

Pass along this issue to a colleague...Help spread the word about ARV!



THE RURAL VET

The Newsletter of the Academy of Rural Veterinarians
Volume 4 Issue 3

A Message from the President

ARV: Becoming the Source for Rural Practice

Dear ARV Members & Supporters:

We hope that this summer edition of *The Rural Vet* finds you well and trying to have some time to relax and enjoy the season. ARV leaders and staff are using this time to bring one membership year to a successful close—while preparing for an even bigger year for our organization.



Shelley Lenz,
DVM, PhD

We will soon be sending out renewal notices for the 2009-10 Membership Year and, once again, ask for your support by continuing your membership. Because of your past membership and support, 2008-2009 proved to be a very productive year for ARV, as we continued to push for greater recognition of the value, needs and rewards of practice in rural America, offered support and information based upon the distinct needs of our mem-

bers across the country, visited campuses to spread the word about rural practice, and supported 29 very talented young men and women considering a rural career through our Externship Program.

This past year, ARV also saw a continued increase in awareness for our association's mission by the veterinary profession and supply industry. ARV was invited by the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges to nominate a representative to sit on their Academic Food Supply Veterinary Medicine Committee. We felt that it was extremely important to have a rural veterinarian on this committee and that the presence of one of our members will only raise the level of awareness for what we do. I am please to announce that I have nominated ARV Member Dr. Arn Anderson of Texas to serve on this AAVMC Committee.

ARV has also followed with interest AAVMC's call to action to develop a
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Summer 2009

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**ARV...
Promoting
the Rewards
of Veterinary
Practice in
Rural
America**

Special Thanks to Our Sponsors



Land O' Lakes
Foundation



PRESIDENT (Continued from Page 1)

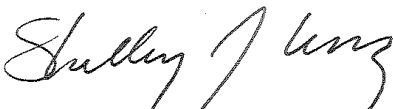
plan for veterinary medical education in North America. We appreciate their efforts to seek input from the broad spectrum of stakeholders of veterinary medical education in order to ensure that professional focus meet societal needs. Needless to say, rural veterinarians are an important stakeholder.

In order to support the work of the North American Veterinary Medical Education Consortium to develop a national plan, we submitted to them the findings of the ARV Veterinary Training Survey (see spring issue of *The Rural Vet*), which as you will remember, we conducted in order to discover our members' and current veterinary students' views on their preparation for a rural career. We hope that this information will help the Consortium in creating an effective plan to guide academic veterinary medicine well into the future.

Finally, it is summer, so we thought we would have a little fun! I cannot tell you how many times on conference calls with ARV leaders, a reference is made to being in an isolated practice. I dare say this has almost become a game of one-upsmanship! So, we have decided to put the issue to rest once and for all...please see page 4 for full details.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing support of ARV! We look forward to you being part of the exciting upcoming membership year. Enjoy the rest of summer!

Sincerely,



Shelley J. Lenz, DVM, PhD
President

**Looking for the perfect Associate
for your practice?**

**Place an ad in ARV's Online Job Bank
a free service for our members.**

Veterinary Public Health Workforce & Education Act Introduced in Congress

HR2999, the Veterinary Public Health Workforce & Education Act (VPHWEA), was introduced in the House of Representatives on June 23, 2009.

The bill is sponsored by Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin (D – Wisconsin 2nd) and co-sponsored by Congressman (and veterinarian) Kurt Schrader (D – Oregon 5th), Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (D – New Jersey 6th), Congressman Tim Murphy (R – Pennsylvania 18th), and Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords (D – Arizona 8th).

The VPHWEA is a more comprehensive bill compared to its predecessors. For a full rundown of its contents, the full bill text can be found at: <http://www.vin.com/WebLink.plx?URL=http://thomas.loc.gov>

Here is a summary:

Veterinary Public Health: The term 'veterinary public health' is broadly defined and includes biodefense and emergency preparedness, emerging and reemerging infectious diseases, environmental health, ecosystem health, pre and post-harvest food protection, regulatory medicine, diagnostic laboratory medicine, veterinary pathology, biomedical research, rural and government practice; and the sum of all contributions to the physical, mental, and social well-being of humans through an understanding and application of veterinary science.

Capacity Grant: Authorizes a competitive capacity building grant program for veterinary education to be administered by the National Center for Research Resources at the National Institutes of Health. Grant funds can be used to pay the costs associated with construction, equipment acquisition, and other capital costs relating to expansion of new or existing facilities; paying salaries for faculty to increase capacity;

(Continued on Page 3)

VPHWEA Introduced in Congress

(Continued from Page 2) developing a veterinary public health curriculum and scholarships. Grants could be awarded to colleges of veterinary medicine, departments of comparative medicine, departments of veterinary science, schools of public health, schools of medicine and public or nonprofit entities that offer graduate training for veterinarians in an area of veterinary public health. \$100,000,000 is authorized for each of the fiscal years 2010 and 2011, and \$50,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2012 through 2014.

Division of Veterinary Medicine and Public Health: Establishes within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services the new Division of Veterinary Medicine and Public Health (DVMPH). The Division, to be directed by a distinguished leader from the field of veterinary medicine or public health, would administer programs related to veterinary medicine and public health.

Faculty Loan Repayment: Establishes a veterinary faculty loan repayment program to be administered by DVMPH. Eligible faculty would be full-time employees of colleges of veterinary medicine, departments of comparative medicine, and departments of veterinary science. \$20,000,000 is authorized for each of the fiscal years 2010 through 2014.

Veterinary Public Health Fellowship Program: Establishes a fellowship program for veterinarians in food systems security and veterinary public health to be administered by DVMPH. Fellows could participate in either a year-long or a part-time program. Fellows would rotate through various federal departments and agencies. Fellows participating in the one-year fellowship would be required to be a graduate of a school or college of veterinary medicine while those participating in the part-time fellowship program may be students enrolled in a college of veterinary medicine. \$2,500,000 is authorized for each of the fiscal years 2010 through 2014.

ARV encourages its members to contact the sponsors of HR2999 and their own Representative asking them to support the goals of this bill. Tell them how it will assist in improving the veterinary profession—and provide greater resources to serve rural America.

Here is the contact information for these members of Congress:

Honorable Tammy Baldwin
U.S. House of Representatives
2446 Rayburn Building
Washington DC 20515
(202) 225-6942 Fax
(202) 225-2906

Honorable Kurt Schrader
U.S. House of Representatives
1419 Longworth Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-5711
Fax: (202) 225-5699

Honorable Frank Pallone
U.S. House of Representatives
237 Cannon Building
Washington, DC 20515-3006
Phone: 202 225-4671
Fax: 202-225-9665

Honorable Tim Murphy
U.S. House of Representatives
322 Cannon Building
Washington, DC 20515-3006
Phone: 202 225-2301
Fax: 202-225-1844

Honorable Gabrielle Giffords
U.S. House of Representatives
1728 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-2542
Fax: (202) 225-0378

You can find your representative's contact information by going to:

<http://www.house.gov/house/MemberWWW.shtml>

Braggin' Rights: The Most Isolated Practice!

Which ARV Member Will Win This Prestigious Title?

Over the years, at meetings, on conference calls, in correspondence, and in conversations between members, a comment keeps getting repeated...MY PRACTICE IS THE MOST ISOLATED IN THE COUNTRY.

That statement is usually followed by a declaration such as...“Go to Nowhere, U.S.A....and my operation is 200 miles past there!” or “I’m so far out, they have to import the tumblin’ tumbleweeds!”

ARV has decided to use summer to put this issue to rest once and for all! We will decide who deserves the true title of THE MOST ISOLATED VETERINARY PRACTICE IN THE UNITED STATES!

We call upon our members to submit nominations for this title. Nominations can be in written form or visual. Look out your examining room window...what do you see? Will a picture speak a thousand words? Or send us a little ditty about your location.

All submissions should be sent to the ARV National Office by September 9, 2009--so we can include them, along with the winner, in the fall edition of *The Rural Vet*.

Send to ARV at arv@caphill.com.



Will the view outside your window show that you're the Most Isolated Veterinary Practice?



Speaking of isolated! O.K., these guys aren't rural vets...but we made our point...and tipped our hat to the 40th anniversary of the lunar landing, too!



***Picture your ad here! Reach accomplished
Rural Veterinarians across the nation!***

***If you would like to place an ad or more information, please
contact the ARV Office at (518) 694-0056 or arv@caphill.com.***

Culture Shock Prevention for Rural Practice

By Steve McDonald, DVM

I have hired a vet technician to start after the end of the month. What is unusual about this is that he is from Dallas. He is proficient in small animal, but wants to move to the boondocks and learn about large animal practice. Initially, I was giddy with delight, but then doubts began to creep in. My chief fear is that the culture shock of moving from a modern metropolitan area such as Dallas to a rural town (pop. 3,000; one traffic light) might be too much for him. Thus, I think I will advise him of some of the peculiarities he might encounter.

1. Body piercing is O.K. for bull rings, ear tags, hog rings and little else.
2. Tattoos are O.K. for ID in registered stock, or if you got drunk in town one night while serving in the U.S. Navy or Marines.
3. Seat belts are only required if you have out-of-state tags.
4. Most females have husbands or boyfriends or fathers, but they don't need them to whip your ass if you get out of line.
5. You are a newcomer for 15 years.
6. If you are polite, people will do anything to help you. If you are rude, abrupt, or whiney, you won't get far.
7. There are lots of old people here. Yield right-of-way to them at intersections, right of way is based on how old (and dangerous a driver) you are.
8. Help pen any loose stock you encounter on the highway or in town. First, though, be sure no one is herding them some where.
9. Any skunk seen in broad daylight is considered rabid.
10. Don't kill any snake you encounter, unless you are certain it's a rattlesnake or water moccasin. Most rural types are as scared of snakes as you are, but every one recognizes how useful they are at rodent control.

Entertainment here needs a little enlightenment. Some local pastimes will be explained:

Dairy Queen License Plate

Go to Dairy Queen, order a drink, and sit close enough to the cash register to both hear and observe customers.

Try to guess, by their dress, accents, and mannerisms, where they are from. Send some one out to the parking lot to read license plate to confirm origin.

Hunter Gawking

During hunting seasons, observe hunters (mostly from urban areas); things to note and discuss:

1. How much they look like Delta Force operatives on duty in Afghanistan
2. How much their vehicles look like Bradley Fighting Vehicles (They camo paint them; so that their quarry will have to use their sense of smell and hearing to ferret out the invisible vehicles.)
3. Why do they wear sheath knives that look like those Roman swords (even quail hunters)?

High School Football

A religious event that occurs every Friday in the fall.

Pioneer Reunion

A three-day marathon experienced in September. It includes rodeo, parades, and craft shows, dancing and mass drunkenness.

Pioneer Reunion Damage Assessment

(A late night entertainment for the daring)

Hang out at the parking lot of the hospital's emergency room and watch as the revelers come to get medical attention for injuries incurred at the rodeo grounds following the innumerable fist fights that break out each night. Count the number of patients, and try to categorize each injury.

Attention ARV Members:

You will soon be receiving your renewal notice in the mail.

Help us expand our ranks...forward this issue to a colleague and have the vet complete the membership application on the following pages.



Academy of Rural Veterinarians National Office
1450 Western Avenue, Suite 101, Albany, New York 12203

Membership Application

Name _____

Clinic _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (office) _____ Phone (cell) _____

Fax _____ Graduation Year _____

Email _____

- Individual Member (\$100.00) -- For solo rural practice OR a veterinarian in a group practice who wishes his/her own membership.
- Individual Membership-Mentor (\$100.00) -- For solo rural practice OR a veterinarian in a group practice who wishes his/her own membership AND is willing to serve as a mentor to students. Please complete Mentor sections on Page 2.
- Practice Membership (\$150.00) -- For multiple veterinary practice with a rural focus and employing more than one veterinarian. Please complete Page 3.
- Practice Membership-Mentor (\$150.00) -- For multiple veterinary practice with a rural focus and employing more than one veterinarian AND willing to mentor students. Please complete Page 3, and the Mentor sections on Page 2.
- Practice Membership-Additional Veterinarian (\$0.00) -- For a veterinarian who is employed by a Practice Member and wishes to have his/her own membership access.
- Affiliate (\$100.00) -- For a non-veterinarian who supports or works with veterinarians (i.e., office staff, veterinary tech, etc.)
- Faculty/Liaison (\$0.00) -- For a faculty member who assists ARV in reaching veterinary students.
- Student (\$0.00) -- For a student enrolled in a veterinarian science program.

SCHOOL: _____

\$_____ Amount enclosed (please make checks payable to ARV/send to ARV, 1450 Western Ave., Suite 101, Albany, NY 12203)

Please complete appropriate section(s) on following pages.

Member Profile/Personal Information:

Please complete the following sections, if applying to be an ARV Mentor

Mentorship/Practice Overview:

Mentorship Accommodations Available:

Species (please specify percentage of each breed that your clinic serves; enter only numbers):

_____ Cow/Calf _____ Feedlot _____ Dairy
_____ Other Large Animal _____ Small Animal

ARV Practice Member Roster

If you are completing this membership for a practice, please provide us with with the names and e-mail addresses for all the veterinarians in the practice; this way, they can receive member updates and information.

Name of Practice: _____

<i>Name of Veterinarian</i>	<i>E-Mail Address</i>
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____
6. _____	_____
7. _____	_____
8. _____	_____
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15. _____	_____

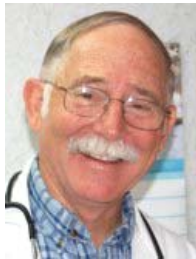
ARV Leadership 2008-09



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