

# The New York City Veterinarian

## VMA NYC Newsletter



### Veterinary Medical Association of New York City

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[www.vmanyc.org](http://www.vmanyc.org)

**Managing Editor:** Dr. Sally Slavinski

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September 2012, VOL. 54, NO. 3

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A dog sits on a buffalo cooling off in the Ravi River in Lahore, Pakistan. Picture:

**REUTERS/  
Mohsin Raza**

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## President's Message

By Dr. David Wohlstadter



Dear Colleagues:

I would like to take this time to inform you that we are trying a different approach for nominating board members. Soon, you will receive a nominations form via e-mail. Please take the time to review this form and consider making a nomination. Nominees should be willing and able to attend all board meetings, which are held from 4:30pm-7pm a the Pfizer building just prior to the scientific meeting.

It is our hope that this new approach will make it easier for members to participate in the board nomination process, leading to new participants and an infusion of fresh ideas.

Please know that all active members are invited to attend the board meetings. You need not be a board member to actively participate.

So, look out for the nomination form and return it soon after you receive it. We will be presenting the board nominees at the November meeting.

Always feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns:

david.wohlstadter@bluepearlvet.com

Sincerely,  
David Wohlstadter

**GET INVOLVED!!**



## SUBMISSIONS WANTED!



We are looking for members to submit medical articles, photographs, stories and essays. If interested, or you want to know more, please contact Sally Slavinski at [sslavins@health.nyc.gov](mailto:sslavins@health.nyc.gov)



## Liaison Committee

Amy I. Attas, V.M.D.

The liaison committee interacts with our local specialty hospitals, educational institutions and not for profit organizations and lists in this column any information which is relevant for our membership. Please feel free to contact me if you or your hospital has information that would be relevant. Specifically, we highlight continuing education which is complementary to our membership and new hires in specialty areas. I invite you to contact me if your hospital has information that you would like to share with our membership at [dramy@citypetsvets.com](mailto:dramy@citypetsvets.com).

### News from Blue Pearl Veterinary Partners:

Continuing education lectures are free and open to all area veterinarians. There are also veterinary technician CE lectures which are open to all veterinary technicians and assistants. Registration is required and is done by contacting Dr. David Wohlstadter at [david.wohlstadter@bluepearlvet.com](mailto:david.wohlstadter@bluepearlvet.com). Dinner begins at 7 PM and the lectures start at 7:30 PM. BluePearl is approved as a New York State sponsor of CE for veterinarians and veterinary technicians. Unless otherwise noted, lectures are given in Brooklyn, Queens and Manhattan at the addresses listed below:

**Manhattan**  
410 West 55th St  
(Bet 9th and 10th Avenues)  
New York, NY 10019

**Queens**  
107-28 71st Rd  
(Bet Austin St and Queens Blvd)  
Forest Hills, NY 11375

**Brooklyn**  
32 4th Ave  
(at Pacific St)  
Brooklyn, NY 11217

#### October 2012

*Cardiology (for veterinarians)*

Jessica Gentile, DVM, MS, DACVIM

October 16—Queens

October 17—Manhattan

October 18—Brooklyn

#### November 2012

*Stocking, Navigating and Getting the Most From Your  
Ophthalmic Pharmacy (for veterinarians)*

Jennifer Welsler, DVM, DACVO

November 13—Queens

November 14—Manhattan

November 15—Brooklyn

#### December 2012

*Skin Tumors in Dogs and Cats: A Review and What's  
New (for veterinarians)*

Joshua Lachowicz DVM, DACVIM (Oncology)

December 11—Queens

December 12—Manhattan

December 13—Brooklyn



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\*NYEJ, Jan. 2009

This is not a complete description of all coverage terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations; see your plan for a full description. Basis of coverage is subject to underwriting. Specific products, features, and discounts may vary and may not be available in all states. Rates and coverage are subject to change. Additional co-insurance and deductible options may be available. Plans are underwritten by the United States Pet Insurance Company and administered by PetInsureMarketing Insurance.com Agency, Inc., a subsidiary of the Hartville Group, Inc. U1912-VMS

## The Animal Medical Center's Partners in Practice

### VETERINARIANS

#### **ALL DAY (9AM - 4PM) COMPREHENSIVE CONFERENCES**

**Objectives. Learn/Gain:** New, ground breaking information. Comprehensive review. Practical clinical knowledge relating clinical signs, physical examination findings, and disease natural history. The best current and emerging diagnostic methods and techniques. Ability to plan effective strategies to treat, prevent, and monitor disease. Interactive Q&As

OCT. 14 SUN VET. TECHNICIAN

DEC. 2 SUN EMERG/CRITICAL CARE

#### **PARTNERS IN PRACTICE TUESDAY (7 - 8:30PM) PRACTICAL EVENING WORKSHOPS**

**Objectives:** Small Group Interactive Learning. Case Management Discussions. Accurately diagnose & prognosticate. Provide optimal/effective therapies

OCT 9 CARDIOLOGY, DR FOX

OCT 23 ONCOLOGY, DRS LEIBMAN, HOHENHAUS, CAMPS

NOV 13 DERMATOLOGY, DR MACINA

NOV 20 RADIOLOGY, DR FISCHETTI

DEC 11 ENDOCRINE, DR APPLEMAN

DEC 18 ANESTHESIA, DR MUIR

**REGISTER ON LINE:** <http://www.amcny.org/pipseminars>

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT DR. PHILIP FOX**

### VETERINARY TECHNICIANS

#### **PIP CONFERENCE: VETERINARY TECHNICIAN SEMINAR**

Veterinary Technician Seminar:

Timely Medical Updates and Interactive Workshops

Sunday, October 14, 2012

**Register online at <http://www.amcny.org/pipregistration>**

On Sunday, October 14, The Animal Medical Center will hold an all-day, RACE and New York State Continuing Education Sponsor approved Partners in Practice Comprehensive Conference: "Veterinary Technician Update," with Sue Berryhill BS, RVT, VTS (Dentistry). This conference is intended to provide 6 hours of comprehensive review and update of important and topics important to licensed Veterinary Technicians.

Discussion will focus on the fundamentals of dentistry and dermatology, improving cytology skills, monitoring hospitalized and critical care patients – with a focus on respiratory issues – and the opportunity to participate in a variety of interactive dry labs. At completion, participants should gain enhanced knowledge of these topics, including diagnostic, preventative and treatment strategies.

## The Membership Committee

Alexandra van der Woerd

A total of 22 veterinarians were introduced as new or returning members of the VMA of NYC in September, 2012. They are as follows:

### New members September 2012

Dr Raluca Anghel  
Dr Lauryn Benson  
Dr Jay Berkowitz  
Dr Melissa Colon  
Dr Cassandra Coulter  
Dr Elizabeth Cowan  
Dr Ashley Gold

Dr Jessica Goldberg  
Dr Matthew Gordon  
Dr Meredith Helfman  
Dr Marisa Herzog  
Dr Kaitlin Hopke  
Dr Steve Konstalid  
Dr Fiona Lee  
Dr Evan Lehman

Dr Whitney Long  
Dr Michael Lovasz  
Dr Rebecca Lovasz  
Dr Keith Mihansky  
Dr Ilan Rachleff  
Dr Sameh Salib  
Dr Michael West

As always, we welcome these new members into our association, and hope to see them regularly at our meetings.



A squirrel runs onto the court at the 2012 US Open tournament in New York

**Picture: Imago / Barcroft Media**

A black cat runs behind Toronto FC's goalkeeper Freddy Hall during the second half of their ONCACAF Champions League match against Santos Laguna in Toronto

**Picture:  
REUTERS/Mike Cassese**





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CMAA Antagonist **CAE**

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maropitant citrate

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**DEXDOMITOR**<sup>SD</sup>  
(dexmedetomidine)

**DOMITOR**<sup>SD</sup>  
(medazepam hydrochloride)

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**Zeniquin**<sup>®</sup>  
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# Calendar of Events

## Program Committee

Dr. Mark E. Peterson, Chairman , Dr. Deirdre Chiaramonte, Dr, Sally Haddock

The schedule of the VMA of NYC Continuing Education meetings for the 2012-13 calendar year is listed below, including the speakers and topics. All meetings will be held at the Pfizer Headquarters Building, 235 E. 42nd Street, NYC. The meetings will start at 7 PM. Please bring photo ID with you to allow entry into the Pfizer facility. Members of the VMA of NYC are automatically registered to attend the meetings, but guests need to be added to the attendance list in advance of each meeting date.

### November 7, 2012

Speaker: Karen Rosenthal, DVM, MS  
St. Matthew's University, Grand Caiman Islands

Topic: Exotics



### December 5, 2012

Speaker: Bruce Keene, DVM, Dip. ACVIM  
North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine

Topic: Cardiology

### January 9, 2013

Speaker: Elaine Kaplan, DVM, Dip. ACVS & ABVP  
Capital Area Veterinary Specialists, Austin, Texas

Topic: Soft Tissue Surgery

### February 6, 2013

Speaker: Alfred Legendre, DVM, Dip. ACVIM  
College of Veterinary Medicine, The University of Tennessee

Topic: Best Approach to Canine Lymphosarcoma

### March, 2013

Speaker: Not yet determined

### April 3, 2013

Speaker: Jane Armstrong, DVM, Dip. ACVIM  
University of Minnesota, College of Veterinary Medicine

Topic: Pancreatitis: A Tale of Two Species

### May 1, 2013

Speaker: Micheal Peak, DVM, Dip. ACDC  
Tampa Bay Veterinary Dentistry

Topic: Dentistry

### June 5, 2013

Speaker: Hock Gan Heng, DVM, Dip. ACVR, ECVDI  
Purdue University, Veterinary Clinical Sciences

Topic: Radiology

Remember, our Continuing Education program is meant for our VMA of NYC members, so please do not ever hesitate to provide your input and suggestions for great speaker or timely topics to make our C.E. program the best it can be. I can always be contacted via email

[mark@animalendocrine.com](mailto:mark@animalendocrine.com)

. Or feel free to call me in my office (212.362.2650) if you have any suggestions.



Ni Hao, the stowaway kitten recovers at the Los Angeles County Animal Care Control Carson Shelter. Ni Hao travelled from Shanghai to Los Angeles in a freight container on a shipping boat.

Picture: Damian Dovarganes/AP





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# VMA NYC Member Survey 2012 .....The Results Are In!

Exit this survey

## VMA NYC Member Survey 2012

### INTRODUCTION

Dear colleague,

We are trying to learn more about our members and the NYC VMA. We are very interested in getting your input on your likes and dislikes, and identify ways to improve the NYC VMA. Please help us by devoting 5 minutes to this survey. We will use the feedback you provide to implement changes and generate more involvement from the members. This survey is anonymous, and any answers you provide cannot be traced back to you – so we encourage you to be frank; all feedback is valuable.

Thank you for your time, and your commitment to one of the oldest and productive local veterinary medical associations in the country!

The NYC VMA has several committees for which members are encouraged to participate. Some of these include the social, animal health, newsletter, political action and community outreach committees. If you would like to learn more about these committees and/or are interested in participating please contact the NYC VMA at [Ichiaiverini@vmanyc.org](mailto:Ichiaiverini@vmanyc.org). Someone will get back to you shortly.

Next

Dear Members of the Veterinary Medical Association of New York City,

The Board Members would like to extend their sincere gratitude to those members who took the time to respond to the VMA NYC Member survey. We were delighted with the number of replies and the thoughtful suggestions and criticisms. We will use the feedback to help identify ways to continue to shape this organization to best serve our veterinary community.

There was a total of 69 responses. Of those who completed the survey, the years of membership of respondents were evenly distributed with 33% that have been members for 0-5 years, 38% for 6-20 years and 29% for 20 years or more. Membership is driven primarily by access to the continuing education lectures and the desire to be part of a professional organization. Most rated the CE lectures as either excellent (45%) or good (38%), and there was a long list of suggested topics for future lectures that will be used by the program committee. We anticipate participation in the monthly CE meetings will increase now that the veterinary profession is required to receive continuing education to maintain a veterinary license in New York State.

Almost all of the respondents receive the newsletter (91%), but we will look into the few folks who responded “No” to determine why. Most prefer to get the newsletter electronically (64%), and the quality of the newsletter was rated as Good (46%) or Excellent (20%) by most respondents. There were several constructive suggestions for improvements, including getting more input from the members.

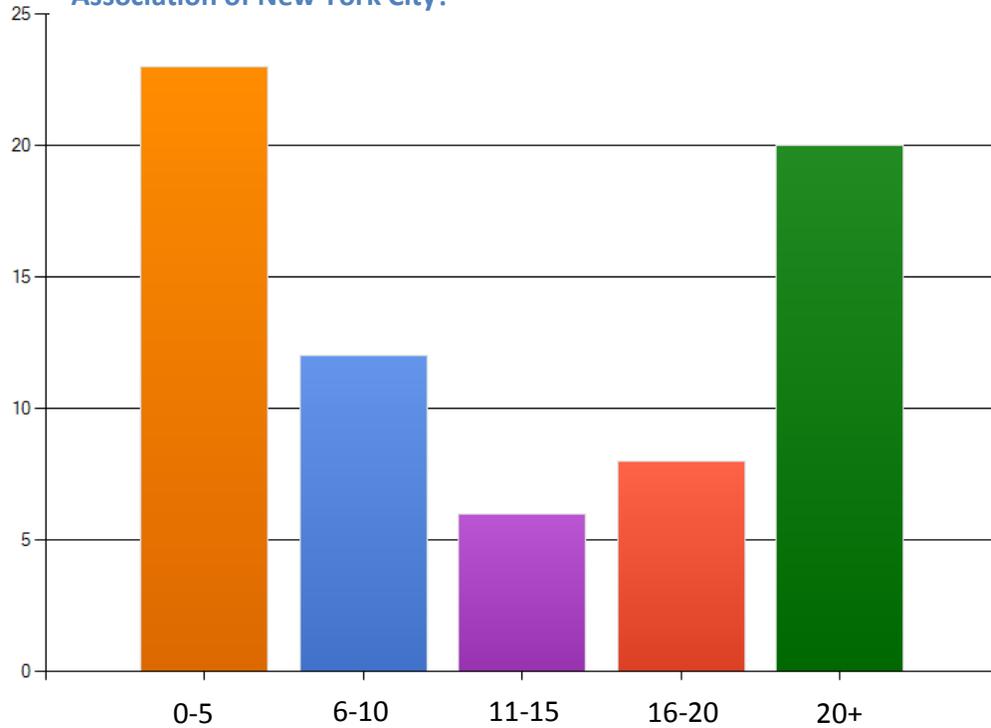
While the VMA of NYC organizes several social outings each year, 76% reported they did not attend an event. The main reason cited was lack of interest (63%), followed by calendar conflicts (44%). There were some very thoughtful and exciting suggestions for other types of social events including; a charity event, a Broadway show, an all day CE events, volunteering opportunities and a picnic.

Most respondents had never attended a NYC VMA dinner dance (39%). The two main reasons cited for limited attendance included the expense (41%) and a calendar conflict (41%). Another 27% cited some other reason which was often just a lack of interest. Several members offered input on whether there should be changes made to the dinner dance. While 26% feel it is fine the way it is, 21% felt there should be a way to make it less costly.

Several members (31%) would like to become more active in the NYC VMA, and almost as many (29%) would like to at some future time. While time is a valuable commodity for us all, we encourage you to find ways to become more involved to have a stronger collective voice and to help implement many of the suggestions that were offered for better serving the membership!

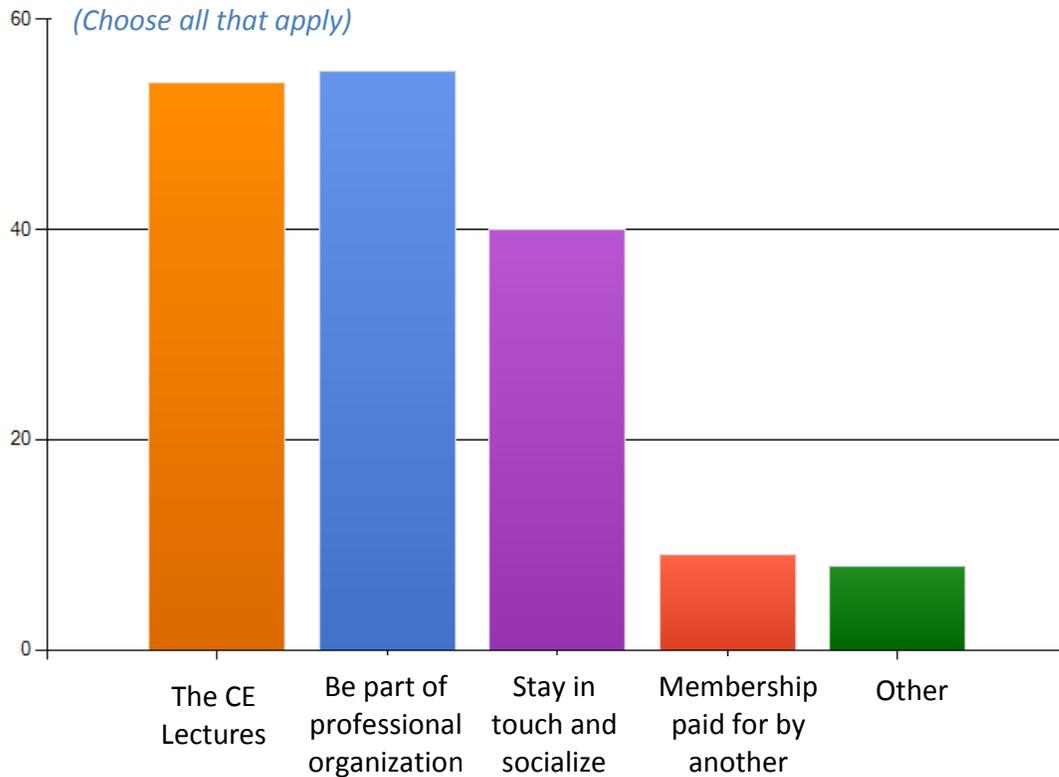


**Q1. How many years have you been a member of the Veterinary Medical Association of New York City?**



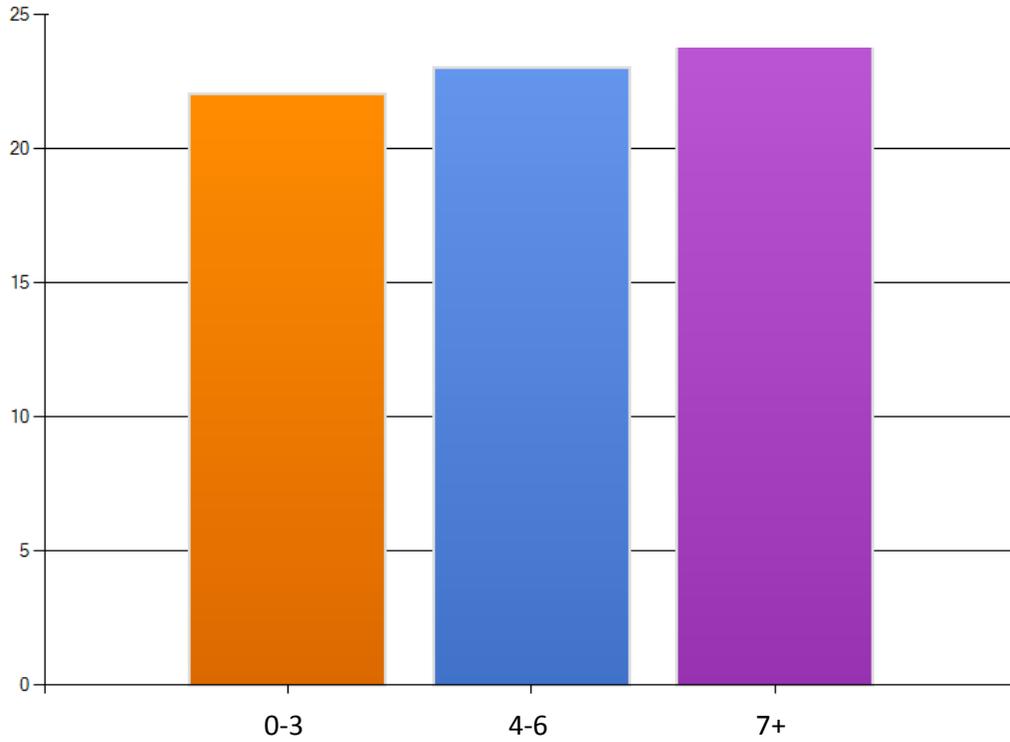
**Q2. What are the reasons you choose to be a member of the Veterinary Medical Association of New York City?**

*(Choose all that apply)*

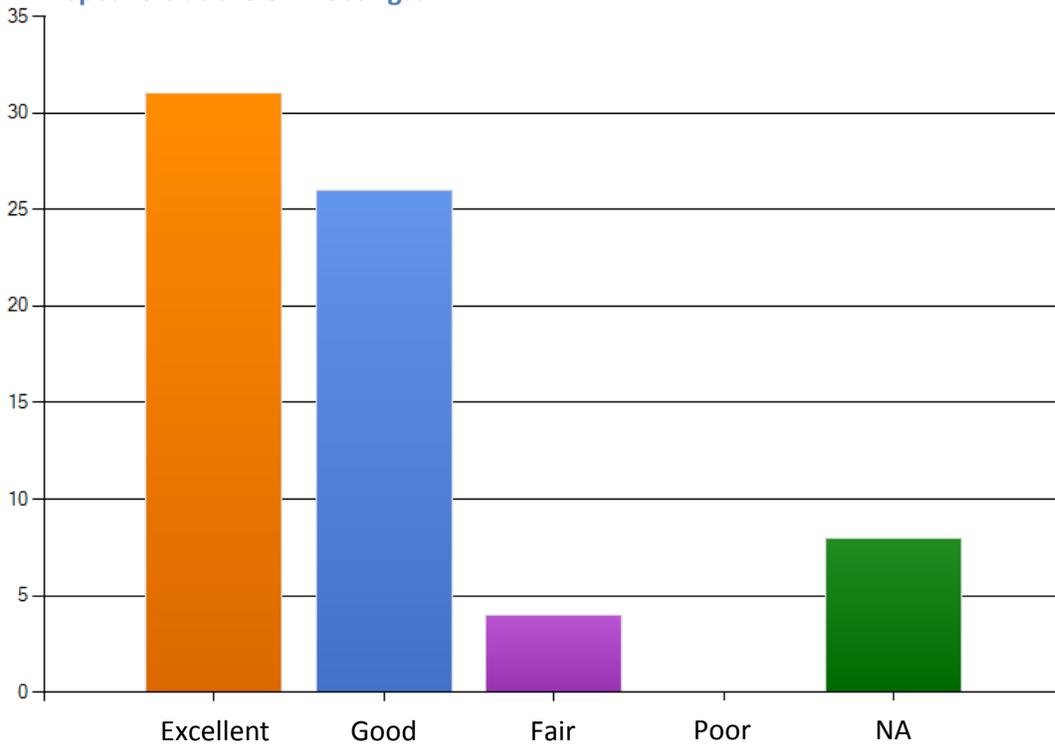


**Other:** responses included things such as networking, staying abreast of veterinary medicine, and the value of participating in an organized group that can influence and support our profession.

**Q3. How many CE meetings do you attend each year on average?**



**Q4. In general, how would you rate the quality of the content provided by the speakers at the CE meetings?**



**Q5. If you think the quality of the content of the meetings could be improved, please comment:**

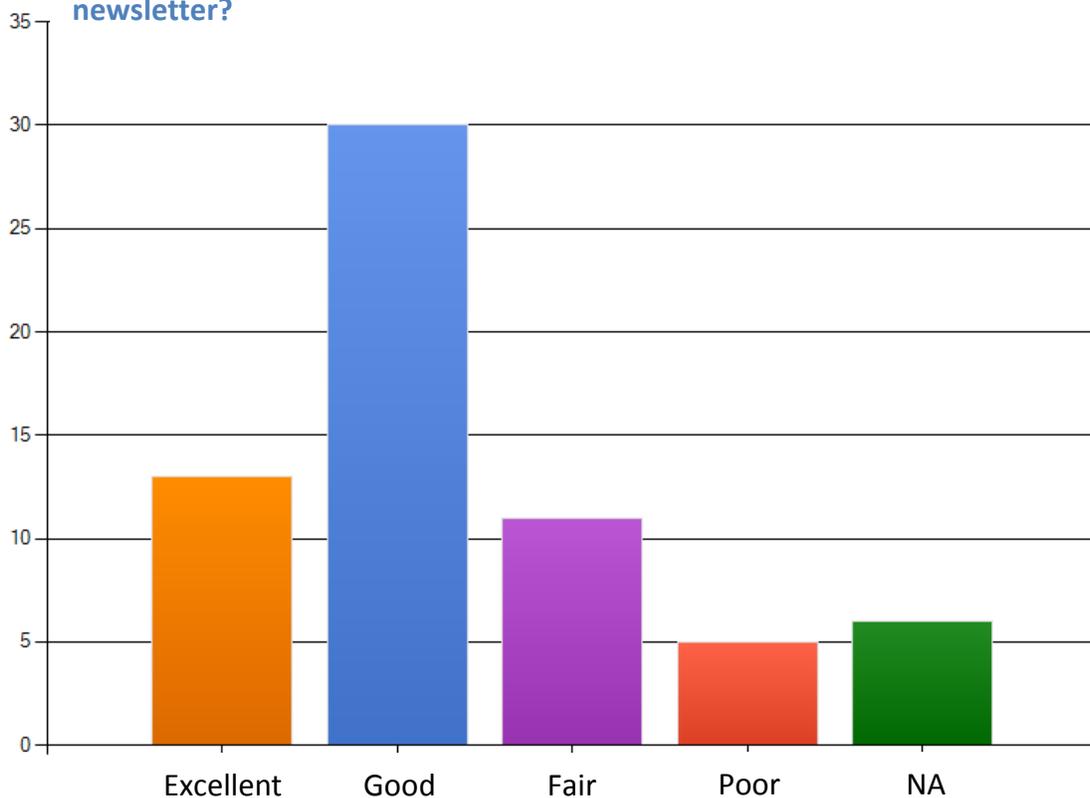
The vast majority of the responses were requests to change the venue, day of the week and time of the meetings. There were positive comments regarding the quality of the speakers and the lecture notes. There were also a few requests for specific lectures and to conduct round table discussions.

**Q6. What topics or speakers would you like to hear at the meetings?** There were several great suggestions for CE topics which have been shared with the program committee. Thanks for the suggestions.

**Q7. Are you aware that New York State law has changed and continuing education (CE) is now mandatory?** Almost everyone was aware that NY State is now requiring CE for veterinarians.

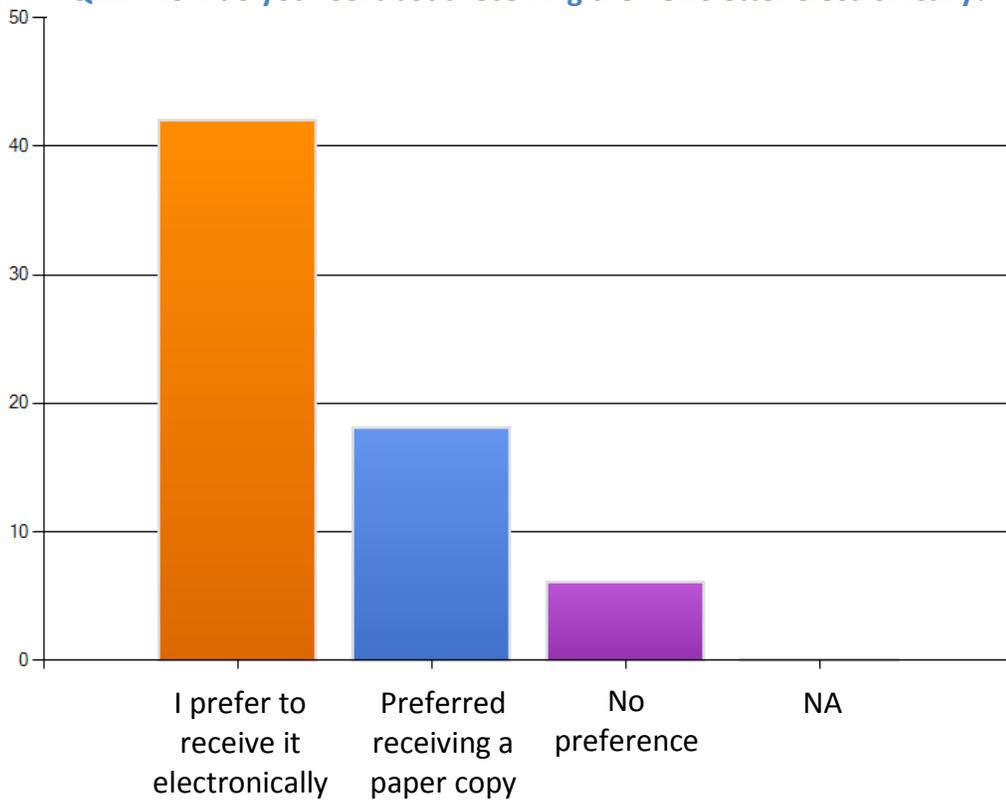
**Q8. Do you receive the NYC VMA newsletter?** Almost everyone responded yes.

**Q9. In general, how would you rate the quality of the content of the newsletter?**

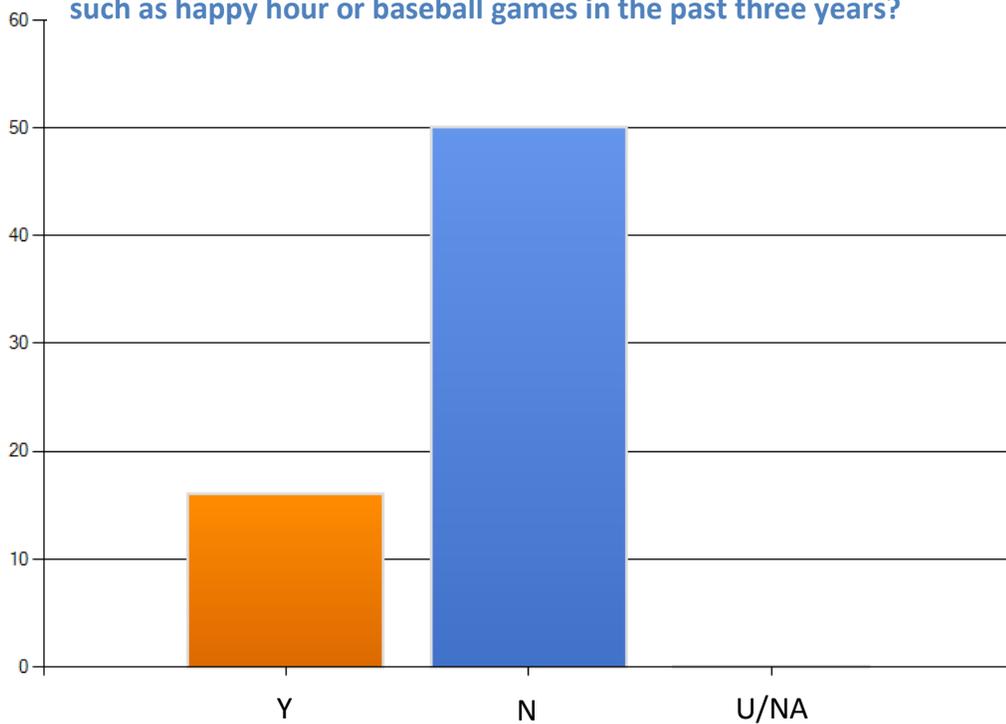


**Q10. What could be done to improve the newsletter?** Some good suggestions including more content in fewer publications, more input from VMA members, make it available online, change the editors and contributors to ensure a communal voice, improve editing.

**Q11. How do you feel about receiving the newsletter electronically?**

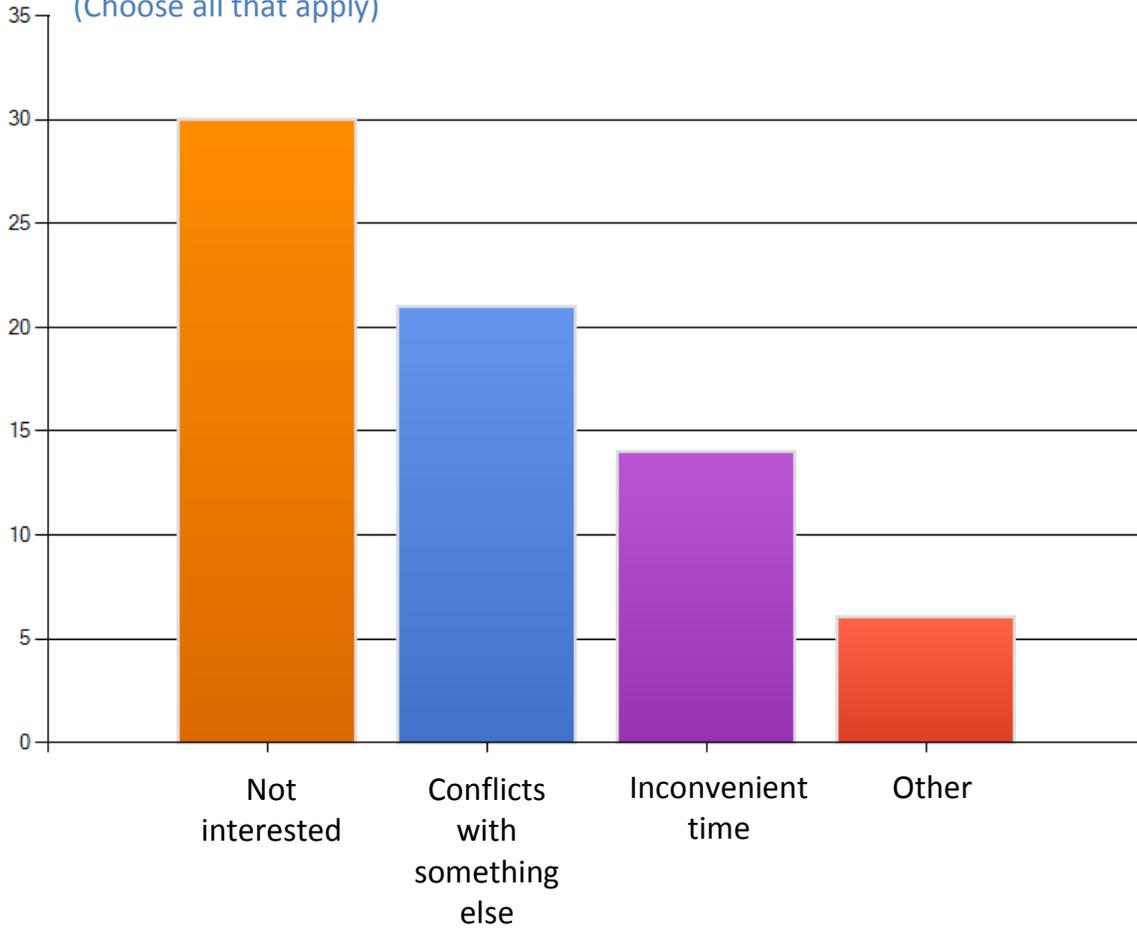


**Q12. Have you participated in social outings organized by the NYC VMA such as happy hour or baseball games in the past three years?**



**Q13. If No, what are the reasons you choose not to attend?**

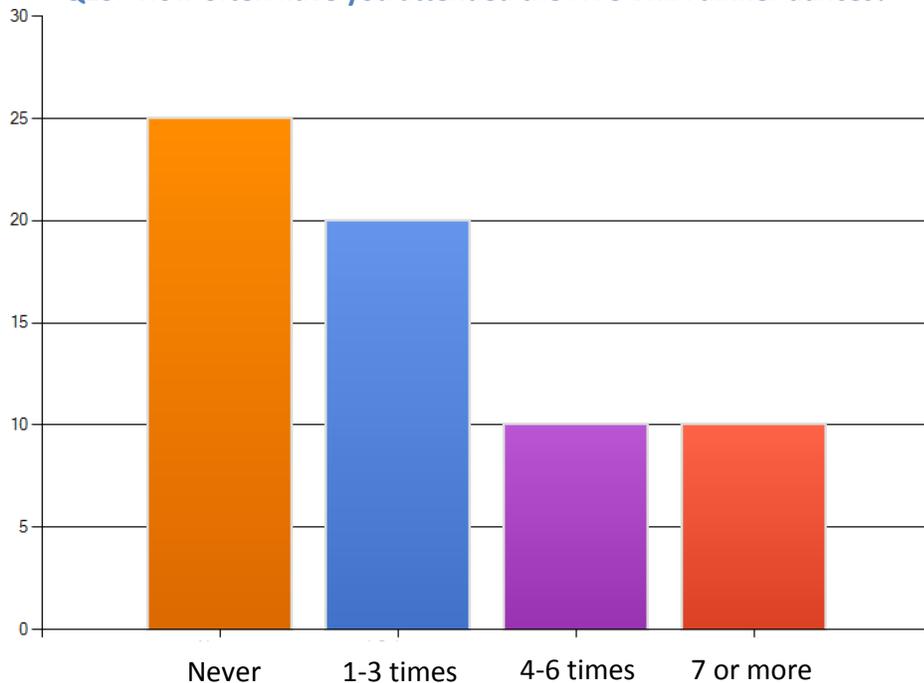
(Choose all that apply)



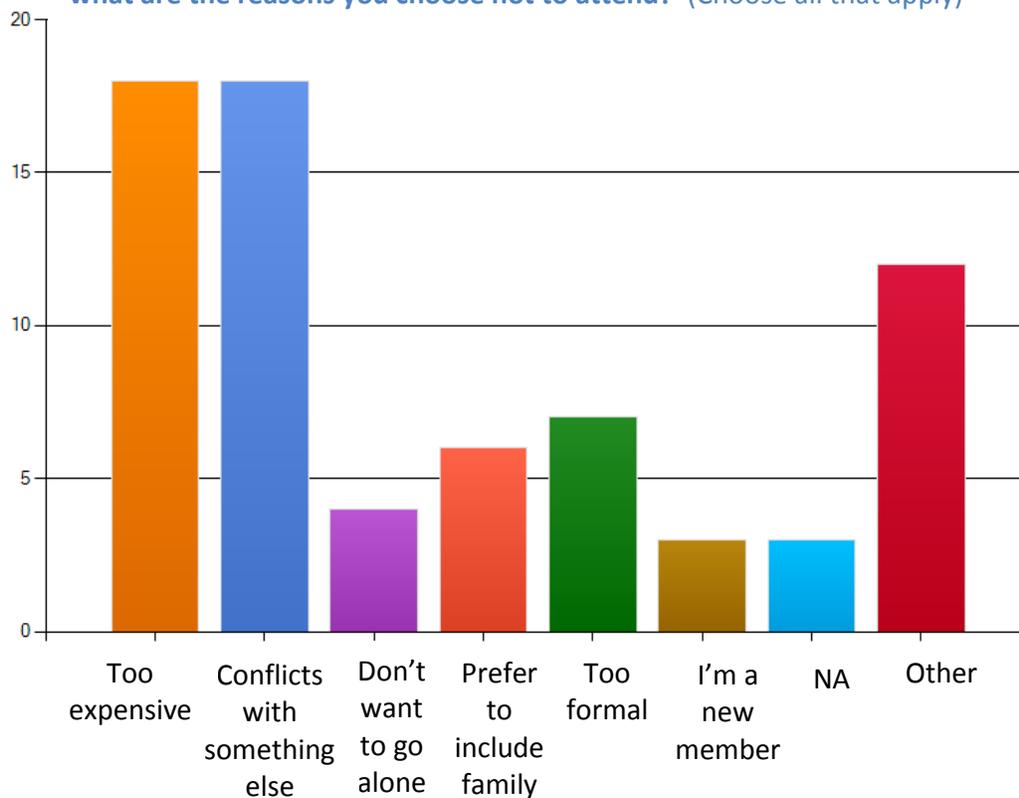
**Other:** *Of the 9 responses, 44% don't have enough time. Other responses included; too costly, don't know anyone else, and prefer to spend my free time with family and friends.*

**Q14. What other types of social outing would you like the NYC VMA to organize?** There were some very thoughtful and exciting suggestions including; charity events, baseball, Broadway show, Zoo visit, all day CE events, volunteering, picnic, more happy hours, nothing.

**Q15. How often have you attended the NYC VMA dinner dances?**



**Q16. If you've never attended, or have only attended a limited number, what are the reasons you choose not to attend? (Choose all that apply)**

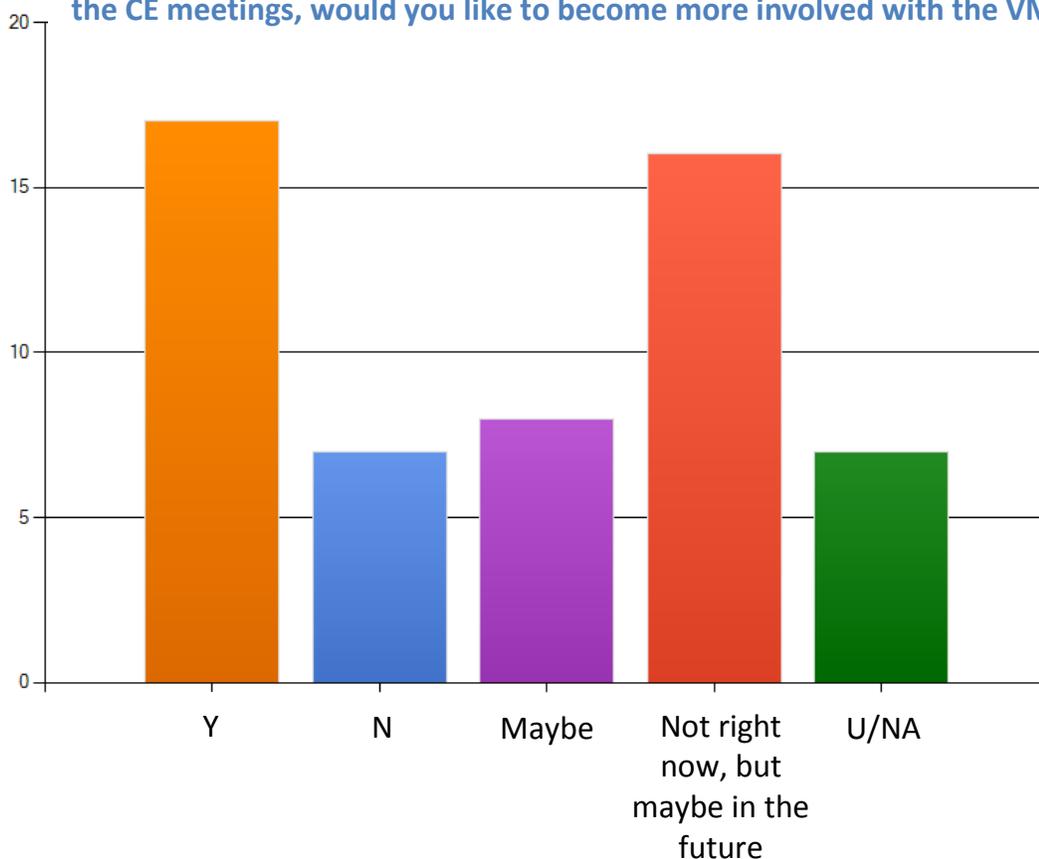


**Other:** Of the 10 responses most implied that they were not interested. The specific reasons cited included; unappealing for most NYC veterinarians; don't know other attendees; money better spent if tied to fund raising; don't enjoy large gatherings, too far to travel.

**Q17. Are there any other changes would you like to make to the dinner dance?** Of 19 responses, 26% reiterated there should be no changes and 21% think it is too expensive. Some of the specific suggested changes included; a three hour cocktail party without a sit down dinner to offer more ongoing conversation; focus more on the food and beverage rather than the venue; preference for a DJ over a band; allow members to vote on awards; awards presentation not engaging and difficult to hear and see; arrange for a post dinner dance after party for those who are interested or who may not be able to attend the actual dinner; make it a family friendly event; make it a NYSAVE fundraiser; cancel; make it more hip.

**Q18. What other comments or suggestions would you like to share to help the NYC VMA improve what it offers for its members?** Of the 10 responses, some of the specific suggestions included become more politically active and develop a business sense; allow members to bring more than one guest to CE lectures; engage non-traditional veterinarians and new graduates; institute term limits for board members; open awards voting to all members; eliminate the listserv; organize a wet lab; get VMA more involved in animal related events to promote us and our profession; hold meetings in other boroughs; stronger leadership and better vision for the future.

**Q19. If you have not participated in VMA activities other than attending the CE meetings, would you like to become more involved with the VMA?**



**Q20. If you answered N, Maybe or Not right now to Q 19, what would it take to get you more involved with the VMA?** Of the 23 responses, 35% do not have enough time, 13% have conflicts and 17% desire a friendlier environment. Specific answers included; offering philanthropic activities; a more diverse membership.

## VETERINARIANS AVAILABLE

**-Per Diem or Steady Part-Time Work.** Available most Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Excellent people skills. Good practice builder. 35 years experience. References available. Contact Dr. Tobias Jungreis at 516-295-1125.

**-Relief - Per Diem.** General practice. Orthopedic and Soft Tissue Surgery. DVM, Cornell. Internship Oradell. Residency in Small Animal Surgery, Cornell. Phone Dr. Kathy Sevala at 1-718-267-6489 or 1-718-578-9085.

**-Relief Veterinarian.** Experienced with excellent medical, surgical and client skills. Contact Dr. Christine Asaro at (631) 806-9343 or (718) 238-2513, or e-mail: [chrisasaaro@hotmail.com](mailto:chrisasaaro@hotmail.com)

**-Donald W. Stremme, VMD.** Experienced veterinarian (34 years) available for small animal and exotic relief work in Manhattan. Licensed (including DEA and USDA) in PA, NJ, and NY. Please send inquiry via e-mail to [CCAC-DWS@aol.com](mailto:CCAC-DWS@aol.com)

**-Experienced veterinarian available for relief work including surgery.** Please call Shirley Koshi 212-288-9088 or Email: [kitydogdoc@gmail.com](mailto:kitydogdoc@gmail.com)

**-Relief/per-diem veterinarian:** experienced, capable, personable. Dan Grayson, DVM. 917-755-1615.

**-Full or part-time** Dr. Eduarda Krieger. NY Licensed. Seeks work at small animal practice in NYC. Phone: 917-239-3377.

**-Veterinarian available** for permanent Per Diem any weekday except Friday. Experienced LI vet with strong medical, surgical and people skills seeks position in Queens 2-4 days per month. Call Dr. K. at 516-374-5050.

**-Relief/Per Diem** General practice and emergency. Internship trained. Please contact: Dr. Marion Pattillo at [docmane0523@gmail.com](mailto:docmane0523@gmail.com) or 646-963-5648.

**- Part time or Relief Veterinarian available** in NYC. Currently practicing in Westchester. Please contact me at [drmartinvet@gmail.com](mailto:drmartinvet@gmail.com)

## VETERINARIANS NEEDED

**-Animal Care and Control (ACC)** of NYC is seeking full-time, per-diem and on-call veterinarians to work in our Care Centers in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Staten Island. Join a team of dedicated and caring professionals who provide veterinary care for homeless and abandoned animals. You will work with a wide variety of species, medical conditions, emergency and public health issues. Volunteer opportunities are also available. Competitive Salary, full benefits. See [www.nycacc.org](http://www.nycacc.org) for a full description. Send cover letter and CV to [hr@nycacc.org](mailto:hr@nycacc.org) or 212-442-2066. Call 212-442-2061 for more information.

**-WANTED:** Part-time or per-diem vet with interest in preventive and shelter medicine needed for two or three days a week with Williamsburg, Brooklyn clinic. New York State license and prior experience required. Email resume to [feltonvet@verizon.net](mailto:feltonvet@verizon.net) or fax to 718-388-6968.

## LVT DESIRED

**LVT needed in SW Nassau County**, 5 miles east of Kennedy Airport. 2 Dr. practice. FT weekdays 11-7. Strong dental and surgical skills a plus. Fax resume to Abby 516-374-6817.

## FOR SALE

**One year old Veterinary Practice** for sale. Good for a retiree or a new graduate. High potential – very reasonable. Please contact Kay at 917-751-1906

## VARIOUS POSITIONS AVAILABLE

**ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL OF NYC (AC&C)** has many new and exciting job openings available at this time. If you love working with animals and helping people they may have a great career opportunity for you. Some of the positions that are available are Communications Associate, Volunteer Liaison, Veterinarian, Licensed Vet Tech, Animal Care Officer, and Animal Control Officer. If you are interested in learning more about the available positions or want to apply, please visit their website at [www.nycacc.org](http://www.nycacc.org).

Want to place a classified ad? Please send your submissions to [vmanyc@solutionsplisonline.com](mailto:vmanyc@solutionsplisonline.com). Submissions will only be accepted from NYC VMA members. Be sure to provide a brief description of the posting and appropriate contact information.