

SUMMER 2020



SFVMA

SAN FRANCISCO
VETERINARY MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

A MESSAGE TO SFVMA MEMBERS

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for continuing to care for the animals and families of San Francisco though the middle of a pandemic. You have continued to adapt on a daily basis to the latest recommendations by government and veterinary organizations to help keep our workers and clients as safe as possible. You have continued to try your best to provide quality veterinary care through masks, telephones, and parking lots with clients experiencing a new level of stress and anxiety.

You have navigated trying to figure out telemedicine on the fly and continued to fight to help the veterinarians of this state loosen telemedicine restrictions so that we can help vulnerable pet owners at home. It has been a trying time to say the least, but I am extremely impressed by how adaptable and committed the veterinarians and veterinary staff members of this city have been and will continue to be.

With ongoing recommendations for social distancing, and after discussion with the Cliff House, **we have decided it is best to cancel the June SFVMA meeting.** We remain hopeful that the next meeting scheduled for Thursday

September 17th will take place as planned, but we will, of course, re-evaluate as we get closer since developments with COVID-19 are ever changing.

We look forward to connecting with everyone in person again in the future. Feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns in the mean time. Thank you again for going out on the front lines everyday to help provide care for everyone in our community. Your dedication is greatly appreciated. Stay safe out there, and take care of yourselves.

Sincerely,

Amy Lightstone BVSc
SFVMA Secretary



2020 MEETING SCHEDULE

Summer — [CANCELLED]

Fall — Thursday, September 17

Winter — Thursday, November 19

ALERT FOR RABBIT VETERINARIANS

Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus 2 (RHDV2) has finally arrived in **Southern California** and we can expect it to make its way north in the near future. I'd like to form a group to make a plan to address this disease. It is a deadly virus that is highly contagious to domestic rabbits but is also infecting native species of rabbits and hares. There have been outbreaks of the disease in several states including Arizona, New Mexico, Texas and Colorado. Washington state has already dealt with an outbreak, starting last year, and has done much of the work for us.
(<https://rabbit.org/rhdv/> for more info)

There is a vaccine available that must be imported from Europe. Please contact me if you see rabbits and are interested in working together to make a plan for recommendations for our clients and vaccine clinics. We are able to import the vaccine and share it amongst ourselves but must plan that in advance.

Email: **babybird@bayareabirdhospital.com**

Phone: **(415) 566-4359**

Sincerely,
Leila Marcucci DVM,
Dip ABVP (Avian)
Bay Area Bird and Exotics Hospital



We need a new CVMA Delegate and alternative to represent San Francisco veterinarians!

Please reach out to **Amy Lightstone** at **sfvmasecretary@gmail.com** if you are interested in helping represent our community!

LATEST NEWS FROM SFAfA

The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has brought extraordinary challenges to Bay Area and local businesses. We expect that the need for SFAFA funds will increase in the coming months. If you are able, please consider making a gift to SFAFA to help us help Bay Area veterinarians secure the health and welfare of their patients, and to keep pets and their families together. We are so proud of all the work that you are doing, and feel honored to be able to partner with all of you.

The last day for submissions for this year's GIA program is JUNE 15. Any of your unused GIA funds will revert back to the general fund on June 15. (*Use it or lose it.*) If you have any cases that may not meet the deadline please contact us ASAP so that we can earmark funds for you.

Due to the current financial crisis associated with the Covid-19 pandemic, **we eliminated the required hospital match from March 16 through June 15, 2020**, to make it easier for our member hospitals to award GIA funds. We will be reevaluating this program this month and will keep you updated. The pandemic has also greatly depleted our Tauber funds for this year. If you have a case that could use these funds please check our website for current availability.

We have sent out enrollment packages for our next fiscal year that begins on July 1. Please fill out the forms and return them to us by June 1. We want to make sure that anyone who wishes to participate in our program has the opportunity to do so. If you did not receive an enrollment package, or would like to start the program, please contact **Hanna Lee** at: hanna@sfafa.org or **Anne Marie Benfatto** at: Annemarie@sfafa.org.

Congratulations to VCA SF Veterinary Specialists. They were the first hospital this year to use all of their GIA funds, and so were awarded an additional \$1,000 from the Phil Durfee fund, to use on any SFAFA case this year.

Stay well and thank you!



SFAfA
SAN FRANCISCO AID *for* ANIMALS

PRESIDENT
Philip Watt, BVSc, MACVSc, FACVS
sfvmapresident@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT
Anna DeVincenzi, DVM
sfvmavp@gmail.com

TREASURER
Keely Commings, DVM
sfvmatreasurer@gmail.com

SECRETARY
Amy Lightstone, BVSc
sfvmasecretary@gmail.com



SPONSOR A FUTURE MEETING

In order to continue to contract with the Cliff House as our meeting venue, support our charitable and scholarship funds, and generally maintain the organization (with keeping dues payments reasonable), the Board will continue to seek sponsorships that help to cover the costs of our programs.

If you are interested in sponsoring a future meeting,
please contact **Philip Watt: sfvmapresident@gmail.com**



RABIES CLINICS



**THE SUNDAY, JUNE 14,
RABIES CLINIC HAS
BEEN CANCELLED!**

**The next Rabies Clinic will be on
Sunday, September 13, 2020.**

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Thank you to all the volunteers that continually make these clinics a success! *Volunteers are still needed for the upcoming 2020 Rabies Clinics. Sign up today!*

Please email sfvmavp@gmail.com with your information to sign up for a clinic. Rabies clinics will be held at Animal Care and Control (ACC), 1200 15th Street (at Harrison) from 10am–1pm.

Please contact **Anna DeVincenzi** if you have any questions or would like to volunteer: sfvmavp@gmail.com

2020 RABIES CLINIC SCHEDULE

(Always on Sundays)

SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

DECEMBER 13, 2020

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

The SFVMA Board will consider charitable grants to organizations that support the care and welfare of animals in our community and promote the veterinary profession.

Please contact
Keely Commins
for details on
requests for donations:
sfvmatreasurer@gmail.com



SFVMA SCHOLARSHIPS

Veterinary Students

We will offer a scholarship to one UC Davis veterinary student and one Western Veterinary student in 2021. Applications are typically accepted between **October and December annually** as determined by the college.

REQUIREMENTS

- Must be currently enrolled in the veterinary program at UC Davis or Western University
- Current or former employment with an SFVMA member
- Must be able to prove employment with member

CONTACT FOR WESTERN VET. STUDENTS

Tim McPheron

Director of Development
College of Veterinary Medicine
tmcpheron@westernu.edu

CONTACT FOR UC DAVIS VET. STUDENTS

Hnouzong Her

External Relations Manager
hher@ucdavis.edu

RVT Students

To support and encourage RVTs in San Francisco, the SFVMA has established a scholarship program for students enrolled in an accredited RVT program. We will award \$1,000 to two candidates who are currently or have previously worked in the practice of an SFVMA member, and have a stated desire to return to SF after graduation.

Submissions should include a personal statement from the student, a letter of recommendation from the veterinarian, and proof of enrollment at an accredited RVT program. The deadline for applications is **May 1 annually**.

Questions should be sent to **Phil Watt** at sfvmapresident@gmail.com.



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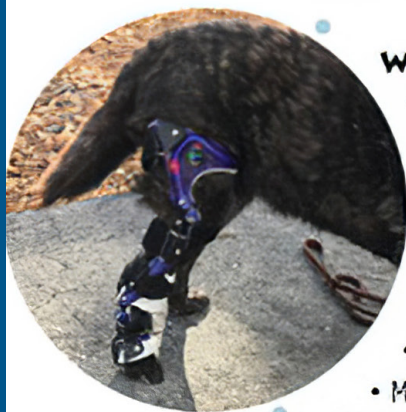
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WE ARE HIRING!

Do you want to work at a practice with great support staff, mentorship, and collegiality? Are you excited about the opportunity to join an amazing team with ambitious goals?



Positions Available:

- ▶ Mission Hospital Veterinarian
- ▶ Overnight Emergency Veterinarian

As the veterinary industry changes, not-for-profit veterinary organizations remain a solid and dependable employer, more likely to offer compensation packages meeting and surpassing industry standards for all employees. Our organization works hard to ensure benefits and work/life balance that may be harder to find at for-profit practices. Furthermore, the efforts you make on behalf of the SF SPCA will provide community care to clients and patients who have depended on us for over 150 years.



**Interested?
Visit
sfspca.org/careers
to apply today!**

The starting salary for these positions depends on the length and breadth of experience. You will be eligible for full benefits package including PTO and holiday pay, medical, dental & vision insurance, life insurance, long-term disability, tax-deferred retirement plan, pre-tax commute expense deductions, discounted veterinary care, employee discounts on retail, pet supplies, and dog training classes, financial support and time off for continuing education.





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Dr. Jacqueline Brady
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A Quick Tip for Your Clients from
SIRIUS® Puppy & Dog Training www.SIRIUSpup.com
Complimentary Classes for all Bay Area veterinarians and their staff

DOES YOUR DOG MISBEHAVE WHEN LEFT ALONE AT HOME?

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The easiest and quickest way to reprogram your dogs' habits:
Feed your dogs most of their daily diet from durable, hollow chewtoys, e.g., Kongs.
Dry kibble initially to make it easy to get the food, but then kibble soaked in water and
frozen overnight — Kongsicles! — Each piece of food will reward your dog for:
Chewing chewtoys and lying down Calmly and Quietly
and provide a Hobby for when left at home alone.

Please tell your clients about our FREE online Dog Behavior & Training Courses at
www.DunbarAcademy.com



Veterinary Street Outreach Services (VET SOS) is recruiting volunteers— DVMs and veterinary assistant/technicians — for its monthly mobile clinics serving the companion animals of homeless San Franciscans. Visit www.vetsos.org for more information, including upcoming clinic dates. Support the human-animal bond in this vulnerable population and work with outstanding volunteers from all over the Bay Area!

Voicemail: (415) 355-2237



Email: vetsos@sfccc.org

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CLASSIFIED ADS

BluePearl Veterinary Partners Seeking Full-Time ER Doctors

BluePearl Veterinary Partners in Daly City, CA is seeking two Full time ER doctors (12 shifts/month) to work in our 24/7 Specialty and Emergency hospital. You would be working alongside three other full time experienced ER doctors and one part time ER doctor. We have a fully equipped hospital for high-level care. Immediate openings available, we would love to hear from you!

BluePearl Veterinary Partners hospital in Daly City, CA is a state-of-the art 7,500 square foot facility. It is big enough to have top of the line equipment, but still small enough for clients to receive personalized, comprehensive care and service. Built in 2013, the hospital is located in the rapidly growing area of Daly City and is easily accessible.

Our clinicians offer 24/7 emergency care as well as specialty services in internal medicine, surgery, oncology, cardiology and Rehabilitative Medicine. Onsite diagnostic and treatment capabilities include a CT scanner, ultrasound, endoscopy, arthroscopy, laparoscopy and digital radiography.

Contact for more information: **Dr. Sonja Olson** — sonja.olson@bluepearlvet.com

Visit www.bluepearljobs.com to apply!

Volunteer Vet Techs Needed at PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support)

PAWS mission is to preserve, support and nurture the human-animal bond for those most vulnerable in our community, low-income San Francisco residents who are seniors (over 60 years old) and/or persons living with a disability, with pet food and vet care, among its services.

Volunteer Vet Techs assist one of our licensed Volunteer Veterinarians with exams and nail trims at our Ask The Vet consultations. Our vet exam room is located in the PAWS building in the Mission neighborhood of San Francisco.

Volunteer Vet Techs do not need to be licensed vet techs, but must have a minimum of one year experience working in a veterinary environment, and feel comfortable performing animal restraint and animal handling tasks within a limited clinic environment.

Please contact Program Coordinator, Volunteer Services,
Walter Campbell for more information and to apply to volunteer:

wcampbell@shanti.org

415-830-7026

Want to do something that saves lives, feels good and helps your community? Then volunteer to help animals when disasters strike in California!



Thousands of animals need care during and after disasters. Some 63% of California households have pets, including an estimated 10 million pet cats, nine million dogs, and one million horses. Other pets, farm animals, and wildlife also need assistance during and after disasters like earthquakes, floods, and wildfires.

Veterinary professionals are vital to animals during disasters. The mission of the California Veterinary Medical Reserve Corps (CAVMRC) is to provide veterinary professionals with the training and credentialing necessary to support animal health and public health.

Deployment is always voluntary. Volunteers get involved at whatever level works for them – assistants are needed as well as leaders, part-time responders are as welcome as those who can help out for a week or two, plus there are ongoing roles in areas such as planning and disaster response. Volunteer participation can be a matter of life or death for rescued animals and means the world to the owners of those animals.

BENEFITS OF JOINING THE CAVMRC

The CAVMRC provides veterinary professionals:

- Credentialing necessary to support animal health and public health emergency response.
- Continuing education and training opportunities that allow you to strengthen your skills to better serve your practice, your community and our state.
- Networking and information sharing opportunities with veterinary team members across the state.

WHO CAN JOIN THE CAVMRC?

You don't need any prior disaster response experience or training to join the CAVMRC. The entire veterinary practice team is welcome, including:

- Veterinarians
- Registered veterinary technicians
- Veterinary assistants, office managers and all support staff members
- Students in veterinary medical programs
- Retired veterinary professionals with a current license

PROGRAM AFFILIATION

The CVMA registered the CAVMRC as a unit of the Medical Reserve Corps under the California Emergency Medical Services Agency and works in cooperation with local, statewide, and national agencies. The CVMA has played an important role in preparing for and responding to disasters in California since 1994 and builds on this experience with this new affiliation.

For more information visit the CAVMRC website:

cvma.net/resources/disaster-response-program-2/california-veterinary-medical-reserve-corps-cavmrc/