediated hemolytic anemia, immune mediated thrombocytopenia and myasthenia gravis with exciting results.

Slow continuous ultrafiltration has been used in people to treat heart disease that has become resistant to diuretics and other traditional therapies. In the setting, there is no hemopurification taking place, but instead the machine is used to remove excess water from the patient. This may then allow the cardiac muscle to regain function it could not otherwise.

BIO

Dr. Seth Ghantous spent 18 months of training in the principles of extracorporeal therapies and their veterinary applications from University of California at Davis. He then spent 2 years working with Dr. Jerry Thornhill - one of the pioneers of nephrology in veterinary medicine and was one of the firsts to perform hemodialysis on a companion animal in 1972. It is our hope that this combination of experience, training and enthusiasm will enable [LeadER](#) to continue to provide progressive and cutting edge therapy that the referring community and animal owners have grown to expect. It is our vision that this service would be available 24 hours per day and 365 days per year. If you have a patient that you think would benefit from this therapy or there are questions that arise, please don't hesitate to call.

Working Together To Provide Quality Medicine For Our Patients



Robert Swinger, DVM, DACVO
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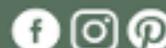
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FVMA Update from Dr. Robert Swinger FVMA District 6 Representative

Dear Colleagues,

It is with excitement that I share with you my appointment to the FVMA Board as your District VI Representative. This opportunity to serve our veterinary community came to me because of someone's extraordinary accomplishments; Dr. Marta Lista vacated this seat to become the President-Elect of the FVMA. Dr. Lista has served District VI for the past 5 years and been an instrumental advocate of veterinary medicine on both the state and local levels. Please join me in congratulating her of this prestigious honor when you next see her!

What a challenging 2020 this continues to be; and what a professional community we continue to build, support, and activate. Our profession has remained "essential" by adjusting to the new "normal" – curbside veterinary medicine. This has allowed us to provide services to our patients – while protecting ourselves and our staff from danger. You have done an amazing job; DO NOT FORGET to remind your staff how amazing they are – how hard they work – and maybe offer a few rewards this summer for their dedication to the profession as they sweat and tear during this stressful summer season.

Many events have been cancelled or made "virtual" this year BUT the FVMA has made no plans to reschedule The Gulf Atlantic Veterinary Conference (TGAVC; Boca Raton Resort & Club, Boca Raton; December 3-6). God willing, this conference will be held live, following all CCD recommendations if applicable. I encourage you, if safe and appropriate, to support the FVMA and come participate in this annual conference!

Also, the FVMA continues to develop and make plans for our new headquarters in Orlando. A location has been nearly secured and plans are underway to build a state-of-the-art facility, that will offer a plethora of opportunities for members, including continuing education and "industrial support" modules. I will keep you posted on these developments throughout the year!

As we charge ahead, I encourage you to remain steadfast and compliant with governmental recommendations; do not forget that we remain ESSENTIAL and must respect the system and do our best to protect others. Be safe, continue to wash and clean, and protect yourselves. Together, we can make it through this dark time.

The FVMA has been a true powerhouse this spring, ensuring your ability to continuing working during these times. If you are not already a member, I encourage you to get involved – they are here FOR YOU. If you have any questions or concerns that I can help address, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Take care,

Rob Swinger, DVM, DACVO



Humane Society of Broward County

17 Nashville Songwriters and Artists Release 'Rock and Roll Over'

A Tribute to Their Favorite Dogs;

Each Song Highlights a Breed For Keeping it Paws-itive

Download and donate to support the Humane Society of Broward County

In a shout-out to man's best friend, 17 Nashville songwriters and artists have banded together to release "Rock and Roll Over," a showcase tribute album featuring original songs, one for each major breed.

Dog lovers can download their favorite songs for free by donating to the animal shelter nearest them. The Humane Society of Broward County is one of just 21 shelters nationwide that will benefit from this unique endeavor. Each shelter received a video PSA featuring their specific pets in need of adoption, synched to the song, "Mutts will Rule the World," by artist Steve Rempis:

They're in the shelters and alleyways

There's plenty of us to be found

Open your heart and come rescue us

There's no better friend to be found

"Rock and Roll Over" was written, recorded and produced entirely in lockdown with the artists' barking sidekicks nearby. The recent Nashville Sessions were co-produced by Steve McWilliams and Debra Buonaccorsi (The Truehearts) and Dave Coleman, with contributions from Bob Lewis, Mike Younger, Megan Palmer, Jason Quicksall, Jamie Rubin, David Conrad, Rebecca Weiner Tompkins, Meghan Hayes, Irakli Gabriel, Anana Kaye, Steve Rempis, Mark Robinson, and Jimmy Catlett.

The production was inspired and sponsored by marketing agency Moosylvania, to share the joy and love of dogs and support adoption during this challenging time.

"These artists have all been directly affected by the pandemic in terms of cancelled shows and tours," said Norty Cohen, founder of St. Louis-based Moosylvania, "and this project gave them the opportunity to showcase their creativity while helping shelters raise money nationwide.

"We're highlighting the ones who need adoption by rocking the joy our dogs bring to us every day," Cohen said.

Approached by Cohen and producer/artist Steve McWilliams of The Truehearts in early April on a group Zoom call, the artists were tasked with writing about specific breeds and submitting them for consideration on the album.

"They asked whose point of view they should write from – the dogs or their owners?" Cohen said. "I told them to be creative and surprise us. And they did."

"Everyone brought something special to it – and each one captures the absolute joy of the breed," said McWilliams, who together with his partner, Debra Buonaccorsi, have a house full of dogs, cats and even music about dog breeds.



Humane Society of Broward County



Along with herding up songs for each breed, the duo contributed to two songs on the album, "Berners," about a Bernese, and an anthem for the album titled, "Dog By Your Side." Megan Palmer and Jason Quicksall made sure they included Cohen's own dog, a three-year-old Doodle named Doc, on their song, "He's a Poodle":

He's a poodle and he's oodles of fun

He would doodle if he had any thumbs

"This project quickly took on a life of its own," McWilliams said. "The songwriters and musicians just jumped at the chance and I am truly amazed at the quality and passion that they have shown with their work."

"Not only are they dog lovers, but these artists are always looking for a chance to contribute to things in a positive way. Most, if not all, of those involved in this project have dogs or were dog owners at one time. Sometimes we even call this town Dogville because everybody seems to have one."

"There's something in this album for everyone," Cohen said.

For example, Bob Lewis' song, "That's My Retriever," captures the Golden Retriever's personality in one of the verses:

No one could have told me / You'd be by my side

I never would have guessed / How much I needed you as a friend

"Thanks to the work of these wonderfully talented artists we are able to help the pets in our care who need and depend on us, but also help support people who are experiencing their own difficulties and challenges due to the current global pandemic," said Sarah Javier, executive director of the Animal Protective Association of Missouri.

"It's important to be able to share this project with others, especially during this time when positivity and connection are so needed. As animal lovers know in their hearts, pets are friends forever," Javier said.

Visit [JustFurrFun.com](https://www.justfurrfun.com) for more information; the site automatically connects dog lovers to the shelters nearest them. Visitors can donate and download their favorite songs from the website.

Connect:

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YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2_EgOvy46VdTf8avdZofIQ Just Furr Fun (Channel name)

TikTok: <https://www.tiktok.com/@justfurrfun?lang=en> @JustFurrFun



"Rock and Roll Over" track list:

Anthem— "Dog by Your Side"

The Truehearts (Steve McWilliams and Debra Buonaccorsi)

Great Dane— "King of The Pack"

Mike Younger

Dachshund— "Do the Dachs-Hound"

Bob Lewis (co-writer Phill Price)

Bulldog— "Your Forever Friend"

Barky Jones (Irakli Gabriel and Anana Kaye)

Retriever— "That's My Retriever"

Bob Lewis

Basset Hound— "Wooooo All Day"

Barky Jones (Irakli Gabriel and Brett Ryan Stewart)

Mutts— "Mutts Will Rule The World"

Steve Rempis

Pit Bull— "Pit Bulls Rock"

Jimmy Catlett

Bernese Mountain Dog— "Berner"

The Truehearts (Steve McWilliams and Debra Buonaccorsi)

Terrier— "I'm a Terrier"

Mark Robinson



Labrador— "My Labrador Retriever"

David Conrad and Rebecca Weiner Tompkins

Shih Tzu— "Little Lion"

Steve Rempis

Greyhound— "Blue 'Bama Brindle"

Meghan Hayes

Chihuahua— "I, Chihuahua"

David Conrad and Rebecca Weiner Tompkins

Poodles/Doodles— "He's A Poodle"

Megan Palmer and Jason Quicksall

Beagle— "I'm Your Beagle"

Jamie Rubin

Shepherd— "The Shepherd"

Megan Palmer and Jason Quicksall

*Additional instrumentation by Steve McWilliams,
Dave Coleman and Ryan Rogers.*





Classifieds & Advertising

This newsletter is published bi-monthly by the Broward County Veterinary Medical Association, Inc., 2801 E. Commercial Blvd., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33308.

Editorial Guidelines: Letters and articles are welcome. All submissions must be signed and the author's name will be published. Entries must be received 7 days prior to the publication date.

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