



The Louisiana Veterinarian

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President's Report



Greetings from Acadiana!

Spring is here, and with it comes a multitude of activities and deadlines. I hope that you all enjoyed a wonderful Easter and you

continue to enjoy the Festival season Louisiana is so fortunate to enjoy. This time of year always feels hectic and busy around my house, and for good reason! Business matters coupled with extra curricular activities and family events makes for exciting and sometimes exhausting days. I hope that you are able to navigate this season with purpose and the same sense of gratitude I feel when I stop long enough to ponder such matters.

I was elated to be invited to participate in the Coating Ceremony at LSU this spring. It was an honor to celebrate the next group of veterinary students as they progressed to clinical rotations. What an exciting time in

their lives. I look forward to the stories we will hear from these students as they progress through their training.

I love any opportunity to lift up the members of our great profession and am now looking forward to celebrating the graduation of the newest veterinarians in our state. Please join me in welcoming these new graduates as they become our colleagues! Well done Class of 2023!

The Louisiana state 2023 legislative session is in full swing. The LVMA Board, together with our lobbyists are actively watching out for any legislation that may affect veterinarians. The communications shared with our elected officials enables us to guide them in the best interest of our profession. Support our efforts by donating to the LVMA PAC: https://lvma.org/Main/LVMA/Political_Action_Committee.aspx

Early Bird registration for the Southwest Veterinary Symposium is open! Advancing education is important for our profession and the LVMA is a proud supporter of the SWVS. If you have never attended, I

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encourage you to visit this year! You won't be disappointed. Be sure and save the date for this year's meeting scheduled for September 21-24, 2023, in San Antonio, Texas! I hope to see you there.

The next LVMA Board meeting is scheduled for April 23rd. Make sure that your membership is up to date and all of the contact information we have is current by visiting [LVMA.org](https://lvma.org).

Warmest regards,



Kimberly Little, DVM
President, LVMA



Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Host	Location	For More Info
July 14 - 18, 2023	AVMA Convention	AVMA	Denver, CO	www.avma.org
Sept. 21 - 24, 2023	SWVS	SWVS	San Antonio, TX	www.swvs.org
Jan. 26 - 28, 2024	2024 Winter Meeting	LVMA	Shreveport, LA	www.lvma.org



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Melanie Talley, CAE

Submit articles and advertisements to the LVMA office as follows:

Jan./Feb. Newsletter	January 15th
March/April Newsletter	March 15th
May/June Newsletter	May 15th
July/Aug. Newsletter	July 15th
Sept./Oct. Newsletter	September 15th
Nov./Dec. Newsletter	November 15th

Executive Director's Report

It is hard to believe that we are already in the second quarter of the year – crazy how fast time passes but note that your LVMA Office is hard at work implementing new initiatives and continuing the protection of the veterinary profession at the legislative level. By the time you read this, our legislators will officially be back in session and to date, we are only looking at a few bills that will impact the veterinary profession. The LVMA's lobbying team and volunteers will continue to work hard to represent the interests of veterinarians and protect the profession. Always feel free to reach out to get an update on this effort.

The Board will be meeting this month to discuss new initiatives including the Mentoring Program as well as a Strategic Planning Session we will hold at our meeting in September. We are excited to look for directives to steer the future of LVMA! Stay tuned for more updates.

Another springtime and summer activity at the LVMA is the preparation of the budget for the upcoming fiscal year beginning on September 1, 2023 and ending on August 31, 2024. Any requests for funding by the LVMA that are anticipated during that period of time should be submitted prior to May 31, 2023 using an LVMA budget request form. The Board is scheduled to meet in July to adopt the budget, as well as conduct other business. This is an important process that your Treasurer Dr. Peyroux takes very seriously in maintaining the financial sustainability of the LVMA. Please reach out if you have any questions regarding this process.

Take care,

Melanie Talley, CAE
Executive Director

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ABBY'S Plan

Individual thinkers deserve individual business insurance.

Your veterinary practice is as individual as the animals you treat, so don't settle for a one-size fits all business insurance plan. You deserve a plan custom designed to address your specific needs.

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American National is a group of companies writing a broad array of insurance products and services. Products and services may not be available in all states. Terms, conditions and eligibility requirements will apply. Property and casualty products and services may be underwritten in Louisiana by ANPAC Louisiana Insurance Company, Springfield, Missouri.

19-314914.V1.12.19



Classifieds

Small animal practice located in central Louisiana seeking associate veterinarian. Fitzgerald Animal Hospital has provided comprehensive animal care to the citizens of Alexandria for forty years. This full-time/part-time position is available to experienced veterinarians and new graduates alike. Position includes excellent benefits, no emergency, paid CE and competitive salary at an AAHA accredited practice. Interested candidates please contact Dr. Guillory at 318-445-6428 or bmgullory@aol.com. Fax resumes to 318-442-8309.

Southwestern LA: Small animal practice with 1-acre of real estate. 2021 gross revenue over \$718K. Fully renovated and beautifully maintained facility of approximately 3,100 SF. Equipped with digital X-rays, ultrasound, and cutting-edge laboratory equipment. [Listing Code: LA3] Contact: PS Broker, 800.636.4740, info@psbroker.com, www.psbroker.com

For Sale: Well respected solo small animal practice, with established clientele, in south Lafayette. Real estate available, 2,400 square foot building with 3 exam rooms, fully equipped, with room to grow! For more information text 337-288-0411 or email dav_org@msn.com.

Lafourche Animal Hospital is actively looking for a full-time associate. We offer mixed animal services for Lafourche Parish and beyond. Our clinic has digital radiography, Idexx in-house lab suite, and ultrasound. This is a salaried position with great benefits. If interested, please send a resume to lafourcheanimalhospital@yahoo.com.

Seeking a motivated Associate Veterinarian to join our growing family-oriented practice in Bossier City, LA. Mixed Animal Practice, 90% small. FT/PT position available to experienced veterinarians and new graduates alike. Extremely competent support staff that make practicing medicine enjoyable. Competitive Salary depending on experience, production %, Simple IRA, professional dues, malpractice, CE, and Paid Vacation. Please Contact Dr. Michael Thomas or Christina Mjaseth at 318-747-9150 or email resumes to vikingdrvh@gmail.com.

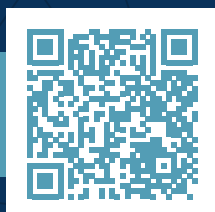
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We are excited to announce the MedVet CE Conference in New Orleans is back and in-person!

Attendees will learn about:

- ✓ Cardiology
- ✓ Oncology
- ✓ Critical Care
- ✓ Rehabilitation
- ✓ Internal Medicine
- ✓ Surgery
- ✓ Neurology
- ✓ And more!

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9:00 am - 5:00 pm CDT

Registration open at 8:00 am



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AVMA ENDORSES FEDERAL LEGISLATION TO ADDRESS ILLICIT XYLAZINE

A newly proposed law backed by the AVMA would help combat the emerging threat posed by illicit xylazine while protecting veterinary access to this important animal sedative.

The Combating Illicit Xylazine Act was introduced into Congress on Tuesday, culminating weeks of work by the AVMA and other important stakeholders. The bill's provisions would equip law enforcement with additional tools to stop xylazine trafficking while maintaining veterinarians' ability to legitimately use xylazine.

It strikes the right balance of protecting our communities while preserving veterinary access to this critically important animal drug.

If it becomes law, the legislation will make the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, or possession of illicit xylazine subject to Schedule III penalties under the federal Controlled Substances Act. Illicit use of xylazine includes any use, or intended use, in people and would address any diversion of xylazine from veterinary sources. At the same time, **the legitimate veterinary uses would remain under their current prescription status.**

Highlights of the Combating Illicit Xylazine Act

- Manufacture, distribution, dispensing, and possession of illicit xylazine would be subject to Schedule III penalties, engaging the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and allowing for harsher punishments when xylazine is handled illegally.
- The legitimate importation, manufacture, dispensing, and administration of xylazine for non-human species would not be subject to the restrictions and requirements of scheduling.
- Any diversion of xylazine from the veterinary supply chain for illicit use would be subject to the penalties of a Schedule III drug.
- Manufacturers and distributors would report sales of veterinary xylazine to the DEA through a tracking system that would identify unusual activity or changes in ordering patterns.
- The DEA would submit a report to Congress detailing the prevalence and impacts of illicit xylazine use in the United States.

Why are lawmakers looking at xylazine?

Illicit xylazine is increasingly showing up in street drugs as traffickers have begun mixing it with fentanyl and other narcotics. This potent combination poses grave health and safety risks to human users. Because xylazine isn't an opioid, its effects can't be reversed with the opioid-reversing drug naloxone, complicating the efforts of first responders and emergency physicians.

The AVMA does not believe there is substantial diversion of xylazine from veterinary channels, and the bill includes provisions to identify and address any that does occur. The AVMA will continue working with lawmakers, federal agencies, and stakeholders to help combat illicit xylazine while making clear the importance of xylazine in veterinary medicine and the need for veterinarians to continue to access it for the animals under our care.

"The AVMA fully supports this congressional effort to combat illicit xylazine," said AVMA President Dr. Lori Teller. "We urge Congress to pass the Combating Illicit Xylazine Act quickly as it strikes the right balance of protecting our communities while preserving veterinary access to this critically important animal drug."

The Combating Illicit Xylazine Act was introduced into Congress by Sens. Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.), Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa), and Maggie Hassan (D-N.H.); and Reps. Jimmy Panetta (D-Calif.), August Pfluger (R-Texas), Gus Bilirakis (R-Fla.), Ken Buck (R-Colo.), and Chris Pappas (D-N.H.).

How can you help?

There will be a time when the voices of individual veterinarians, team members, and animal owners will be crucial to secure passage of this important bill. The AVMA is actively engaged with the legislation's progress and will alert advocates through the Congressional Advocacy Network when you can have the greatest impact by reaching out to your members of Congress about the importance of xylazine in veterinary medicine and the urgency to pass the Combating Illicit Xylazine Act. In the meantime, sign up for the Congressional Advocacy Network to make sure you receive this notice.

Welcome New Members!

Bethanne Eddy
New Orleans, LA

Candice Galella
Metairie, LA

Jeff Marshall
Lacombe, LA

Samantha Freudenthal
Madisonville, LA

Kristy Hamilton Mounts
Ruston, LA

Jill Yates
Covington, LA

DO YOU WANT TO SEE YOUR ADS IN HERE?

VISIT WWW.LVMA.ORG UNDER THE NEWSLETTER TAB FOR OUR ADVERTISING RATES.
HAVE YOUR ADS SEEN BY VETERINARIANS ACROSS THE STATE.



Walter J. Ernst, Jr. Veterinary Memorial Foundation

Thanks to the following people, clinics, and all past contributors, the Dr. Walter J. Ernst, Jr. Veterinary Memorial Foundation continues to grow. Your continued support will help the Foundation to reach new heights. Please Consider a contribution today and encourage your clients to participate in our memorial program.

Donations in memory of pets:
"Timothy Gus", "Heidi", and "Lady Bells"
 Helouin Veterinary Hospital

All donations received will be recognized. Family members will receive a card notifying them of the donation and the individual or clinic that made the donation.



Healthcare Professionals' Foundation of Louisiana (HPFL)

About the HPFL

The Healthcare Professionals' Foundation of Louisiana is a non-profit organization that provides confidential services to various licensing boards and licensees in the healthcare industry. We are a voluntary advocacy and monitoring program that allows healthcare professionals with impairments or in need of medical treatment to avoid formal disciplinary actions by their licensing boards and obtain remediation in order to practice with skill and safety. Our main goals are to facilitate care to the licensees and improve efficiency to the licensing boards.

Services the HPFL Provides

Advocacy

We advocate and act as a liaison on the professional's behalf with employers, insurance carriers, and other state monitoring programs.

Education

Through our process licensees are provided psychoeducation regarding impairments, and the HPFL staff present information around the state to notify and educate licensees about our program.

Monitoring

Participants in our program have their compliance certified through screening, therapeutic treatments, and communication with the HPFL medical director and case managers.

Referrals

The HPFL receives referrals from multiple sources including but not limited to hospitals, colleagues, the LVBM, office staff, treatment centers, family, or friends. If you suspect impairment or have concerns for his/her safety or the safety of patients or employees, please contact us. Early intervention could save someone's life. In addition, we encourage self-referrals. If you are in need of assistance, please do not hesitate to call. Any professional who has not been treated or monitored previously by the HPFL can be a participant in the HPFL with a level of confidentiality.



Contact Us

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