

# gentle doctor

COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE SUMMER 2015 | VOL.29 NO. 1



## Mobile Veterinary Services



# gentledoctor

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**On the Cover**

*Dr. Brenda Bright, Heartland Pet Hospital, Story City, Iowa Story page 6*

*Photo: Christopher Gannon*

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## Dear alumni and friends,

Another academic year has come and gone at the College of Veterinary Medicine. On so many fronts, this was a truly outstanding year and it looks like 2015-2016 could be even better.

I wish I had space to tell you what wonderful things have happened this year. Here are just a few of the things happening in your college I hope you will be excited about, too.

With your help, we continue to provide strong support of our students. In May we presented more than \$725,000 in scholarships and awards to more than half of our student body — an increase of over \$100,000 compared to last year. Thank you for your financial support of our students and college.

We continue to strengthen our faculty and staff throughout every corner of the college. We are building something special in internal medicine and have dramatically improved our research competitiveness with new appointments in the big data (evaluating the massive volume of data generated in the college's research efforts) and translational health. This is on top of making the critical hire of Dr. Tom Johnson as the new director of hospital operations.

Speaking of the hospital, for the first time in a number of years, our income and expenses are meeting expectations and goals. We have been able to accomplish this through the dedication

of our outstanding hospital faculty and staff, and without instituting across-the-board price increases. And IVS, our affiliated hospital in Des Moines, is serving our clientele with distinction while helping us educate our students in emergency care. The Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory continues its national leadership role in helping veterinarians and producers deal with devastating outbreaks of Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea and High Pathogenic Avian Influenza. The lab has been a critical resource in testing, analyzing, and providing general information about the disease. It's because of efforts like these that make the VDL one of the top labs in the nation.

Our faculty made major upgrades in our teaching program with the debut of the new Clinical Skills Laboratory. There, students can hone their skills under the watchful eye of a faculty member in a phenomenal setting. They will receive hands-on clinical experience using amazing models right out of the special-effects people from Hollywood. Students can practice anesthesia skills using machines designed to test the limits of knowledge. Petunia, the alpaca model, will experience hundreds of venipunctures, and Frosty, a full-size Holstein model, will undergo thousands of pregnancies — most of them dystocias — all to benefit our students' learning.



Photo: Catherine Logue

And finally, the college jumped four spots in the 2015 graduate school rankings by U.S. News and World Report. We are now rated 13th overall and 10th among public colleges and universities. Many of my fellow deans and I believe these rankings are little more than a beauty contest but this “jump in the polls” tells me our colleagues believe Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine is on the rise.

Had they known of the year we have just completed maybe that ranking would have been even higher.

Best regards,

Lisa K. Nolan, DVM, PhD  
Dr. Stephen G. Juelsgaard  
Dean of Veterinary Medicine  
Iowa State University

# CVM Q&A

## INTERVIEW WITH

# Dr. Tom Johnson

*Director of Hospital Operations, Lloyd Veterinary Medical Center*

By Tracy Ann Raef

### What were your top three goals when you stepped into your role as Director of Hospital Operations?

1 I had a number of goals when I started my position. The top three, though, are the ones that guide my day, everyday. First is to improve communications with referring veterinarians. These referrals are the lifeblood of our clinical teaching hospital. Veterinarians refer patients for a variety of reasons. We need to understand why the patient was referred and make sure we meet the needs of the referring veterinarian. Maybe the referral is because of the high-tech equipment that we have, an MRI or CT for example. Maybe the referral was to advance their education, so they can provide additional care to their other patients. Whatever the reason, we need to be on the same page.

2 A second goal that directly impacts our ability to communicate with referring veterinarians is to create an effective and efficient communications channel for hospital faculty, staff, and students so we can provide the best care possible. During a typical visit, the patient and/or owner will interact with several hospital employees. It's imperative that everyone involved work together and communicate. And, when necessary, communications about general improvements to the way we do business needs to be discussed more broadly prior to implementation.

3 The third goal is to train and educate students so they will be practice-ready when they graduate. Beyond that, we want to graduate a confident student who will be an asset to future practice employers.

### What's your biggest challenge and best opportunity?

The biggest challenge is time management. I'm still learning to prioritize and delegate responsibilities.

The best opportunity is the dedication I see in nearly all of our faculty and staff. They want to raise the level of service and patient care that we provide.

### What has surprised you most in leading the operations of a referral hospital?

The amount of time our faculty need for the teaching responsibilities of their positions. It takes time to prepare lectures and grade students on the lecture and clinical teaching. I also have learned how important scientific presentations and publishing are to advance research and, in turn, our college and the profession. Ultimately, that research helps patient treatment and care.



*Dr. Tom Johnson in the client waiting area of the Hixson-Lied Small Animal Hospital.  
Photo: Christopher Gannon*

## Will you be looking to add any new services or specialties?

In the past six months, we've added faculty to increase our caseload in cardiology, dentistry, internal medicine, oncology and primary care. Across all specialty services we'll also be looking for ways to better serve our referring veterinarians.

## What can referring veterinarians and their clients expect from you as hospital director?

I will respond to their concerns personally. I want them to contact me if they have questions or concerns regarding patient care and communications. I want to hear their ideas on improving our client service.

My primary responsibility is to provide support to our faculty and staff so they can better serve the referring veterinarians and their clients and patients. If referring veterinarians and clients let me know what we need to do, we will do everything in our power to respond to their requests. **gd**

**Dr. Tom Johnson** is a 1971 graduate of Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine. Prior to joining the college, Dr. Johnson was the legislative liaison for the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association and served as its executive director for 12 years. His experience also includes 24 years as a private practitioner and practice owner in Spencer, Iowa.





*Dr. Brenda Bright (right) with client Sherri Krumm and her pet Nanette.  
Photo: Christopher Gannon*

## *Coming to your driveway:* The Veterinary House Call

By Dave Gieseke

**B**right's Mobile Veterinary Service began out of necessity and has developed into a labor of love.

Brenda Bright ('89) began making veterinary house calls in Ames a year after graduating from Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine. To this day she continues to travel throughout Story County caring for the pets of the elderly, young professionals, and working couples.

"At the time, I had two small children and stayed home with them during the day," she said. "When my husband came home from work at night, I would grab my bag and go make house calls."

Initially Bright wanted to build up a client list she could use to establish her own veterinary practice. In 1998 she purchased the Heartland Pet Hospital in Story City, Iowa.

Even with her goal accomplished, Bright didn't stop making house calls. These days Bright's Mobile Veterinary Service is on the road every Tuesday from 1-8 p.m. She typically has six or seven appointments each Tuesday where she provides primary care, vaccinations and blood work, and takes care of the occasional sick animal.

She has declawed cats, neutered dogs and cats, and sewn up lacerations. She has made house calls for guinea pigs, rabbits, parrots and rats, and even did a house surgery on a chinchilla. She does draw the line on snakes and large animals.

"The animals are much more relaxed at home than they are in the clinic," Bright said. "Plus I believe it helps me diagnose some problems much easier. I see them in their own environment. If there are behavioral issues, I see how the owners are feeding them or what

the litter box situation is. The owners are also more comfortable at home which I believe significantly helps with the whole process."

That's particularly true when Bright is asked to euthanize a pet at their home.

"I think this is a great service I and other veterinarians provide," she said. "This is a very emotional time for pet owners and it seems to relax them and their pets, more than when we do the same procedure at the clinic."

The connection Bright makes with her clients and patients is why she continues to make house calls.

"I enjoy providing a service that benefit not only the pets, but their owners as well," she said. "I do believe this is a niche market many of our clients really like and appreciate." **gd**

*Dr. Wendy Ware with Lori Moran, RVT,  
in the cardiology treatment room.  
Photo: Christopher Gannon*

# Love for a Beloved Pet Brings Unexpected Gift to Cardiology Service

By Tracy Ann Raef

Every pet owner has felt the worry and concern when his or her pet isn't well. So, when Dr. Terri Dermody of Urbandale, Iowa, suggested that Tache receive further evaluation at Iowa State's veterinary hospital, owner Phyllis Clark didn't hesitate.

It was February 2003, when cardiologist Dr. Wendy Ware first examined Tache, a six-year-old domestic shorthair cat. Tache was having trouble breathing, wasn't eating, and was lethargic. She had evidence of advanced right-sided congestive heart failure, with free fluid accumulation in both her chest and abdominal cavities. An echocardiogram indicated that Tache had massive right atrial and right ventricular enlargement, with an abnormal and leaky tricuspid valve. Ware's diagnosis was tricuspid dysplasia, a congenital malformation of the right AV valve and its supporting structures. In Tache, this condition didn't cause much of a murmur, but over time the leaking valve led to the right heart enlargement and subsequent failure.

Ware managed the congestive heart failure signs as best she could at the time, but could not correct the underlying malformation. Ware helped care for Tache for four months until Tache passed away with refractory CHF and worsening kidney function.

It would be 10 years later, after Clark passed away, that Ware would again be reminded of Clark's love for Tache.

Clark made a bequest directed to the cardiology service. Her message was simple, but specific, that support be given to the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences "Heart Division, to be directed by Dr. Wendy Ware. This is a memorial to my beloved 'Tache' and my deep thanks to Dr. Wendy Ware."

"The gift came as a complete surprise," Ware said. "Ms. Clark was a gentle, caring woman who loved her two cats, one, of course, was Tache."

The gift established the Phyllis M. Clark Professorship in Veterinary Cardiology, and Ware was appointed as its inaugural holder.

"I'm really excited about this opportunity," Ware said. She has several ideas for the use of the funds over the next several years. Some of the ideas will focus on creating additional educational resources for students. One idea involves acquiring a heart sound simulator system to help teach auscultation skills. "It's a challenging skill to learn," Ware said.

Other potential uses for the funds include small clinical research projects and developing client educational

and other support materials to help improve the quality of life for patients with heart failure.

"The cardiology section's future is looking up. The gift from Ms. Clark will allow us to do more things to enhance student teaching and care for our cardiac patients. The other exciting news, aside from Ms. Clark's gift, is that we will be adding another cardiologist to the staff of the Veterinary Medical Center this fall. In September, Dr. Jessica Ward will join us. She completed her cardiology residency program at North Carolina State University in July 2015 and has recently taken the ACVIM Cardiology Specialty examination."

This will be the first time the hospital has two cardiologists.

Although Ware is pleased with the direction and future of the cardiology section, she does have one regret. "I truly wish that I had the opportunity to thank Ms. Clark in person and let her know how much her gift will benefit patients and future veterinarians." **gd**





# National Center Fills Educational Niche

## Swine Education Medicine Center Evolves to Fill Needs of Veterinary Students

By Tracy Ann Raef



Dr. Alexandra Buckley  
Photo: Jim Fosse

**Dr.** Alexandra Buckley's career choice may be surprising. She grew up in a suburb northwest of Detroit, with no farm background or experience. Today, Buckley is a veterinarian with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Swine Virology Unit in Ames. It was a job in a toxicology laboratory researching salmonella shedding in swine with mentor Dr. Julie Funk that sparked an interest in swine medicine. Buckley entered veterinary school that fall and spent the rest of her veterinary education trying to learn as much about swine as she could. That quest led her to the Swine Medicine Education Center (SMEC) at Iowa State University.

Dr. Locke Karriker, director of SMEC, says students like Buckley are at the core of the center's mission, to educate and train veterinary students in swine management and medicine.

"Only five states that have greater than five percent of the U.S. pig production also have a veterinary school," Karriker says. "So the idea that every veterinary school will devote resources to swine medicine beyond the basics isn't realistic."

Buckley, a 2015 graduate from Michigan State University, says "MSU doesn't have swine medicine courses or rotations, so SMEC was essential for me to gain swine experience."

SMEC is uniquely positioned to excel as a national center for swine education. "It already had a nucleus of swine educators in place, and great working relationships with pig producers of all sizes," Karriker says. "And, the college has always had a tradition of welcoming veterinary students from other schools.

"Our goal is to be the curriculum resource for swine education," Karriker says. "We've got a core of recorded lectures and other resources for the third-year students. We also have two-week rotations for fourth-year students."

A truly unique aspect to the center is the close relationships with producers and farmers within the state of Iowa. "No problem is too big or too small for us, so students get to work on things that impact the farmer's swine system," Karriker said. "Because the problem isn't always an emergency or urgent-need, we can schedule those visits to fit the timing of rotations."

The variety of systems in Iowa provides students with opportunities to work with outdoor herds, confined systems, and niche markets, all of different sizes. "Having no swine background, SMEC provided me with an amazing opportunity to learn. SMEC helped me discover my passion by providing me







*SMEC Team (top row, from left): Drs. Derald Holtkamp, Alex Ramirez, Pat Halbur (Department of Veterinary Diagnostic and Production Animal Medicine Chair); bottom row, from left: Drs. Jessica Bates, Paisley Canning, Locke Karriker (SMEC Director), Abbey Canon, and Ms. Kristen Hammen*  
File Photo

*Bottom photo: Drs. Josh Ellingson, AMVC, and Paul Thomas*

with opportunities to run my own research trials,” Buckley says. They have a system that takes you through the entire research process, from designing the trial to writing abstracts for publication.”

ISU graduate Deanne Day ('13) is the genetics herd veterinarian at The Maschhoffs where she provides technical expertise in health management. Day's family raised and showed Appaloosa horses and her grandfather farmed and raised cattle. She is typical of many students with some large animal experience who decided early on to focus on large animal medicine. Day developed her passion for pigs during a swine production internship with AMVC Management services (Audubon, Iowa) where she worked on a 5,000-head sow farm to learn the basics of pig production. For Day the courses and internship not only taught her the basics, but also “provided hands-on experience to develop key clinical skills not taught in the veterinary curriculum.”

“We also have practitioners come through the clinical rotations,” Karriker says. “Usually they are mixed animal practitioners who have an opportunity to pick up some new clients when another practitioner retires, or the small animal practitioner who needs a better understanding of pigs and their diseases for a new job as a technical

consultant.” These practitioners are treated like the fourth-year students. “If we let the students know they are a practitioner, it changes the dynamic of the group.”

Karriker says the center is now leaving the growth stage and entering the finishing stage. They have trained students from 21 veterinary schools and impacted 31 countries through education, training and other resources. Currently, SMEC has a library of 49 training videos on a variety of topics.

Current staffing includes four postdocs and veterinarian Josh Ellingson, an AMVC veterinarian, who is the on-site, clinical instructor at SMEC. “My job is to make sure they have what they need to do what they want to do,” Karriker says. “They are self-starters and take advantage of what comes along.”

“Our niche is fourth-year student, on-farm training,” Karriker says.

“With a small staff, we take on research projects that allow us to generate new techniques or knowledge that can be shared with the industry.”

Karriker says his focus now is to ensure the long-term sustainability of the center. He looks toward leveraging what they have learned, and offering resources that have value. Karriker plans to continue dialogues with other

schools on how the center can help them. “Our student stream continues to grow but there are limits to what additional cost we can place on the students directly.” A mix of teaching, research and service activities not only keeps SMEC at the center of current issues for swine medicine but also allows it to be sustainable financially.

Asked if the center is what he envisioned four years ago when it was established, Karriker says no. “It's better than what I envisioned. We have been very fortunate to attract quality staff and collaborators that have built a strong future for SMEC.”

*For more information about SMEC, please contact Dr. Locke Karriker at [karriker@iastate.edu](mailto:karriker@iastate.edu)*



# The New Farrier in Town Makes A SUCCESSFUL ENTRANCE

By Bailey Miller



Photo: Christopher Gannon

## How to Prepare a Horse for its First Visit with a Farrier

By Doug Russo

Many clients expect a horse to misbehave the first time they are shod or trimmed. This should never be the case. It is the owner's responsibility to train horses to stand for the farrier.

- Pick their feet up and hold them up for two to three minutes at a time.
- Tap their feet gently with a hammer or with the backside of the hoof pick.
- Never feed a horse while your farrier's working on him.

Horses can be taught to stand patiently without food or treats. If you're not sure how to train your horse for the farrier, just ask him or her for advice. You should expect to pay double when a farrier has to train your horse for you while he shoes or trims.

There's a new farrier in town and he has made quite the impact on Iowa State's College of Veterinary Medicine since he came to campus in Oct. 2014. Doug Russo, certified journeyman farrier, joined the Lloyd Veterinary Medical Center team as the resident farrier to assist students, faculty, and clients in providing quality hoof care for equine.

Russo is one of nine certified journeymen farriers in the state of Iowa, two of which are retired.

As the resident farrier, Russo's daily tasks include routine visits from clients, which consist of therapeutic shoeing and follow-ups. He usually keeps his routine visits to two per day allowing more teaching time with his rotational students and anyone who is in the 16-week farrier training course.

Russo's success has been evident within the college over the past nine months. He has collaborated in a number of areas with veterinarians and students on staff. His position includes teaching a two-week rotation for fourth-year veterinary students. The students choose to enroll in his course with hopes of understanding and building a better practitioner/farrier/client relationship while learning some practical skills such as pulling shoes. Russo has taught one-day veterinary courses through the American Farrier's Association (AFA) which has given him

the training to excel in communicating the importance of team work between the veterinarian and the farrier to ensure proper hoof care.

Within months of joining the LVMC staff, Russo coordinated the first hoof care clinic held in March with the help of the Iowa Professional Farriers Association and the student chapter of the American Association of Equine Practitioners. The clinic was preceded by an AFA certification, the first held in Iowa in 20 years. A combination of 75 veterinary students, practicing veterinarians, and farriers teamed up to learn about the modern materials used in the industry, caudle heel pain, and a wet lab that allowed farriers and practitioners to work together on a cadaver leg to diagnose an equine foot issue. The important lesson taught by Russo and the LVMC clinicians was learning to listen to the client and working as a team.

A Michigan native, Russo had limited equine experience growing up, but at age 18, he decided to be adventurous and move to Montana. There he developed a passion for horses. After 10 years, he and his wife moved to Maine where he met and worked with a certified journeyman farrier, and later back to Michigan where he completed another two-year apprenticeship and became a certified journeyman farrier through the American Farriers Association.





## LEVELS OF FARRIER CERTIFICATION BY THE AFA

**Farrier** – entry level of AFA certification

**Certified Farrier** – first level of AFA certification

**Certified Tradesman Farrier** – second level of AFA certification

**Certified Journeyman Farrier** – highest level of AFA certification

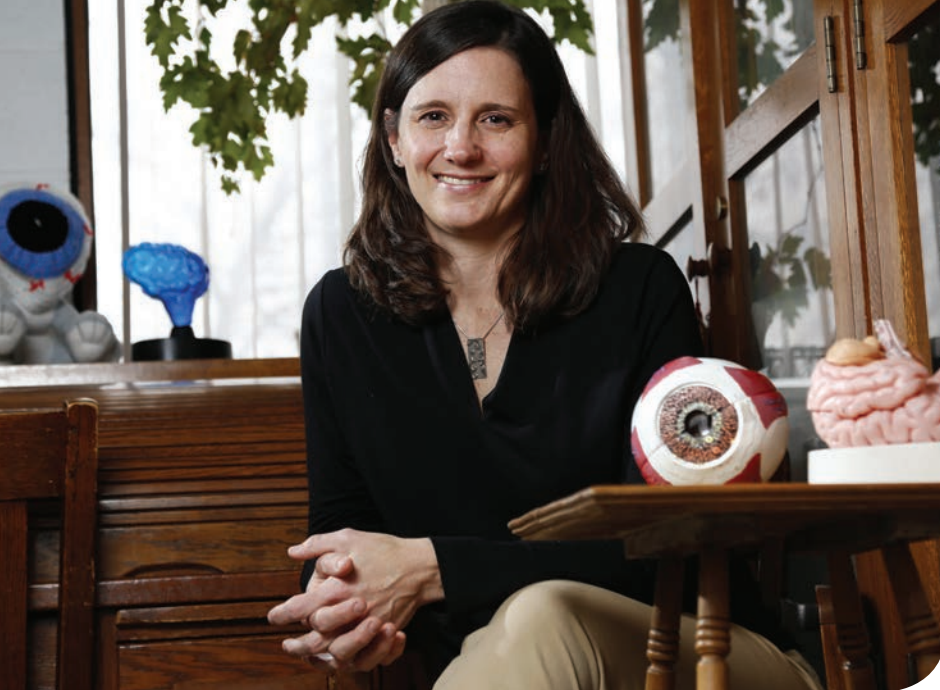
Over the course of his career, Russo has become a leader in the farrier industry. He was president of the Michigan Horseshoers Association. He is a board member and co-chairs several committees within the AFA including membership services, research, and education. Russo is currently working on his AFA Therapeutic Endorsement, which allows him to demonstrate more of his knowledge about foot and hoof pathology.

He had a little apprehension joining the team after being self-employed for so many years. Russo explains how it is a team-oriented effort as he works closely with ISU equine veterinarians Drs. Stephanie Caston, Kevin Kersh, and Scott McClure. He says they are top-notch in lameness diagnosis.

Russo reflected on his past nine months and states excitedly “I love it! The staff has been so good to work with here.” **gd**

*Doug Russo prepares a shoe for a horse in the Equine Performance Facility at the Large Animal Hospital. Photo: Christopher Gannon*





*Dr. Heather Greenlee's research shows that scanning the retinas of cattle can lead to faster detection of mad cow disease.  
Photo: Christopher Gannon*

## Can Retinal Scans Provide Early Detection of BSE?

By Fred Love

**B**ovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), known more commonly as mad cow disease, is an untreatable neurodegenerative disorder caused by misfolded brain proteins known as prions. Classic BSE incubates for years before producers or veterinarians notice symptoms, usually discovered when the animal can no longer stand on its own.

But Heather Greenlee, PhD, an associate professor of biomedical sciences in Iowa State's College of Veterinary Medicine, said studying the retinas of cattle can identify infected animals up to 11 months before they show signs of illness.

**"Our goal is to develop our understanding of the retina to monitor disease progression and to move diagnoses up earlier."**

— Dr. Heather Greenlee

"The retina is part of the central nervous system," Greenlee said. "Essentially, it's the part of the brain closest to the outside world, and we know the retina is changed in animals that have prion diseases."

In collaboration with a team at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Animal Disease Center, she recently published findings in the peer-reviewed academic journal *PLOS ONE*. She began studying how the retina relates to prion diseases in 2006, and the experiments that led to her most recent publication began in 2010.

The experiments utilize electroretinography and optical coherence tomography, noninvasive technologies commonly used to assess the retina. Greenlee said cows infected with BSE showed marked changes in retinal function and thickness.

The results have implications for food safety, and Greenlee said the screening methods used in her research could be adopted for animals tagged for import

or export as a means of identifying BSE sooner than conventional methods.

Greenlee said she's also looking at how similar diseases in other species affect the retina. For instance, she's conducting experiments to find out if retinal tissue may be a valid means of surveillance for chronic wasting disease in deer.

She said she isn't ready to publish her results, but the data gathered so far looks promising.

The research also may contribute to faster diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease in humans, both of which are caused by proteins folding incorrectly.

"Our goal is to develop our understanding of the retina to monitor disease progression and to move diagnoses up earlier," Greenlee said. "We think this research has the potential to improve diagnosis for a range of species and a range of diseases." **gd**







# Project Focuses on Diseases and Climate Change in African Camels

By Fred Love

An Iowa State University veterinary researcher is helping to protect camel herds in East Africa from the ravages of climate change and disease, a project that will strengthen food security and human health for people throughout the region.

Paul Plummer, an assistant professor of veterinary diagnostic and production animal medicine in the College of Veterinary Medicine, leads the Camel Adaptation and Medicine in the East African Landscape Project. The project seeks to build the capacity of veterinary labs in Ethiopia and nearby countries to work on diseases that threaten camels, a major livestock option for much of the region's population.

Funded by the USAID Feed the Future Innovation Laboratory for Adapting Livestock to Climate Change located at Colorado State University, the first phase of the initiative started in April 2014 and will conclude later this year. ISU researchers, with the help of the Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture's National Animal Health Diagnostic and Investigation Center and a non-governmental organization with personnel based in East Africa, are gathering data on the diseases and challenges faced by local camel herds. The veterinary infrastructure in

Ethiopia and neighboring countries is limited in its capacity to diagnose camels. That has serious repercussions for populations that depend on camels for their health and livelihoods.

"Some of the populations we're talking about are some of the most 'food insecure' in the world," Plummer said. "For children, especially, almost all of their protein comes from camel meat and milk."

Plummer said about 15 million of the 19 million camels in the world are located in the East African countries of Ethiopia, Somalia, Djibouti, Eritrea and Sudan. The arid climate of the region limits options for raising livestock, but camels, which can go up to a week without water, have the advantage of being one of the most drought-resilient species.

But drought has grown as a concern in recent years, leading to a shrinkage of grazing land, and the weather extremes can give rise to malnutrition and other health concerns for camel herds, Plummer said. The region's climate, which alternates between wet and severely dry seasons, has a large impact on diseases that target camels, he said. But even the wet season, which usually sees fewer than six inches of rainfall, stays fairly arid.



*Dr. Paul Plummer treats a camel suffering from a tooth root abscess in East Africa. Photo: Paul Plummer.*

"The goal is to assess what the biggest threats are and use the data in a future phase of the project to improve the availability of viable treatments for those diseases." — Dr. Paul Plummer

The project team has tested more than 3,000 samples taken from camels in the region. The goal is to build a database of diseases, parasites and health concerns most common to the herd. At the same time, personnel are conducting interviews with local camel herders to get a sense of their top priorities for protecting their camels.

"The goal is to assess what the biggest threats are and use the data in a future phase of the project to improve the availability of viable treatments for those diseases," Plummer said.

Because of limitations in local infrastructure, most of the tests and treatments the project will develop and recommend can't rely on electricity or refrigeration for delivery and effectiveness, he said. **gd**

# Two-time Vets

By Dave Gieseke



*Tyler Bauman drives a Humvee during a deployment in Iraq.  
Photo: Tyler Bauman*

It's a question that Dr. Kelly Still-Brooks gets a lot.

I run across people all the time who ask what does the Army need a veterinarian for?" said Still-Brooks, U.S. Army Reserve major and clinician with the Department of Veterinary Diagnostic and Production Animal Medicine.

Why indeed. Surely that went the way of the dodo bird when motorized vehicles replaced the cavalry. Or at least when horses and mules were no longer used to pull artillery pieces from battlefield to battlefield.

No, veterinary science is still a critical branch of the U.S. Army as evidenced by the number of Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine alumni, faculty and current students who have or continue to serve.

Alumni such as Dr. David Trask ('75) who rose to be the ranking veterinary officer in the first Gulf War have served, and faculty member Dr. Kenneth Platt, professor of veterinary microbiology and preventive medicine, who served 34 years in the U.S. Army Reserves. Both retired as full colonels.

According to Trask and Platt, the duties of today's Army veterinarians cover a wide array of activities. The most obvious to the layman would be the care of military working dogs. Over 25 percent of the Army veterinary corps is engaged in biomedical research. Food safety and public health are also important roles Iowa State veterinarians have performed in the military.

Yet, the Iowa State veterinarians say their most satisfying duty is the military's humanitarian efforts across the globe.

"One of our main goals is to try to win the hearts and minds of the population," Platt said. "It was nice to be a veterinarian especially when we were engaged in productive and rewarding activities."

Rewarding activities have taken place around the world according to a small sampling of Iowa State veterinary medicine alumni, faculty and students.

"On my last deployment I was in Kuwait for a year in 2013 and 2014," said Tyler Bauman ('16) who served with the 949th Vet Med detachment





*Dr. Pat Phillips during a deployment in Afghanistan  
Photo: Dr. Pat Phillips*

out of Ames, Iowa. “We had a pretty varied mission, but we worked primarily on food inspection and care of military working dogs. It was very rewarding. Regardless of whether it is peace time or combat, this work makes you feel like you’re doing a greater good.”

Still-Brooks remained in the Army Reserves after serving in active duty for almost a decade. Deployments have taken her to Haiti after an earthquake devastated that country, as well as to Central and South America and western Africa.

As part of the Army’s Civil Affairs Unit, Still-Brooks’ efforts were focused on livestock development and humanitarian assistance. Her unit worked on sustainable projects with USAID and other non-governmental organizations after tailoring their efforts for the particular country and community they were deployed in.

“The biggest issue in most of the countries I went to was the lack of veterinarians,” she said. “We tried to get away from just vaccinating animals because that doesn’t get to the under-

lying issue of the lack of veterinary care.” Like Still-Brooks, Dr. Pat Phillips switched over to the Reserves after active duty. Before he retired in 2005 after almost 30 years of active and reserve duty as a lieutenant colonel, Phillips spent a good part of 2002 to 2004 in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Phillips was part of General Tommy Franks’ staff and commanded the 719th Vet Med detachment out of Chicago. In civilian life, he owned a large animal practice in Wisconsin — work that carried over into his Army career, particularly in Afghanistan where nomadic tribes travel with their animals.

During this deployment, Phillips, a senior clinician in the Department of Veterinary Diagnostic and Production Animal Medicine and the Armbrust Professor in Reproductive Medicine, said his unit ran across diseases not found in the United States.

“We pretty much ‘train up’ for these diseases and are ready for any possibilities,” Phillips said. “It’s a whole different approach on how we treat many of these diseases than we would in the U.S.”

Take foot and mouth disease, for instance. Phillips says if a case ever made it to this country the herd would be immediately depopulated. In Afghanistan and Iraq, the economic impact of the animals plays a big role in their treatment.

“The Iraqis and Afghans don’t have much so we have to treat the animals because they can’t afford to lose a single one,” Phillips said.

Working with local veterinarians is also essential for the Army veterinarians to win the hearts and minds of the populaces. Both Still-Brooks and Phillips say the Army works closely with local veterinarians despite the fact their training is nowhere near the level they would receive in the U.S.

“We actively sought out Afghan veterinarians before we went out into the field,” Phillips said, “and they were always willing to work with us.

“Working with an Afghan veterinarian was crucial to our success. That’s how our acceptance with the Afghan people was gained.” **gd**



Handler Dallas Wingate gives K9 Officer Bandit a toy after Bandit's eye exam with Dr. Rachel Allbaugh.  
Photo: Tracy Ann Raef

## LVMC Participates in Free Service Dog Eye Exam Program

In May, veterinary ophthalmologists at the Lloyd Veterinary Medical Center participated in the annual service dog free eye exam program sponsored by the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists. Drs. Rachel Allbaugh ('04) and Gil Ben-Shlomo provided free exams to 17 service dogs, including K9 police officers, therapy dogs and personal service dogs. The event pays tribute to the service dogs that help humans in numerous roles every day. Police dogs from Des Moines and Paws & Effect therapy dogs were among the many receiving exams at the LVMC.

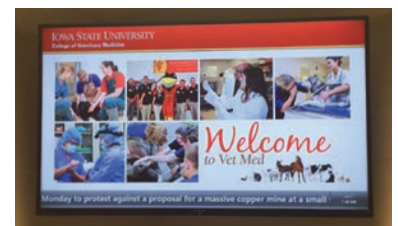
## STUDENTS SEEKING DONATIONS FOR 2016 SAVMA SYMPOSIUM

Iowa State University will be hosting the annual Student American Veterinary Medical Association (SAVMA) Symposium from March 17-19, 2016, in Ames, Iowa. Since 1969, this annual event has focused on improving the field of veterinary medicine through education, camaraderie, and networking opportunities. A committee of Iowa State veterinary students is working to organize lectures, wet labs, and day trips that will showcase the many facets of veterinary medicine.

"We are committed to making the 2016 SAVMA Symposium the best symposium yet and we need your help to do it," said Celeste Morris ('17). "We expect that the 2016 Symposium will draw anywhere from 800-1,200 veterinary students and we are thrilled to have the opportunity to provide our profession's future leaders with a strong understanding of the many aspects of veterinary medicine. Please help us better the future of veterinary medicine! Thank you for considering a contribution to support our endeavor!" For more information, please contact Morris at [cemorris@iastate.edu](mailto:cemorris@iastate.edu)

## Digital Signage Enhances Communications

Thanks to the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association, the college has a new communications tool — digital signage. Large, wall-mounted screens were installed in the Fish Tank Lobby, at the entrance of the Gentle Doctor Café and in the main administrative reception area. This network of



signage provides a flexible method for disseminating information such as weekly events and important announcements. All three screens have two real-time weather radar maps (Iowa and a regional map) and a U.S. news feed from Reuters. While the content for the main administrative area is geared toward visitors, content for the screens in the Fish Tank Lobby and Café is populated with pertinent information for students. The beauty of this network system and software is that individual, or group screen information can be tailored to the audience. As stated by Neil Sinha ('17), "Being part of the current generation where if information isn't on a phone or with a hashtag in front of a word, it's hard to catch our attention. These monitors not only attract our attention with the rotating display of information, but they also summarize the events and activities occurring outside the classroom that students may not be aware of. The donation from IVMA shows how supportive they are of our university, and more importantly, how interested IVMA is in what will be most beneficial for the students during their four years at the college."



# CLASS OF 2019 PROFILE

One hundred and forty-nine students will begin the DVM program this fall. The class enrollment includes 26 Nebraska students who are enrolled in the Formal Educational Alliance with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

## GENDER

Male: 26 (17.5%)

Female: 123 (82.5%)

## AGE

Average: 24 years

Range: 20-38 years

## SCIENCE GPA

Mean: 3.39

## LAST 45

## CREDITS GPA

Mean: 3.62



# Accolades & Awards

## CVM ALUMNI

**Timothy Baszler, DVM** ('82) was the recipient of the E.P. Pope Award from the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians.

**Dan Thomson, DVM** ('00) received the 2015 Beef Quality Assurance Educator of the Year Award.

**Alex Ramirez, DVM** ('93) was elected vice president of the American Association of Swine Veterinarians.

**David Schmitt, DVM** ('73) ascended to the office of president-elect of the U.S. Animal Health Association.

## CVM FACULTY

**Anumantha Kanthasamy, PhD**, W. E. Lloyd Chair in Neurotoxicology, has been named a Fellow of the Academy of Toxicological Sciences.

**Locke Karriker, DVM**, was elected to the AASV Board of Directors, representing District 6 (Iowa).

**Jim Noxon, DVM**, Morrill Professor, was the recipient of the 2015 Frank Kral Award for Achievements in Veterinary Dermatology by the American College of Veterinary Dermatologists.

**Qijing Zhang, DVM**, was named a fellow of the American Society for Microbiology.

# Upcoming Events

**Class of 1990 Reunion** – August 21-23, 2015, Ames, Iowa

**Class of 1970 Reunion** – October 2-4, 2015, Pella, Iowa

**Vet Med Open House & Expo** – October 24, 2015, Ames, Iowa

**Class of 1975 Reunion** – October 31, 2015, Ames, Iowa

**Class of 1980 Reunion** – October 31, 2015, Ames, Iowa

**Class of 1985 Reunion** – October 31, 2015, Ames, Iowa

**Homecoming CVM BBQ** – October 31, 2015, Ames, Iowa



# GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

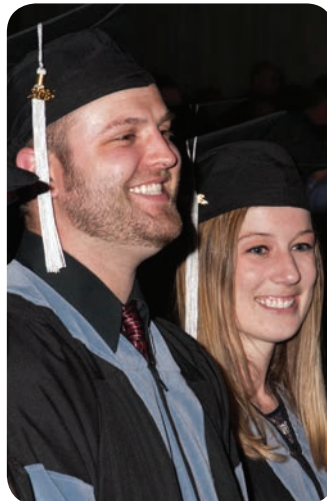
# 50 years

The Class of 1965 celebrated its 50-year reunion in Ames, Iowa, May 14-15. Members of the class heard updates from Dean Lisa K. Nolan, Dr. Tom Johnson, director of hospital operations, and Kathy Kuehl, admissions coordinator; and they toured the small and large animal hospitals.

*Photo: Dave Gieseke*

## Stange and Switzer Award Recipients Announced

Congratulations to the 2015 recipients of the Stange Award for Meritorious Service: Drs. Marion Anders ('60), Kenneth Harkin ('89), and Howard Moore ('74). The 2015 recipient of the William P. Switzer Award in Veterinary Medicine is Dr. Ron Grier ('65). The awards will be presented at a college breakfast at the Gateway Hotel on Oct. 30, 2015. Alumni who are interested in attending should contact Sarah Donahue at donahues@iastate.edu



## { Congrats Class of 2015

*Daniel Borchers and Jennifer Bosch along with 145 of their classmates were conferred the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree at the college's graduation ceremony held May 9, 2015. Dr. Jim DeLano ('87) was the commencement speaker. Serving as marshals for this year's class were Drs. Ron Griffith and Jennifer Schleining ('01). Drs. Gayle Brown and Alex Ramirez ('93) were the hooders. Dr. Ryan Steen ('00), president of the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association, administered the Veterinarian's Oath to the graduates. Photo courtesy of Flash Photography*

# NEW TILT CHUTE INSTALLED IN LARGE ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Recently, the veterinarians at Iowa State University's Lloyd Veterinary Medical Center got a new piece of equipment — a hydraulic tilt chute — that allows them to do foot work more safely and efficiently.

"The tilt chute is used mainly for lameness examinations isolated to the feet or lower limbs of an animal, corrective foot trimming, and applying foot bandages," says Dr. Jennifer Schleining who specializes in large animal surgery at the Lloyd VMC.

Without a tilt chute or table, a veterinarian would need to "lay the animal down with a short-acting anesthetic or use a rope-

restraint system to tie the animal's feet up in a regular working chute." While the rope system can be useful on farms when a veterinarian just needs to look at a foot or remove a bandage, a tilt table or chute is the only way to do extensive procedures such as paring out deep sole abscesses, and doing regional limb blocks, Schleining explains. "Even routine hoof trimming is more efficient and safer for the patient and veterinarian."

The tilt chute at the VMC includes an in-floor scale for weight assessment (allowing accurate and precise medication dosing) and a hydraulic head-restraint system that is useful for dehorning procedures, eye examinations,

and other procedures that require the animal's head to remain still. The tilt chute is rated to hold up to 5,500 pounds.

Once the animal is in the chute, the veterinarian uses the hydraulic levers to safely squeeze the animal, lift it off the ground, and slowly rotate the animal until it is on its side.

Panels located on the bottom of the chute open to allow the veterinarian to access the feet. Once the veterinarian is finished, the hydraulic system is again used to return the animal to its normal upright position.

*Photos: Tracy Ann Raef*





*The Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine wishes to express its heartfelt sympathy and condolences to the families and friends of the following alumni.*

# In Memoriam

## 1930s

**Paul Earnest Maland ('37)**  
Charles City, Iowa  
October 26, 2014

## 1940s

**Lloyd Bates ('50)**  
Conrad, Iowa  
September 3, 2014

**Dr. Ernest Dahlquist ('40)**  
Fayette, Iowa  
April 15, 2014

**Robert Arthur Eninger ('43)**  
Spencer, Iowa  
September 23, 2014

**Robert W. Finch ('43)**  
Grimes, Iowa  
August 1, 2014

**Harry Heddens ('40)**  
Georgetown, Texas  
September 20, 2014

**Lawrence Johanson ('43)**  
Thompson, Iowa  
January 25, 2015

**John Kerr ('46)**  
Hermosa Beach, Calif.  
June 23, 2014

**Roy N. Masson ('46)**  
Brookings, S.D.  
February 21, 2014

**Ferrell Puckett ('44)**  
Mt. Vernon, Ill.  
September 22, 2014

**Samuel Thompson ('46)**  
Gurnee, Ill.  
May 1, 2014

**Mason Vegors ('43)**  
Huxley, Iowa  
January 6, 2015

## 1950s

**Donald Baker ('50)**  
Bangor, Maine  
April 19, 2015

**Barry O. Barnes ('51)**  
Des Moines, Iowa  
October 8, 2014

**Roger Bender ('59)**  
Spring Grove, Minn.  
March 9, 2015

**Burton Bushnell ('51)**  
Manchester, Iowa  
March 29, 2014

**James Robert Collins ('52)**  
Dixon, Ill.  
May 2, 2014

**Roger Feldman ('50)**  
College Station, Texas  
February 25, 2015

**Richard F. LaFrance ('51)**  
Hardin, Mont.  
March 1, 2014

**Rulan Hansen ('57)**  
Decorah, Iowa  
March 26, 2015

**Dr. Stanley Held ('57)**  
Buffalo, Minn.  
September 22, 2014

**Irwin Huff ('59)**  
Bismarck, N.D.  
June 13, 2014

**Fred E. Husmann ('52)**  
Jerseyville, Ill.  
August 15, 2014

**Dale Kelley ('51)**  
Sauk City, Wis.  
October 1, 2014

**Dale W. Longtin ('58)**  
Muscatine, Iowa  
November 7, 2014

**Robert Perry ('56)**  
Omaha, Neb.  
December 10, 2014

**Harvey John Peterson ('53)**  
Andover, Minn.  
August 24, 2013

**Marshall Pitcher ('54)**  
Maquoketa, Iowa  
February 4, 2015

**John Post ('55)**  
Slayton, Minn.  
June 23, 2014

**Thomas Schalk ('56)**  
Sarasota, Fla.  
April 29, 2015

**Cliff Templeman ('52)**  
Wichita, Kan.  
April 28, 2015

**David C. Van Sickle ('57)**  
West Lafayette, Ind.  
March 20, 2014

**Earl L. Wahl ('51)**  
Ames, Iowa  
April 2, 2014

**Roger Waller ('57)**  
Nashua, Iowa  
October 8, 2014

## 1960s

**Frederick Branco ('60)**  
St. Charles, Mo.  
April 29, 2015

**Raymond Buelow ('64)**  
Goleta, Calif.  
April 19, 2015

**George Dennis ('68)**  
Elkhorn, Neb.  
October 1, 2014

**Richard Dillman ('61)**  
Raleigh, N.C.  
June 5, 2015

**Albert Few ('66)**  
St. Petersburg, Fla.  
December 12, 2014

**Ronald Guss ('62)**  
Troy, Va.  
February 22, 2015

**John D. Lanz ('64)**  
Norfolk, Neb.  
December 24, 2014

**Loren Maas ('67)**  
Iowa City, Iowa  
December 31, 2014

**James Sheldon ('61)**  
Mesquite, Nev.  
September 16, 2014

## 1970s

**Steven Harris ('77)**  
Wayzata, Minn.  
November 2, 2013

**Kathryn Mayberry ('75)**  
Minneapolis, Minn.  
February 2, 2014

**Keith Sherman ('72)**  
Chanute, Kan.  
April 2, 2015

**Donald Witzel ('70)**  
Bryan, Texas  
November 30, 2014

## 1980s

**Erik Aanestad ('89)**  
Pomeroy, Ohio  
June 18, 2015

**Karen Hicks-Allredge ('83)**  
Sweetwater, Texas  
March 9, 2015

**Lorie A. Huston ('86)**  
Providence, R.I.  
September 30, 2014

**Leonard Eugene Spiker ('85)**  
Eagle, Idaho  
January 26, 2015

**Jonita K. Woodbridge ('80)**  
Sioux City, Iowa  
May 15, 2014

## 1990s

**Gregory William Berry ('91)**  
Des Moines, Iowa  
October 28, 2014

## Bald Eagle Returns to Flight

Dr. Mary Sarah Bergh released a rehabilitated bald eagle June 8, in Story County, Iowa. The adult male bald eagle had been hit by a vehicle, rescued, and transported to ISU's Wildlife Care Clinic. Dr. Bergh, an orthopedic surgeon at the Lloyd Veterinary Medical Center, successfully repaired the fractured right humerus (upper wing bone) with an external skeletal fixator to stabilize the bone so it healed properly. Following surgery, Saving Our Avian Resources, an Iowa-based organization dedicated to protecting raptors, rehabilitated the eagle by feeding it, administering medication, and providing a safe environment to strengthen the injured wing. Twelve weeks later, the bald eagle had recovered from the surgery and was healthy enough to be released.

*Photo courtesy of Craig Meyers*

