

President's Report



The waters have finally receded and the reconstruction has begun. Everyone in the state has been touched by the flooding either themselves personally or through friends, family or clients. Many of us felt overwhelmed either by

being directly affected or by feeling “survivor guilt” for those who suffered such devastation. I think of the words of the ever wise, Ronald Reagan, when he said..... **“We can’t help everyone, but every one of us can help someone.”**

From the many calls from other State Associations and Organizations, to the volunteer donations of hay, food, and medicine by numerous pharmaceutical and feed companies, to veterinary clinics opening their doors so their flooded colleagues could continue to practice and take care of their clients, to the dedication of neighbors just pulling up their sleeves and stripping wet floors, drywall, etc., this disaster showcased the most important thing that makes Louisiana great, its people!!

Commendation must go out to the entire outstanding **LSART Team. Dr. Renee Poirrier, Dr. Martha Littlefield and Dr. Rebecca McConnico** commanded a team of students, veterinarians and volunteers who took a mammoth task and organized it into an incredibly well designed and efficient rescue machine. A very special thank you goes to the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, which was staged as Command Central, and to the Lamar Dixon Expo Center, Celtic Studios and the Baton Rouge River Center for opening their doors and arenas to house hundreds of people and pets that were displaced from this tragedy. It was truly touching to see the number of people who volunteered their time and energy to help so many temporarily homeless people and pets. The human spirit can illicit the greatest charity in the time of the greatest tragedy and this flood was a shining example of that quality.

I have spoken with some of you personally about the **Walter J. Ernst Fund** and the opportunities offered to veterinarians and their employees whose clinics or homes were affected by the flooding. If you have been affected, you can apply on the LVMA Website for low interest loans and grants. Please take advantage of this opportunity by clicking on the **WJE Link** on the

lower, right hand corner of the front page of the website.

In other news, as we look to the future, it is time to consider nominees for the **LVMA AWARDS**. Please see your newsletter or visit the LVMA website for application information. I am sure there are many people you know who are very deserving of gratitude and recognition for outstanding work and you may have been thinking, how can they be recognized? Here is the perfect opportunity to give them that recognition.

The **LVMA Winter Meeting** promises top notch speakers and will be in Baton Rouge this year from January 20th – 22nd. It will be at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Baton Rouge, so reserve your room early and take advantage of group rates- links are available on the website. Stay tuned to email alerts for registration announcements. Looking forward to seeing you all there!

God Bless,

Trisha C Marullo, DVM
LVMA President

Inside this issue:

President's Report	1
WJE, Jr. Foundation Contributions	3
2016 Award Nomination Forms	5-6
Canine Rehabilitation By: Kenneth Ransom, DVM, CCRP	9-10
Up Coming Events	13
Welcome New Members	13
Classifieds	15



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In memory of "Gracie Belle"*

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



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**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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2016 AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

2016 RALPH C. COOPER VETERINARIAN OF THE YEAR

2016 DR. EVERETT D. BESCH SERVICE AWARD

The Ralph C. Cooper Veterinarian of the Year Award is given annually to the person who is recognized by his or her colleagues as having given the most of themselves in time, energy, and ideas to the veterinary profession in the state of Louisiana.

This award was formerly the LVMA Service Award. It is awarded annually to persons in recognition of outstanding service to the community and to the veterinary profession.

Nominee Information:

Nominee Information:

Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

Employer _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Address _____

Office Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Year of Graduation _____

Office Phone _____

Veterinary School _____

Describe an outstanding contribution to the community (if nominee is a veterinarian):

Specialty or area of practice _____

Local, state and national committees served on and positions held:

Describe nominee participation in promoting animal health and welfare:

Describe an outstanding contribution to veterinary medicine (if nominee is not a veterinarian):

Describe any other activity which should make this individual a good candidate for the Veterinarian of the Year:

Criteria for Nomination:

1. Nominee must be a member in good standing in the LVMA.
2. Nominee must have had a positive influence in promoting animal health and welfare in the community as well as within the profession.
3. Nominee should be of good character and well respected by colleagues.
4. Nominee should be presently or previously active in local, state, and/or national veterinary associations.
5. Nominee should have shown an outstanding contribution to organized veterinary medicine either through their work or through their actions and public awareness.
6. Current LVMA Board members are not eligible for nomination.

The LVMA's Dr. Everett D. Besch Distinguished Service Award was established to recognize outstanding service to the community and veterinary profession.

Recommendations for this award must be made in writing by two LVMA members. If you wish to nominate someone, please send your recommendation to the LVMA office by November 11, 2016.

Those eligible for the award are in two categories:

1. Veterinarians who have made an outstanding contribution to their community.
2. Non-veterinarians who have made an outstanding contribution to veterinary medicine.

Nominated by:

Veterinarian: _____

Phone: _____

2016 PET OF THE YEAR

In an effort to recognize animals throughout the state of Louisiana for their special talents or heroic deeds, the LVMA has established the "Pet of the Year" award. This award recipient will be selected from nominations made by veterinarians who are aware of or witnessed these animals in their area of practice. Examples of such animals might include pets that have saved their owner's lives or were instrumental in helping their owner overcome overwhelming odds, physical handicaps, or serve the public in any way for many years.

Nominee Information:

Pet's Name _____
 Species _____ Breed _____ Sex _____ Age _____
 Description _____
 Owner's Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Description of pet's accomplishments

Please include photos you may have.

Nominated by:

Veterinarian: _____
 Phone: _____

2016 SALES PERSON OF THE YEAR

Beginning in 1990, the Sales Person of the Year Award was given to that individual for performing his or her duties in the most professional manner, servicing the veterinary community.

Please give a brief description of candidate's achievements and specific reasons why candidate should be chosen as the Sales Person of the Year.

Nominated by:

Veterinarian: _____
 Phone: _____

SEND NOMINATION FORMS TO:
 Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association
 8550 United Plaza Blvd., Suite 1001
 Baton Rouge, LA 70809
 Phone (800) 524-2996 or (225) 928-5862
 Fax (225) 408-4422
 E-mail office@lvma.org

2016 SUPPORT PERSON OF THE YEAR

The LVMA Support Person of the Year Award is presented annually to a veterinary technician, office management, kennel or other staff person with a minimum of two years of experience who has distinguished himself or herself in actively promoting animal health and welfare on the job and in the community.

Nominee Information:

Name _____
 Employer _____
 Position Held _____
 Length of Employment _____
 Educational Background _____

Professional Experience _____

Service to the Profession _____

Service to the Community _____

Organizations _____

Other Comments _____

Criteria for Nomination:

1. Nominee must be employed by a member in good standing of the LVMA.
2. The individual should be active in promoting animal health and welfare on the job and in the community.
3. The individual should have a minimum of two years experience as a working veterinary technician, office management, or kennel help, etc.
4. Nominations are to be made in writing and should include employment information, educational background, professional service and community service accomplishments.

Nominated by:

Veterinarian: _____
 Phone: _____

Nominations Due November 11th!
 NOTE: Additional pages may be added with other necessary information about nominee.



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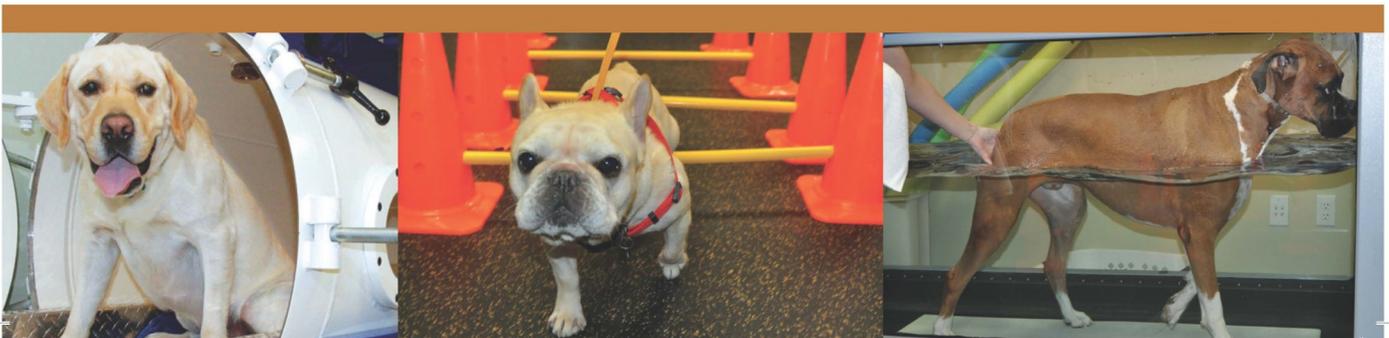
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Canine Rehabilitation

By: **Kenneth Ransom, DVM, CCRP**
MedVet Mandeville & MedVet New Orleans

As veterinarians, we are forever searching for ways to improve the level of care and quality of life for our patients. We incessantly seek out better medications, more accurate diagnostics, and design more efficient treatment protocols and surgical procedures. All of this with the best interest of our patients in mind. Our field is constantly evolving, striving to find new and better alternatives to keep our pets happy and healthy. While canine rehabilitation and physical therapy isn't necessarily new to veterinary medicine, it can be of tremendous benefit to both clinician and patient.

The idea of canine rehabilitation first started to spread among veterinarians in the late 1980's. Interest and popularity grew over the years with published texts, formal presentations as well as public awareness, interest, and acceptance. Over the years, veterinarians have worked closely with human physicians and physical therapists to develop treatment protocols we commonly use today. Many of the early protocols used in human rehabilitation were initially derived from animal models. This 30+ year collaboration has provided the specialty of canine rehabilitation with a comfortable niche in our field today. Despite its growing popularity, many veterinarians and owners are still unfamiliar with what the advantages and goals of canine rehabilitation are.

Several modalities are being used today. These range from the simplistic application of cold or heat to the more sophisticated use of technology such as therapeutic ultrasound, electrical stimulation, and cold laser therapy. Hydrotherapy is also a widely popular modality and can be done by owners with access to water (pool, beach, etc.) or done in a more controlled setting using an underwater treadmill. The goal of these therapies are ultimately to improve functionality and quality of life of our patients. This is accomplished by reducing swelling and inflammation, decreasing or eliminating pain, increasing limb function, building muscle, and weight reduction to name a few. A psychological benefit from participating in a rehab program can be seen in patients as well. As abilities improve or return following injury we see confidence levels rise. Patients become more engaging and willing to participate in activities and seem happier in general. Owners notice this as well and as a result are happier too and become reassured they have done the right thing for their pet.

The list of potential candidates for rehabilitation are endless. The more common patients seen are those who have suffered some type of injury. Cranial cruciate tears, intervertebral disc disease, patella luxation(s), fracture repairs, etc. are the injuries most likely thought of. These conditions typically will require surgical intervention with rehabilitation to follow. Non-surgical injuries can also be treated and managed through rehabilitation. Ligament and tendon sprains/strains, muscle tears, osteoarthritis, medically managed IVDD, etc. can all be helped in some form through rehab. Overweight or obese patients can also be helped. Through diet modifications and a tailored rehab program these patients can return to a level of activity their owners believed were no longer possible.

Of all the modalities available, the one most seem to enjoy (patients and owners alike) is the underwater treadmill. Underwater treadmill is an excellent way for a patient to exercise in a controlled environment.

Using the principles of water to our advantage we can improve pain, control edema, increase range of motion, and build muscle mass. Buoyancy helps reduce the weight felt by the patient. This reduces the amount of pressure and strain on the muscles and joints allowing for more activity compared to dry land. The hydrostatic pressure of water can aid in alleviating pain and helping reduce edema in tissues and joints. The viscosity of water can provide enough resistance to help maintain muscle mass and in some cases actually build it. By manipulating water height, belt speed, and session length we can make exercise as easy or as challenging as we desire. Patients are typically accepting to this mode of therapy. If there is any anxiety, this usually diminishes after a couple of sessions resulting in a willing participant. Most patients are worked with several times per week throughout their

(Continued on page 10)



Canine Rehabilitation (Continued)

recovery until it is deemed safe to transition to normal, home activities.

Canine rehabilitation provides us with safe, non-invasive methods to improve health and quality of life. Programs can be developed and tailored to the individual's needs and capabilities. If developed and followed through properly, canine rehabilitation can be a great alternative or adjunct treatment benefiting all parties involved.



** Dr. Ransom received his veterinary degree from Louisiana State University in 2003. After seeing a real need for rehabilitation services he attended the University of Tennessee and obtained his certification in Canine Rehabilitation in 2009. Dr. Kenneth Ransom is one of only a few veterinarians in the state to be a Certified Canine Rehabilitation Practitioner. To learn more about MedVet's Rehabilitation services, please call MedVet Mandeville at (985) 626-4862.

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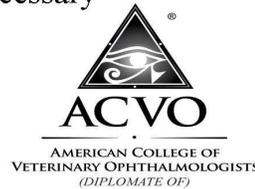
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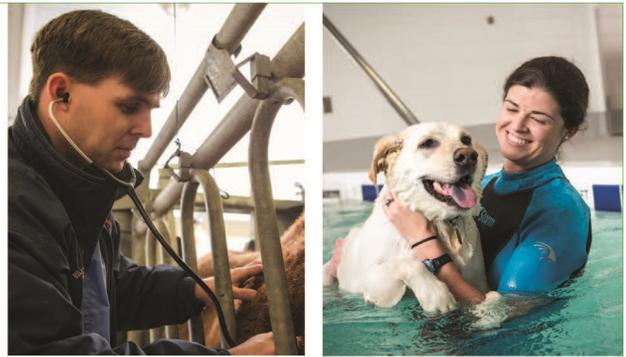
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Make sure to mention that you are with the LVMA! See you there!

WELCOME

Lindsey Rhiannon Clemones
Louisiana State University

Travis Lee Procell
Louisiana State University

Leslie Hopes
Louisiana State University

Meg Tisdale
Louisiana State University

Jessica E. Hudspeth
Louisiana State University

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!

Check it out! Upcoming Events:

Event Hosts	Event	Date	Venue	City, State	Contact Info
LVMA	LVMA Winter Meeting	January 20-23, 2017	Crowne Plaza Hotel	Baton Rouge, LA	LVMA.org Phone: 225-928-5862
AAVA	2017 Annual Meeting	March 24-26, 2017	Hyatt Rengency Savannah Hotel	Savannah, GA	AAVA.org
AVMA	AVMA Convention	July 21-25, 2017	Indiana Convention Center	Indianapolis, Indiana	AVMA.org



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SHREVEPORT PRACTICE FOR SALE You won't want to miss out on this great practice purchase opportunity in the heart of southeast Shreveport! Established 1 DVM practice with excellent location in busy commercial area. The 2,500 SF building is free standing and was remodeled just a few years ago. The current owner is willing to stay on should the new owner desire to ensure a smooth transition. The new owner of this well-run practice can expect an after-debt, before-taxes income of about \$240k. Contact Mary Catherine Colpitts at Praxis Transition Solutions at mclee@praxisinc.com or (205) 527-1300 for more information!

Our three-DVM small animal veterinary hospital is looking for a full time RVT starting immediately. We offer competitive pay, benefits, and NO weekend shifts or after-hours on call. Contact us @ 337-788-0614 or crowleyvethosp@hotmail.com.

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To place a classified advertisement, please email the LVMA office at office@lvma.org. If you have questions about our advertising rates, please contact the LVMA office at (225) 928-5862, office@lvma.org, or visit our website at www.lvma.org.

CLASSIFIED AD CHANGES

All classified ads will be published at the following rate:

Members: First 50 words, Free. Every word after is \$0.75 per word.
Non-Members: \$0.75 per word.

Ads will run 2 consecutive months, and then be removed, unless the LVMA is notified you would like to continue to run your ad for another 2 month run. You will be invoiced at the end of the first month during a 2 month period.

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Looking for More Ways to Promote Your Company?

The LVMA offers annual sponsorships of their website. The fee is \$500.00 and your company logo will run on a rotating banner advertisement on the website for an entire year. This is a great way to get your name out there! Contact the LVMA office for more information.



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