Hi Everyone,

I hope you were able to join us in Lafayette, LA for the 2015 Winter Meeting. The meeting continues to be a great place to reconnect with colleagues in an enjoyable setting while earning quality continuing education at a fair price. I send a special thank you to the office staff and our executive director for their hard work in making the meeting as glitch-free as possible. One glitch you should check today: Some of the CE forms for Saturday, January 24th escaped without the validating signature. Please check your form today and contact the office for a replacement if needed.

Looking to the future, please mark your calendars for the 2016 meeting (January 29 – 31, 2016). Following a “continuous improvement strategy,” our new venue will be the Shreveport Convention Center. Volunteers are already actively recruiting some great speakers. A strong annual meeting keeps the association healthy and connected to its members. We hope to see you there!

As the incoming LVMA president, I pledge to honor and advance our mission. On behalf of our members, we will continue to monitor legislative and regulatory issues that impact animal health and the practice of veterinary medicine in Louisiana. Already on the agenda are new restrictions on the use of compounded medications in veterinary practice. We are actively engaged in gathering information on this issue and plan to communicate the unique needs and responsibilities of practicing veterinarians. This is an important issue, and by all accounts it will be a busy year. I would be remiss if I did not thank Dr. Sue Olivier, who has so ably guided the association as president over the preceding year. As veterinarians, we are all busy people, and Sue has been busier than most. I value her hard work, friendship, humor, attention to detail, and common sense.

Your membership is valued and important. Help us be the best association we can be. Add strength and energy to our association by reaching out to and recruiting new members. Provide information and feedback about issues facing your practice and the profession at large. Regardless of the challenges we face and despite any differences we may encounter, we are stronger, smarter and more effective when we work together. Thank you for being an LVMA member.

Sincerely,

Kirk Ryan

---

**2015 Membership Renewals**

Don’t forget to renew your membership for 2015!

You don’t want to miss out on all of the benefits LVMA has to offer.

There’s still time to renew.
If you have not received a membership renewal form in the mail, please contact the office at (225) 928-5862 or office@lvma.org.
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Gabe Van Brunt
DVM, DACVO
The LVMA would like to welcome our newest members to the Association. We are excited to have you as part of our team; we can’t wait to show you everything we have to offer and look forward to your contributions to the veterinary profession.

WELCOME TO THE LVMA!

Dr. Joshua C. Ardoin; Ross U. 2014
Dr. Julia Coutin; LSU 2010
Dr. Savanna Culpepper;
Dr. Rebecca Dhuett; LSU 2014
Dr. Jennifer Given; UGA 2013
Dr. Denise Isralson;
Dr. Shawn Jones;
Dr. Daniel R. Lagarde; LSU 2010
Dr. Shannon Landry;
Dr. Wesley Louis Lee; LSU 2012
Dr. Ashley Leggitt; LSU 2010
Dr. Kimberly Little; MS State 2009

Dr. Alyce Leger Marks; LSU 2009
Dr. Meghan J. McGraw; SGU 2014
Dr. Kathleen Mullins; MSU 2006
Dr. Rosanne Peters; U. of IL 2005
Dr. Andrea G. Poole;
Dr. Lindsay Rozman; Purdue 2014
Dr. Adrienne Stelly; LSU 2012
Dr. Mary Thomason; SGU 2014
Dr. Barbara Thompson; LSU 1985
Dr. Michael Whitlock; LSU 1996
Dr. Michelle Woodward;
Dr. Caroline Young; U. of TN 2012

Submit articles and advertisements to the LVMA office as follows:
January/February Newsletter December 15th
March/April Newsletter February 15th
May/June Newsletter April 15th
July/August Newsletter June 15th
September/October Newsletter August 15th
November/December Newsletter October 15th
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Calendar year 2014 turned out to be a great year for the LVMA.....the traditional great leadership from the Officers and Board of Directors, a successful Winter Meeting, a quiet hurricane season and record profits from the Southwest Veterinary Symposium. 2015 is shaping up as every bit as good, if not better!

The 2015 Winter Meeting in Lafayette was a great success with over 500 total attendees and over 350 veterinarian registrants. The first-ever nighttime continuing education program by Dr. John Mauterer was a great success and several programs enjoyed standing room only attendance. Please put the 2016 Winter Meeting at the Shreveport Convention Center, January 28-31, 2016, on your calendars today!

I would like to thank Dr. Sue Olivier for her leadership and good humor throughout the year. Congratulations to 2016 President Dr. Kirk Ryan, President-elect Dr. Trisha Marullo, and Vice-President Dr. Marion Sewell, as well as new Board members Drs. Frank Fitzgerald, John Mauterer, Christie McHughes, and Paul Ritch on their elections! Thanks also to past Treasurer Dr. Amy Grayson, past President and District 3 Representative Dr. David McGraw, past District 6 Representative and Dr. Walter J. Ernst, Jr Veterinary Memorial Foundation President Dr. Carl Helouin, and past Member-at-Large Dr. Edwin Davis for your great service! I feel very fortunate to serve a leadership group with such talent, intelligence, energy and dedication. Thanks to all of our volunteer leaders, past, present and future for your service! If you are not yet among that number, please do not hesitate to contact me or one of the LVMA Board members to express interest.

The legislative season will soon be upon us and 2016 is an election year. Department of Agriculture and Forestry Commissioner Mike Strain, DVM continues to watch over legislative matters affecting veterinary medicine and is a huge factor in protecting the integrity of the profession in Louisiana. He generously provides LVMA with wise and insightful counsel regarding legislative and regulatory matters whenever asked. Please offer him and his election campaign your support, including financially!

Stay well and stay connected!

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The 2015 Winter Meeting in Lafayette was a success! The meeting featured 22 hours of continuing education for veterinarians and 10 hours for technicians. Sessions included Companion Animal, Practice Management, Large Animal and Veterinary Technician, and all covered a broad range of topics from “Vestibular Syndromes” to “Online Reviews: Dealing with Negativity & Nastiness” to “Fungal Diseases of the Skin.”

The exhibit hall featured 58 booths and provided entertainment and networking for attendees during breaks. Among the exhibitors were our meeting sponsors. Thanks to all of those that helped to make this year’s meeting a success.

Kirk Ryan assumed the role of President, replacing Dr. Sue Olivier. The newly elected LVMA Board of Directors is as follows: Dr. Kirk Ryan, President; Dr. Trisha Marullo, President-Elect; Dr. Marion Sewell, Vice President; Dr. Sue Olivier, Immediate Past President; Dr. Dale Peyroux, Treasurer; Dr. Glen Ritter, District 1; Dr. James Rundell, District 2; Dr. Frank Fitzgerald, District 3; Dr. Matt Traylor, District 4; Dr. Paul Ritch, District 7; Dr. Christie McHughes, Member-at-Large. Also elected was a new Board of Trustees for the Dr. Walter J. Ernst, Jr. Veterinary Memorial Foundation. Inducted were: Dr. Gordon Pirie, President; Dr. Richard Lefebvre, Vice President; Dr. Jacqueline Simon, Treasurer; and Dr. Anne Guedry, Trustee.

The 2014 LVMA Awards were also presented during the meeting. The recipients of those awards were: Dr. Wendy Wolfson, Everett D. Besch Distinguished Service Award; Dr. Warren Joubert, Veterinarian of the Year; Erin Jordan, Support Person of the Year; “Kyra” owned by Sgt. Larry Bolden, Pet of the Year; and Danielle Lane, Salesperson of the Year.

Thanks to everyone that participated in the 2015 Winter Meeting. It would not have been as successful without all of your commitment to veterinary medicine.

Special Thanks to the 2015 LVMA Winter Meeting Exhibitors and Sponsors

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Mark your calendar for the 2016 Winter Meeting
January 28—31, 2016
Shreveport, LA
I have always said that the general practitioner has one of the hardest jobs in veterinary medicine because you have to be everything for your clients. This can be intimidating as more and more information is available, not only to practitioners, but to clients as well. In the last decade, the internet has become an increasingly useful resource for veterinarians providing access to a plethora of information on diseases, diagnostics, support services, and aids for client education and pet care at home. While everything published on the internet needs to be viewed critically, there are some resources that I have found to be very helpful in my neurology practice.

A full description of these resources is beyond the scope of this article, however I will make available a more complete list of links at www.neurologynetworks.com/node/102

- **Disease information**
  - Cases coming to my neurology service are rarely straightforward. In particularly puzzling cases, I may first reach for pubmed.com to look for peer-reviewed articles and case reports that might provide insight. I next reach for the message boards on vin.com to see if there have been anecdotal reports of cases that might have correlation with a case I’m working on. As a last resort, I might look to Google.com for an internet-wide search including human diseases. We will need to interpret any information very critically as we all know some resources are more reliable than others. The internet is most valuable for providing a general deductive guide. Area specialists can be invaluable to evaluate what has been ruled out and what you’re suspecting once this level of research has taken place.

- **Diagnostic and treatment information**
  - I see many diseases that require special tests. The Comparative Neuromuscular Laboratory, PenGenn, and the Missouri Canine Genetic Testing center are examples of outside diagnostic services we might use more often. PenGenn offers a search function that allows us to look worldwide for breed and disease-specific tests that might be available. In addition to special diagnostics, I will use the internet to help me try to locate special treatments like facilities offering SRS for brain tumors and institutions offering clinical studies or other unique approaches to tough diseases like glial cell tumors, genetic diseases, or very chronic spinal cord injury.

- **Resources for clients**
  - There are many resources I refer clients to for help after they leave our care at MedVet. This can include links to demonstration videos, support groups, drug pricing, supplies for paralyzed dogs, and much more. I have listed many of my favorite sites that you too can use for your clients.

- **Continuing education**
  - There are so many resources to help with continued learning of neurology. Some may provide continuing education credit while others are very useful for learning or reviewing clinical neurology. The Cornell Neurology Video website is an example of a great resource for videos illustrating a wide variety of different neurological problems. Reviewing these videos can help the general practitioner more rapidly recognize certain neurological syndromes from improving pattern recognition skills.

Recognizing the need for quick access to a variety of useful internet resources for veterinary neurological practice, I have started building a page of links to useful information for veterinary neurologists and the general practitioner. What was initially intended to be a study aid for the neurology board exam, the site will be transitioning to a more generalized practical resource for veterinarians. Please feel free to contact me with suggestions for further content or if you find any errors!

While this article focuses on internet resources, I want to reiterate the easy resource you have accessible through your regional specialists. I welcome phone calls and e-mails with questions about cases and am always willing to help veterinarians as much as I am able to even for cases that cannot refer. You can reach me through MedVet New Orleans (504-835-8508), MedVet Mandeville (985-626-4862), or by email (neuro.nola@medvetforpets.com and krupkapeters@gmail.com).
WALTER J. ERNST, JR. VETERINARY MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

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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.

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Greetings:

I hope this note finds everyone and their families well.

I attended the AVMA Veterinary Leadership Conference and House of Delegates Winter Session in the very cold and windy city of Chicago January 8-11, 2015. It was -4F with a 25 mph wind blowing down Michigan Ave. For a South Louisiana boy that is too cold. It was a very informative session, and a number of amendments and resolutions were approved, and a few disapproved.

I was assigned to reference committee #7 concerning Scientific Activities that met prior to the House of Delegates general session. The committee approved some changes to Resolutions #4-2015, #5-2015, #6-2015

Resolution #4-2015, Policy on Antimicrobial use Guidelines for Companion Animal Practice: This new policy states: “The AVMA supports the development and promulgation of antimicrobial use guidelines for companion animal practitioners as a resource to improve antimicrobial stewardship in companion animal practice. Guidelines such as these should not be construed as dictating an exclusive course of treatment or procedure. Variations in practice may be warranted based on factors unique to the patient, client, veterinary practice, in accordance with best clinical judgment. Members should recognize that there may be variability in the availability and recommended use of certain antimicrobial drugs among countries. Therefore, any such guidelines should be reviewed by the issuing body at least every 5 years and updated as necessary.”

This policy does not prevent review sooner if necessary. This policy was approved for consideration by the HOD by the AVMA Board of Directors, The House Advisory Committee, and by our Reference Committee #7. This Resolution passed the HOD with 95% voting to approve.

Resolution #5-2015, Policy on Antimicrobial use Guidelines for treatment of Urinary tract Disease in Dogs and Cats and,

Resolution #6-2015, Policy on Antimicrobial use Guidelines for the Treatment of Canine Superficial Folliculitis. Both of these resolutions were approved for HOD consideration, but were disapproved by the HOD members voting by 56.7% and 62.5% respectively to disapprove.

Bylaws Amendment 1-2015, Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities was approved by the HOD with 100% voting to approve.

Bylaws Amendment 2-2015, AVMA Mission Statement was passed with 86.9% of the HOD voting to approve. The mission of the Association is to lead the profession by advocating for its members and advancing the science and practice of veterinary medicine to improve animal and human health.

The new Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics policy also was developed with extensive member input. It was approved after the House amended it to remove one sentence, which read: “It is acceptable for the consulting veterinarian to communicate directly with clients when performed in collaboration with the attending veterinarians.” Supporters of the amendment were concerned that the statement could be used to bypass the Veterinarian-Client Patient Relationship (VCPR), particularly in the case of online consultation. You can log in to the AVMA website to review this and all other resolutions and amendments.

It was my pleasure to attend two motivational talks that I would highly recommend to all.

The first was presented by Dr. Lance Fox, a veterinarian that climbed Mount Everest. His talk titled No Place but UP really make you think what is possible if you really want it. “Everyone will face a challenge in life. Sometimes the challenge may be small, other times significant, yet it is not the challenge which will define you but rather how you cope with it, and ultimately what you learn from it.”

The second talk was by Carey Lohrenz, the first female Navy F-14 fighter pilot, titled Remaining Relevant, she can definitely keep you from becoming complacent and extinct by ignoring warning signs (shifts in culture, trends, global demands, budget restrictions, etc.) She presented good ways to stay agile and adaptable, and how high performing teams become excellent in business.

I want to thank the LVMA for allowing me to represent you in the AVMA House of Delegates. If you have any questions or concerns, I can be reached at (228) 493-6278 or by e-mail at RCGDVM@aol.com

I want to also encourage everyone to become more active in your local, state and national associations, the more we become involved the stronger we become.
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Case Report from the LSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital

Signalment and History: "Oreo," a 2 year old, male, neutered Maltese-Poodle mixed breed dog (Fig. 1), presented to LSU on December 21, 2014, with a history of head trauma after being hit by a car on December 18. Oreo was medically stabilized immediately after the trauma, and referred for advanced imaging after limited improvement occurred following appropriate medical treatment.

Clinical Evaluation: At LSU, Oreo appeared mentally alert and responsive but remained laterally recumbent and non-ambulatory. Frequent tremors, which worsened with stress, were observed. Hyperextension of the neck and forelimbs was noted in conjunction with flexion of the hindlimbs—a posture consistent with severe cerebellar injury (decerebellate rigidity). Cranial nerve examination revealed positional rotary and horizontal nystagmus with the fast phase to the right. No paraspinal pain was elicited. Spinal reflexes and postural reactions were not performed due to patient thrashing and rolling.

Oreo was hospitalized in the Intensive Care Unit. Supportive care was administered, including mannitol, analgesic therapy, and oxygen therapy. After 24 hours, Oreo was placed under general anesthesia for imaging.

Thoracic radiographs were unremarkable. Cervical spinal radiographs revealed multiple skull fractures of the caudal calvarium, but normal cervical spine (Fig. 2). A CT scan of the head revealed minimally displaced acute skull fractures of the left parietal, right temporal and both occipital bones consistent with vehicular head trauma (Fig. 3a, 3b). Brain herniation due to increased intracranial pressure was suspected. An MRI was performed to further assess the soft tissue structures of the brain and spinal cord.

MRI of the head and neck (Fig. 4) demonstrated moderate cerebellar edema, mild cerebral herniation through the acute fracture of the right temporal bone, fracture of the left parietal bone, and multiple fractures of the occipital bone. Mild cerebellar herniation, with crowding of the caudal fossa, compression of the fourth ventricle, and medullary kinking was also noted. Some of these changes were believed to be due to a pre-existing congenital/developmental conditions (e.g., caudal occipital malformation syndrome), but the marked changes in the cerebellum were due to trauma.

Outcome: Concurrent spinal trauma is common in cases of vehicular head trauma in dogs. Fortunately, in Oreo's case, spinal injuries were not present. Based on the results of CT scan, osseous abnormalities required no surgical intervention. Based on the MRI, Oreo continued to receive closely monitored treatment for increased intracranial pressure. The cerebellar injury highlighted by the MRI was expected to heal, but a lengthy recovery (and possibly incomplete recovery) was predicted based on the location, type, and scope of injury.

Oreo was hospitalized at LSU for 3 days and discharged on Christmas Eve. Physical therapy, rehabilitation, and acupuncture treatments played an important role in achieving a good outcome. At his last recheck appointment (after the New Year) Oreo showed significant progress in his neurological recovery, and three weeks later he was able to ambulate, although some ataxia is still present.

Continued on page 14
Welcome! The 84th Annual Conference for Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians will be held Saturday April 18, 2015 at the School of Veterinary Medicine. An optional 3 hours of ultrasound training is slated for Sunday, April 19th. For more information and to register on-line visit the SVM homepage (http://www1.vetmed.lsu.edu/svm/) or contact Paula Jones at 225-578-9825 or email: paulaj@lsu.edu.

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Associate Veterinarian wanted with a strong interest & experience in E.R. medicine & surgery to expand our hospital services to include late after-hour emergencies. We are an AAHA accredited and a well established practice located in Mandeville Louisiana. Send or email resume to: Michelle Cuffi Hospital Administrator & or Lee Capone DVM, Lakeshore Veterinary Hospital & Pet Lodge 155 Moores Road, Mandeville Louisiana 70471 (985)-626-5615 or lakeshorevetonline@gmail.com

A special thank you to Oreo’s family, Walters Animal Clinic and Sherwood South Animal Hospital for their referral and support of our hospital.

LSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital Skip Bertman Drive at River Road Baton Rouge, LA 70803 225-578-9600 (Small Animals) 225-578-9500 (Large Animals) www.vetmed.lsu.edu facebook.com/LSUVTH facebook.com/LSUSVM @LSUVetMed instagram.com/LSUVetMed
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**VetTech NEEDED - Shreveport** Practice is looking for a full time veterinary technician who thrives in a fun learning environment. 5 doctor, 3RVT, 20 support staff practice; small animal medicine. Competitive Pay and Benefits: medical and retirement and PTO. E-mail or mail a resume to: Catherine Foret, DVM, University Veterinary Hospital, 7700 East Kings Highway, Shreveport, LA 71115. universityvet@me.com. www.excellentalanimalcare.com.

**Immediate Opening for Full Time Veterinary Technicians.** Seeking full time veterinary technicians for a busy mixed animal practice in Rayne, LA. Competitively paid, 40hour work week. Benefits include paid CE, health insurance, and life insurance. Current need for 1 tech. Email dcs@dsmiths.us. Please contact Dr. Kirk Ryan: 225-578-9600, kryana@lsu.edu

Need a speaker for your local association meeting? Please contact the LSU Office of Veterinary Continuing Education for help scheduling a speaker & selecting a topic.

Contact: Paula Jones: 225-578-9825, paulaj@lsu.edu OR Dr. Kirk Ryan: 225-578-9600, kryana@lsu.edu

**Small Animal Emergency Clinic located in West Monroe, LA has an immediate opening for a full time veterinarian.** The position offers a very attractive base salary plus production percentage. Please e-mail resume to Tracy Miller at tracynm2001@gmail.com or mail it to 102 Downing Pines Road West Monroe, LA 71292.

**MedVet Mandeville:** 985 Highway, Shreveport, LA 71104, (318) 227-4087 or bmguillory@aol.com. University Veterinary Hospital, 7700 East Kings Highway, Shreveport, LA 71115. universityvet@me.com. www.excellentalanimalcare.com.

**Immediate Opening for Full Time Veterinary Technicians.** Seeking full time veterinary technicians for a busy mixed animal practice in Rayne, LA (twenty minutes west of Lafayette, LA). This is a well-established practice, equipped with the latest medical equipment: digital radiography, ultrasound, laser therapy, in house lab, etc. This practice offers boarding, grooming and performs a large number of surgeries as well as a variety of surgical procedures. Competitive pay and great working environment. Send or email resume to: Acadia Animal Medical Center, LLC, 284 Llama Road, Rayne, LA 70578. amc vets@gmail.com. www.acadiaanimalmedcenter.com. (337) 334-9632

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**MedVet New Orleans** opened in February 2013 and has experienced significant growth. We are expanding our clinical space to include new triage/examination and procedure areas, and a new ICU/ward. Our facilities contain advanced intensive care units with excellent technical support and monitoring equipment. MedVet’s collaborative approach to patient care provides support to the emergency medicine group by on rotating banner advertisement on the homepage of the website for an entire year. This is a great way to get your name out there! Contact the LVMA office for more information. (225) 928-5862, (800) 524-2996, office@lvma.org
**Veterinary Technician:** Southern Hills Animal Hospital is a well-established Veterinary Hospital that has been located in Shreveport Louisiana for over 28 years. Our highly successful and fast-paced hospital is currently seeking emergency and critical care technicians and technician assistants to become a part of our exceptional team. The ideal candidate must be detail-oriented, possess the ability to handle multiple tasks, highly skilled in nursing, compassionate, a team player and have strong organizational skills. This person(s) should also be patient, enthusiastic, have excellent verbal and written communication skills and be reliable. Currently we are hiring for F/T and P/T positions. Must be able to work weekends and be available for on call shifts as needed. Current Louisiana RVT preferred but not required. Our small animal hospital includes a professional staff of 5 veterinarians who provide post-graduate education to numerous groups of technician and veterinary students. We offer a highly competitive compensation package. If you have a desire to learn, expand and use your current knowledge of the veterinary field, please fax your resume to Kris at 318-686-2011 or email to sohillsvet@gmail.com.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Hosts</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>City, State</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas Veterinary Medical Association</td>
<td>ArVMA Winter Meeting</td>
<td>February 6—8, 2015</td>
<td>Hot Springs Convention Center</td>
<td>Hot Springs, AR</td>
<td>(501) 624-9200 <a href="http://www.arkvetmed.org">www.arkvetmed.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association</td>
<td>MVMA Winter Conference</td>
<td>February 26—28, 2015</td>
<td>MSU College of Veterinary Medicine</td>
<td>Clinton, MS</td>
<td>(662) 323-5057</td>
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<tr>
<td>Louisiana Academy of Veterinary Practice</td>
<td>Seminar—Feline Medicine</td>
<td>March 22, 2015</td>
<td>LSU SVM</td>
<td>Baton Rouge, LA</td>
<td>(985) 687-7242 <a href="http://www.laavp.org">www.laavp.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Louisiana Academy of Veterinary Practice</td>
<td>Seminar—Urology</td>
<td>April 6, 2015</td>
<td>LSU SVM</td>
<td>Baton Rouge, LA</td>
<td>(985) 687-7242 <a href="http://www.laavp.org">www.laavp.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Louisiana Academy of Veterinary Practice</td>
<td>Seminar—Toxicology</td>
<td>September 27, 2015</td>
<td>LSU SVM</td>
<td>Baton Rouge, LA</td>
<td>(985) 687-7242 <a href="http://www.laavp.org">www.laavp.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Animal Dermatology Clinic</td>
<td>3rd Annual Dermatology Forum for Veterinarians</td>
<td>October 1-4, 2015</td>
<td>Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort</td>
<td>Destin, FL</td>
<td>(949) 390-2990 x202 <a href="http://www.adannualderm.com">www.adannualderm.com</a></td>
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