



A Letter From The President

July/August 2014

PLAY BALL! The T-bones game in late May was a fun outing for my family and me. The boys had a great time at their first baseball game. It was a chilly night but that didn't stop my seven-year-old from getting upset when we left in the 7th inning. He asked to go back the very next day!

As much fun as that was, this past week was not. I spent Thursday in Urgent Care due to heart palpitations and light-headedness, followed by a trip to the cardiologist the next day. For a healthy 32-year-old male, this was a bit of a shock to me. It has made me stop and think about things that really matter. Watching my boys play, grow up, and spending time with them and my wife are that much more important to me now. The cardiologist doesn't think there's anything serious going on but as I write this, I am still waiting to have an echo done and I'll have to wear a Holter monitor for 30 days.

If you have read my previous letters you know I am passionate about pain management and am applying for my Veterinary Pain Practitioner Certification (CVPP). My first step was to submit case reports. One of them passed free and clear and one passed with revisions. I have resubmitted the case with some changes and additions and hope to hear back in the next few weeks whether it passes. The next step will be the certification exam in September. I would encourage everyone to look into joining the International Veterinary Academy of Pain Management. Another great resource that not everyone knows about is the Veterinary Anesthesia and Analgesia Support Group. It can be found at www.vasg.org. Protocols for anesthesia, surgical pain, post-op pain, chronic pain, and everything in between can be found on this website.

I recently was fortunate enough to listen to Randy Hall of 4th Gear Consulting. Randy does a great job of speaking about leadership. He shared a story about John Wooden, the all-time great UCLA basketball coach. When asked who were the best players he ever coached he named two players that nobody has

heard of. When asked why these two were the best, Wooden stated they weren't the fastest or best shooters, and certainly not the most talented, but these two players came as close as any player he ever coached to



reaching their full potential. *"Don't measure yourself by what you have accomplished, but by what you should have accomplished with your ability,"* is a famous quote from Coach Wooden. I've spent some time reflecting on this quote and what it means to me. I've accomplished a fair amount so far in my life, but could I have done more? Can I make a bigger difference in the lives of people around me? Can I do more for my family, friends, co-workers, patients? Am I the best father I can be? Best veterinarian?

Another great Wooden quote: *"If you're not making mistakes, then you're not doing anything. I'm positive that a doer makes mistakes."* I don't have the answers to all of these questions, but I know that I can only keep trying to improve myself each and every day in all facets of life. I'm not perfect and I know I make mistakes, but I know I can keep working each and every day to be better. I hope each of you reading this letter takes the time to think about these two quotes and ask yourself, "Am I doing everything I am capable of doing?" Thanks for taking the time to "listen" to my rambling.

President - mpeuser@kcvma.com

REPURPOSING WITH A PURPOSE: RESEARCHERS SEARCH FOR BETTER CANCER TREATMENT

BY: JEN NIGRO

Researchers are moving quickly to turn up new treatments for a rare bone cancer, and they're looking to the animal world to help them do it. The University of Kansas Medical Center, Children's Mercy Hospital, and Colorado State University's College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences have formed a collaboration to test a series of FDA-approved drugs. They hope to find at least one they can repurpose to improve outcomes for both humans and dogs fighting osteosarcoma.

Among humans, osteosarcoma is most prevalent among children and young adults. But with only 400 new cases diagnosed in the U.S. each year, Dr. Scott Weir, Director of KU Medical Center's Institute for Advancing Medical Innovation and a professor of pharmacology, toxicology and therapeutics, says progress in finding effective drugs to treat the disease is slow. "It takes somewhere between 12 and 17 years to discover, develop and get FDA approval for a brand new drug, and frankly, osteosarcoma patients don't have 12 to 17 years," he says. In addition, procuring funding for such research is a challenge. "Historically in pharmacology, the number of patients has made it difficult for drug companies to build a value proposition that says, 'I'm going to invest \$1.5 million in developing a new drug for osteosarcoma when there are so few osteosarcoma patients.'" That's where dogs come in. Veterinarians diagnose upwards of 10,000 new cases of osteosarcoma in dogs each year, giving researchers a larger pool to study. That larger pool can lead to better funding. "There has been research conducted that shows the genetics are really quite similar, so we recognized this as an opportunity," says Dr. Weir.

KU Medical Center, which became the National Cancer Institute's 67th designee in 2012, decided to try a new approach to osteosarcoma treatment: find drugs already approved for other uses that could enhance current treatments of osteosarcoma. But researchers there couldn't do it alone. "Discovering and developing drugs is a team sport," says Dr. Weir. "What we do is we form multi-disciplinary and, in most cases, multi-organizational teams of experts that are managed by a project manager." In this case, that project manager is Dr. Joy Fulbright, a pediatric oncologist at Children's Mercy Hospital. Her role is to help coordinate the efforts, obtain grant funding, and ensure the medications in the study are clinically relevant to a pediatric population. Dr. Weir also began discussions with the University of Colorado's cancer center, another NCI designee. From those discussions, he learned about Colorado State University's Flint Animal Cancer Center. He and his colleagues set up a meeting in Fort Collins with Dr. Douglas Thamm, Associate Professor, and Barbara Cox Anthony, Chair in Oncology. "We immediately struck an interest to collaborate together, and what I've learned over the past year-and-a-half or

so is there are several cancers in particular that dogs get that are quite similar to human cancers," Dr. Weir says. One of those is osteosarcoma. "What I've learned from our cancer-focused veterinarians at CSU is you can look at an osteosarcoma sample under a microscope, whether collected from dogs or humans, and you really can't tell a difference."

With a team assembled, the group turned to the Midwest Cancer Alliance for funding, which awarded the group \$500,000 to discover and develop a new treatment for osteosarcoma. They formed the Sarcoma Learning Collaborative, a group modeled after a previous partnership involving the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and the National Institute of Health's National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) called The Learning Collaborative. That group was able to get an arthritis drug approved to treat leukemia in a period of 11 months. "We're taking an identical drug repurposing approach here with this particular collaboration," says Dr. Weir. "They (osteosarcoma patients) don't have an 800 pound gorilla organization like the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, so we intentionally wanted to study that particular feature in a model by creating the Sarcoma Learning Collaborative." They defined their objective: to rapidly identify and advance the patients a promising new treatment for osteosarcoma. Using tissue samples gathered from both human and canine patients, researchers are culturing cancer cells in the lab. They then expose those tissues to FDA-approved drugs or compounds. "What you do is look at 24 hours of drug exposure, and which drugs killed the cancer cell," says Dr. Fulbright. "The goal is to find a drug that will kill both canine and human tumor cells, but not cause such damage to normal tissue. Then you look at which drugs could be used potentially in humans because there are some, even though they are FDA screened or approved, that were taken off the market." Dr. Weir adds, "These sets of experiments will screen tens of thousands of compounds, really in one fell swoop. We'll turn these experiments around in just a few weeks."

Researchers have already seen some positive results. "Right now we have found some hits using the FDA drug screening program," says Dr. Fulbright. "Then we will test those more thoroughly as far as finding the right dosing in the lab. Once we narrow it down to one or two prime candidates, we can move into a mouse model and also into the dog model." Researchers will also consider the drugs that show promise in combination with other drugs. "We're looking to find the right combination of drugs that may be more effective than what the current standard of care is, which in osteosarcoma is less than what we would like," says Dr. Weir.

Once the lab has narrowed down the list of drugs under

consideration, hopefully within a year, the collaborative will seek funding for clinical trials, which will happen simultaneously in dogs and humans. With between 1500 and 1800 new dogs with cancer visiting the Flint Animal Cancer Center each year, Dr. Thamm says they have plenty of patients interested in enrolling in the study. “Once our list of possible drugs that are useful has been narrowed down, the goal will be to take the winner and put that drug into dogs with bone cancer to see if we can get enough of this drug into the dogs to reach what we think are going to be therapeutic blood levels,” says Dr. Thamm. “If it looks good in dogs, that will provide very strong evidence that it’s something that should be looked at in kids.” Dr. Weir adds, “We’re going to study both in parallel in hopes that we can not only identify a new, promising treatment for osteosarcoma in humans, but in canines as well.” The stakes are high. “Patients with osteosarcoma have a fairly poor outcome of 20 to 40 percent,” says Dr. Fulbright. “Unfortunately, we haven’t improved their outcomes in at least the last 20 years, so we really need some new therapies to help improve their survival rates.”

In addition to better treatment for osteosarcoma, the collaborators hope to make it more affordable for both species. “Some of these targeted therapies are tens of thousands of dollars per year,” says Dr. Weir. “What we’re excited about with drug repurposing is we could potentially bring a new treatment forward that is not as costly as one of these really expensive targeted therapies.” “The other thing is,” adds Dr. Thamm, “most of the drugs we are studying are old enough that they’re off-patent, and that means they’re comparatively cheap and pet owners could possibly afford them.”



Dr. Kara Forsee

Dr. Kara Forsee graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a bachelor’s degree in biology in 2002. She then went on to study at the MU College of Veterinary Medicine and graduated in 2006 with her DVM. Following graduation she held a rotating internship at Kansas State University, followed by a surgical internship in Dallas, TX, and then a surgical residency at Red Bank Veterinary Hospital in Tinton Falls, NJ. She obtained board certification through the American College of Veterinary Surgeons in 2013. Dr. Forsee is originally from the Kansas City area and is currently practicing at Blue Pearl Veterinary Specialty and Emergency as a small animal surgeon. She is a member of the KCVMA, AVMA, and ACVS.

Dr. Forsee enjoys spending time with her two daughters, husband and two dogs. Additionally, she has family in the Kansas City area and enjoys time with them. Other interests include playing the piano and traveling.



Dr. Leanna Carpenter

Dr. Leanna Carpenter is a native of Kansas City and attended Center High School, graduating in 1999. She then obtained a bachelor of animal sciences degree and her doctorate of veterinary medicine from the University of Missouri-Columbia. After graduating from veterinary school in 2007 she returned to Kansas City to practice small animal medicine. Dr. Carpenter currently works at Kansas City Veterinary Care. Her current memberships include the AVMA, MVMA, and KCVMA. She also spends time at Kansas City Pet Project. In her leisure time, Dr. Carpenter enjoys traveling, water sports, watching the Sporting KC soccer club, and spending time with her two nephews and niece. Dr. Carpenter’s canine and feline family includes a pointer/dalmation mix named Skyler, a schnauzer mix named Diesel, a domestic longhaired cat named Oscar, and a domestic shorthaired cat named Houdini.



Dr. Joseph Sipe

Originally from central Illinois, Dr. Joseph Sipe spent most of his formative years in the Kansas City area prior to his pursuit of veterinary medicine. He received a bachelor of science degree, with honors, from the University of Missouri-Columbia in biological sciences. Dr. Sipe completed his degree in veterinary medicine at Kansas State University while also pursuing a masters degree in pathology from the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City. His research has been published in multiple medical and research journals and he has presented his research findings around the world. Dr. Sipe has been practicing high-quality medicine and surgery since 2006 in busy, multi-doctor practices in Florida and Kansas. He has extensive experience in all facets of small animal and exotic animal medicine and surgery, with particular interest in oncology, soft tissue surgery, internal medicine and animal behavior.

In his “free” time, Dr. Sipe is an avid runner, traveler, gardener, a follower of New York sports teams (go Yankees!) and a writer. He is bilingual (Spanish and English) and is currently working on his third language (French). Dr. Sipe is married and has one canine “child” named Ziggy.

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Please write or call Wanda Geis.
PO Box 12468
Shawnee Mission, KS 66282-2468

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www.kcvma.com

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BUILT ON THE SHOULDERS OF VETERINARY GIANTS: STOCKYARDS AND THE GROWTH OF ANIMAL HEALTH

BY: DR. STEVE JOSEPH, KCVMA HISTORIAN



The history of veterinary medicine in Kansas City and St. Joseph must include the importance of our stockyards. They were a driving force in the evolution of these cities as centers for today's animal health and nutrition.

In St. Joseph there was a thriving livestock economy in the mid-1850s. Swift and Armour were the largest companies and employed 6,000 workers. Railroads crossed the nation and provided connections to the rest of the country. However, there was no bridge over the Missouri River and animals had to be ferried across-- a slow and labor-intensive process.

In the late 1860s Kansas City built a bridge and the Stockyards opened in 1871.

The city became the second largest livestock market behind Chicago, handling millions of animals. Hundreds of diverse interests created a tremendous demand for veterinary products and services to keep animals healthy.

A key factor in the growth of animal health was the proximity of three private veterinary colleges in Kansas City, one in St. Joseph, and public colleges at Kansas State, Iowa State, and later, the University of Missouri. The private colleges closed as WWI shrank the number of available students and the public colleges received government funding.

Agricultural science boosted Kansas City's place for animal health

with the formation of the Midwest Research Institute in 1944.

Kansas City was a magnet for countless companies that manufactured and distributed veterinary products for veterinarians and producers.

The largest was Jensen Salsbery Laboratories (Jen-Sal), located between Washington and Pennsylvania Streets on West Pennway. Today the structure stands empty. However, it is one of only 50 veterinary buildings and practices listed by the Register of Historic Places.

American Veterinary Supplies opened after the closing of the Kansas City Veterinary College (KCVC) in 1918 and was the first company to provide products exclusively to our profession.

1904 KCVC graduate Albert Kinsley founded Kinsley Laboratories in the early 1920s. He was president of KCVC in 1913 and later the second Kansas Citian to serve as president of the AVMA, his term running from 1921-1922.

Haver-Glover merged with Ashe Lockhart Laboratories and became Haver-Lockhart (a distant relative that grew into Bayer Animal Health). In 1929 Haver-Glover had 20 employees and annual revenue of \$250,000.

Today nearly one-third of the world's animal health business is conducted in the corridor between KSU and MU. We owe our veterinary heritage to the Stockyards that started it all, evidence that "... *being a cow town in the past isn't a bad thing now.*"

2014 KCVMA OFFICERS...

President	Dr. Matt Peuser.....	913-764-1415/mpeuser@kcvma.com
President-Elect	Dr. Christi Belew.....	816-880-6650/cbelew@kcvma.com
Vice President	Dr. Donna Romanzi.....	816-588-2392/dromanzi@kcvma.com
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MO State Rep	Dr. Mel Falk.....	816-795-7387/mfalk@kcvma.com
Director at Large	Dr. Todd Taylor.....	ttaylor@kcvma.com
Director at Large	Dr. Joseph Sipe.....	jsipe@kcvma.com
Director at Large	Dr. Matt Silvius.....	816-741-2345/msilvius@kcvma.com
Director at Large	Dr. Kara Forsee.....	kforsee@kcvma.com
Director at Large	Dr. Leanna Carpenter.....	lcarpenter@kcvma.com
Historian	Dr. Steve Joseph.....	913-488-3844/sjoseph@kcvma.com
Exec. Secretary	Wanda Geis.....	913-381-7823, Fax: 913-341-4225/ wgeis@kcvma.com
Public Relations	Darin Nadler.....	800-409-5188 ext.103/dnadler@kcvma.com

CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENTS

July CE

Speaker: Craig Datz, DVM, MS, DABVP (Canine/Feline), DACVN Nutrition and Scientific Affairs Manager, Royal Canin USA	Fee: No fee to attend this event, but RSVP is required by Monday, July 14th. Current membership dues cover all CE.
Topic: Clinical Nutrition	Location: Lidia's Kansas City 101 West 22nd Street Kansas City, MO 64108
Date: Thursday, July 17, 2014	Sponsor: Royal Canin USA
Time: Check-in: 6:30pm, Dinner and Presentation: 7pm	
CE: 2 hours	



Please RSVP by Monday, July 14th by registering at KCVMA.com

Dr. Datz is a 1987 graduate of the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine. He was in private companion animal practice in Virginia and Arkansas until 2001 when he joined the faculty at the University of Missouri College Of Veterinary Medicine, working in the areas of Community Practice and Clinical Nutrition. In 2012 he moved to Royal Canin USA as the Nutrition and Scientific Affairs Manager. Dr. Datz is a Diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners and is certified in both Canine/Feline and Feline Practice. He currently serves as the Residency Chair and Symposium Chair for ABVP and as the Vice President for the American Academy of Veterinary Nutrition. He is also board-certified by the American College of Veterinary Nutrition and has a master's degree in biomedical sciences.



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Falcon Valley Animal Hospital is seeking a part-time (20-25 hours per week) receptionist for our small, family-focused clinic. Receptionist duties include: client check-in, answering multi-line phone system, making outbound reminder calls, processing payments and balancing cash drawer, accessing information from patient's medical records, and other general office work. We use electronic medical records only, so qualified candidates must be very comfortable with computers. Our clinic culture places a high value on customer service and relationship-building with the client, so the ideal candidate must also be outgoing, compassionate, and have excellent verbal communication skills. Email resume and cover letter to fvah@sbcglobal.net, or apply in person at 10111 Stevenson St, Lenexa.

Small animal practice with an enviable reputation built over 25 years in a community that was recently ranked as the 7th Fastest Growing Economy in the US. It has a robust earnings track record, ample physical capacity to allow for expansion, and business development opportunities that can be exploited for further growth. Gross Revenues of \$725,000 with an owner benefit of \$314,000. Housed in an attractive 3,300 square foot leased space in a busy strip center location, it includes three exam rooms, one X-ray room, one surgical room, common treatment and triage area, a dental station, laboratory and pharmacy area, shoreline bathing station, shoreline drying cage, one grooming table, and 37 cages including a four-cage isolation area. For more information contact Paul Temme at paul@kcapex.com or 913-433-2310.

Drs. Palmer and Hoyt Veterinary Clinic, an equine/small animal practice south of Kansas City, is looking for a part-time receptionist/assistant. Previous experience with horses is preferred. Please come in to fill out an application or email your resume to spvet@att.net. 19975 Metcalf Bucyrus, Kansas.

Amity Woods Animal Hospital is seeking a full- or part-time experienced veterinarian to join our two doctor team. Applicant needs to be self-sufficient, have surgical experience and interested in offering high-quality medicine. We are a large facility with boarding, grooming and daycare facilities on-site. We are equipped with digital radiology, digital dental radiology, surgical monitoring including ETCO2, along with RVT's and technician assistants that are utilized to the fullest. We are located just south of the airport with friendly clients who appreciate preventative medicine! No on-call or after-hours emergencies. Please send resume and cover letter to dr.belew@amitywoods.com.

Stanley Veterinary Clinic is currently seeking experienced veterinary technicians. We are a six-doctor, AAHA accredited hospital located in Southern Johnson County. We offer state of the art equipment and utilize our technician's skills to the fullest extent possible. Comprehensive benefits including health insurance are available. Please send your resume to pam32560@msn.com.

For Sale: Konica SRX-101A X-ray processor, used, works well - \$ 1000 or best offer, Shorline in-wall X-ray view box, two new, never used - \$ 100 each or best offer, surgery light, used - \$45 or best offer. Please email questions to: stevencortner@gmail.com.

Part-time DVM help wanted – Raytown, MO. Part-time Veterinarian wanted for a growing small animal practice in Raytown, MO. Requirements: SENSE OF HUMOR, ability to diagnose and chew gum at same time, ability to use a scalpel, enjoy mild chaos, kiss puppies. Beautiful new clinic with wonderful clientele, that is if you like thank you notes and homemade cookies. Qualified candidates send resume to: dvmhelpwanted@gmail.com. P.S. LEAVE WHITE LAB COAT AT HOME!

LionsGate Pet Hospital is seeking a full-time registered veterinary technician to join our growing practice. Offering competitive salary and benefits for the right individual. Experience is mandatory. Email your resume to Lloracook@yahoo.com.

LionsGate Pet Hospital is seeking a D.V.M. to join our growing small animal practice in Southern Johnson County. Position will be available in the fall of 2014. Salary and benefits commensurate with experience. Please send resumes to lionsgatepet@sbcglobal.net.

Looking for full-time associate veterinarian for small animal practice in Clinton, MO. Prefer experience in surgery and internal medicine. Relaxed atmosphere with experienced and well-trained staff. Immediate opening available. Many recreational opportunities in a great community. Send resumes or inquiries to eschumacher@gvanimalclinic.com.

Looking for a full and/or part-time veterinarian to join our practice, also a vet tech and/or assistant., plus a groomer. Our business is expanding greatly and great help would be lovely. The clinic has been established for 40 plus years and provides quality care, big hearts, and a special touch to our clientele and patients. We are in the Raytown/ Kansas City area. Pay is based on experience, and can be as much as 90k plus/year. We are looking for a team member, hard worker, with a good sense of humor. Please email if interested in any of these positions.... kklmnorris@yahoo.com.

Looking for full-time veterinarian for our AAHA accredited small animal hospital in Olathe. Experience or interest in surgery preferred. Team player, flexible and committed to customer service and best medicine. Will be joining a team with longevity and great sense of humor! Salary based on experience. Please email resume to blackbob2255@sbcglobal.net or fax to (913) 764-6819.

Lionsgate Pet Hospital seeking Part-time Receptionists. We are a small animal practice in southern Johnson County. Will train the right person. Position available immediately! Please email resume to beckybrinker@sbcglobal.net.

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Dennis Smith.....913-636-4206 KS
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Kenneth VanSickle816-331-7972 KS/MO
Dennis Weaver816-210-6769 KS/MO

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Leanne Landau Kasitz, DVM, CVA 913-897-5595
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Gary L. Modrcin, DVM, Dipl. AVDC 913-642-9563

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Mark Brady, DVM, DACVECC 800-548-8387
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Robin Wall, DVM, ACVECC 913-722-5566

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816-331-3120

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Crystal Hoh, DVM, MS, ACVIM 913-642-9563
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Kara Forsee, DVM, ACVS 913-642-9563
Karl Frees, DVM, MS, ACVS
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Candace Layton, DVM, MS, ACVS 816-554-4990
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Vern Otte, DVM, ABVP 913-381-3272
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Steve White, DVM, ABVP 913-432-7611