

The New York City Veterinarian



President's Message

As we approach Labor Day, I hope everyone had a marvelous summer. As we enter our second heat wave of the summer, I realize that the year is almost over and winter will soon be upon us. I trust that everyone has enjoyed their summer recess and I look forward to seeing you all at the monthly CE meetings.

Over the summer, we have been working closely with the New York State Veterinary Medical Society to hire a lobby firm to protect our interests with New York City Council. After many recommendations and interviews, I am proud to announce that we have acquired the services of Wilson Elser and Associates. The Wilson Elser lobbying firm has ranked #1 for the last 16 years in the state of New York. Their New York City office is run by Mr. Jonathan Bing. Mr. Bing is a native New Yorker and a multi-term Assemblyman from the state of New York. Mr. Bing was first elected to the NY state Assembly in 2002 from the 73rd District in Manhattan. In his 9 years in office, Mr. Bing wrote 85 pieces of legislation that were passed in the Assembly and 35 of which were signed into law. Based on these factors, I feel that our association's visions, objectives, and goals will be listened to by the members of the NYC Council.



Mr. Bing has already been hard at work for us. Upon being retained, Mr. Bing took on the challenge of the so-called "Sprinkler Law" that would have mandated all existing animal hospitals to install a full sprinkler system within 6 months. Mr. Bing was able to speak with the bill sponsors and change the language of the proposed law, so that existing animal hospitals would be allowed to install smoke detection devices and that all future animal hospitals would be required to have sprinklers. Going forward, I am hoping that NYC Council will reach out to the NYCVMA as they are drafting laws that pertain to veterinarians for our input before passing into law. I think veterinarians should be a valued resource when it comes to laws that pertain to our profession.

As we move into autumn and the year is almost over, I feel that we have made great strides this year. With the help of the Executive Board and NYSVMS, the association is in a stronger place protecting the future of veterinary medicine. However, in order to keep us headed in the right direction, we welcome new ideas and insightful thinkers and ask that you consider volunteering and serving on the Executive Board and committees. Please speak to Linda if you are interested.

Sincerely,
Allan Bregman

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Calendar of Events

Program Committee - Deirdre Chiaramonte, DVM, Sally Haddock, DVM

The schedule of the VMA of NYC Continuing Education meetings for the 2015 calendar year is listed below, including the speakers and topics. All meetings will be held at Cicatelli Associates, 505 Eighth Avenue, 20th Floor, NYC. The meetings will start at 6:45 pm. Please bring a photo ID with you to allow entry to the facility. Members must register prior to each meeting.

September 2, 2015

Speaker: Jolle Kirpensteijn
Hill's Pet Nutrition
Topic: Surgical Topics



October 7, 2015

Speaker: Laurie Bergman
Keystone Veterinary Behavior Services
Topic: Litter Box & Separation Anxiety

November 4, 2015

Speaker: Michael Lappin, DVM, PhD, DACVIM, Colorado State University
Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
Topic: Feline Infectious Disease

December 2, 2015

Speaker: Bernie Hansen
North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine
Topic: Shock & Respiratory Emergency

January 6, 2016

Speaker: Michael Leib
Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine
Topic: Lower GI, Pancreatic, Probiotics and Diarrhea Topics

If you have a suggestion for a continuing education speaker or timely topic, please email the VMA of NYC at info@vmanyc.org.

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*NCVEI, Jan. 2009, citing a 2006 pet insurance provider client survey. +2011 internal claims data, March 2013 and AVMA Sourcebook, 2012. Products are underwritten by the United States Fire Insurance Company and administered by Fairmont Specialty Insurance Agency (FSIA Insurance Agency in CA), members of the Crum & Forster Enterprise U0715-LIV88

Animal Medical Center

510 E 62nd St, New York, NY 10065

Register online at
www.amcny.org/pipseminars

Partners in Practice (PIP) Comprehensive Clinical Conferences

Provide several hours of comprehensive review and updates of important and contemporary topics in veterinary medicine. Upon completion, participants should gain enhanced knowledge of the selected topic.

Partners in Practice (PIP) Practical Clinical Workshops

Designed to promote sound diagnosis and effective therapies.

Blue Pearl Veterinary Partners

Continuing Education lectures are free and open to all area veterinarians. Registration is required and is done by sending an email to Dr. David Wohlstadter at david.wohlstadter@bluepearlvet.com. Dinner begins at 7:00 pm and the lectures begin at 7:30 pm. BluePearl is approved as a New York State sponsor of CE. Unless otherwise noted, lecturers are given in Queens then Manhattan and then Brooklyn at the addresses listed below.

Manhattan

410 West 55th Street
(between 9th and 10th Avenues)
New York, NY 10019

Queens

107-28 71st Road
(between Austin St. & Queens Blvd)
Forest Hills, NY 11375

Brooklyn

32 4th Avenue (at Pacific Street)
Brooklyn, NY 11217

Liaison Committee

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. Specifically, we highlight continuing education which is complementary to our membership. Please contact us if your hospital has information that you would like to share with our membership.



Partners in Practice (PIP) Comprehensive Clinical Conferences Sundays from 8:00 pm - 4:00 pm, unless otherwise noted.

- **Sunday, November 22:** Surgery

Partners in Practice (PIP) Practical Clinical Workshops Tuesdays from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm.

- **September 8:** GI Medicine, Presented by Dr. Douglas Palma
- **September 22:** Cardiac Case Management, Presented by Dr. Dennis Trafny
- **October 6:** Neurology Case Management, Presented by Dr. Chad West
- **October 20:** Radiology Reading - What's Your Diagnosis, Presented by Dr. Anthony Fischetti
- **November 17:** Dermatology, Presented by Dr. Mark Macina
- **December 1:** Exotics Medicine and Surgery, Presented by Dr. Katherine Quesenberry



September 15, 16, 17

Topic: Cardiology
Speaker: TBD

November 18, 19, 20

Topic: Oncology
Speaker: TBD

October 20, 21, 22

Topic: Neurology
Speaker: TBD

December 8, 9, 10

Topic: Ophthalmology
Speaker: TBD



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VETERINARIANS AVAILABLE

Full or Part-Time. Veterinarian seeks work at small animal practice in New York City. NY licensed. Contact Eduarda Krieger, DVM at 917-239-3377.

Part-Time or Relief. Veterinarian available in NYC. Please contact dmartinvet@gmail.com.

Permanent Per Diem. Experienced LI veterinarian with strong medical, surgical and people skills seeks position in Queens 2-4 days per month. Contact Dr. K at 516-374-5050.

Per Diem or Part-Time. 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.

Per Diem. Tufts graduate seeking small animal clinics in need of veterinarian for per diem shifts. I believe in comprehensive physical exams, excellent client communication and thorough medical record documentation. If interested, please call 201-213-3555 or email nelson-dvmrelief@gmail.com.

Relief or 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

VETERINARIANS NEEDED

Animal Care and Control 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.nyacc.org for a full description. Send cover letter and CV to hr@nycacc.org or 212-442-2066.

Animal Medicine & Surgery Clinic. Full-time small animal veterinary position needed for 37 year established 3 DVM animal hospital in Brooklyn, New York. Experience preferred and new graduates are welcomed. Strong communication, diagnostic, medical, & surgical skills preferred. Equine work available for interested candidates. Please send resumes to schai4806@aol.com and call (917) 543-7379.

Banfield Pet Hospital is currently hiring for a relief veterinarian to help cover several of our Long Island hospitals. We are looking at all availability but prefer a candidate available for a mix of weekend and weekday shifts. Compensation will be dependent upon experience. We see a diverse caseload and focus on teamwork, compassionate pet care, and thorough client education. To inquiry, please e-mail Zakrey Coon at zakrey.coon@banfield.net or by calling 1-503-922-5444.

Banfield Pet Hospital is currently hiring an Associate Veterinarian in Pelham, NY! We have a thriving practice with growth possibility both in income and leadership potential. Join a team committed to practicing the highest quality preventative medicine with modern equipment and diagnostics, and committed, well trained paraprofessional staff. We see a diverse caseload and focus on preventative care, teamwork and long lasting relationships. Banfield offers medical, dental vision, prescription drug, life insurance, 401K, CE allowance, paid days off and several more benefits. To inquiry further, call Zakrey Coon at 1-503-922-5444 or e-mail zakrey.coon@banfield.net.

Greater New York Area. Full-time caring, compassionate and competent veterinarian wanted for four-doctor progressive well-established practice in the Greater New York Area. State of the art modern equipment: full lab, digital radiology, and ultrasound. Superior, qualified, well trained and friendly colleagues form our team. Flex time scheduling available. Two or more years experience preferred, but recent graduates will be considered. Email us at: vetonclove@verizon.net.

Greenwich Village Animal Hospital. A full-time position and a per diem position are available at Greenwich Village Animal Hospital for a New York licensed practitioner. The work week is five days, 40-45 hours/week. Experience is preferred but new graduates and interns will be considered. The candidate is expected to be able to perform the more routine surgeries, ie. spays, neuters, growth removals, etc. as well as oversee a great number of dental procedures. The pace is highly variable, with an approximately 75% canine to 25% feline breakdown. The owner of the hospital has special interest in laser-assisted surgery. Please have any potential candidates contact Dr. Tracy Sane at 212-691-1100 or 347-413-1482 or send resumes to fax 212-691-6991 or gvah504@gmail.com.

Kings Bay Veterinary Hospital. Join our modern, well equipped Brooklyn practice. We've been here 4 years and are looking to expand. We will be interviewing for energetic, smart graduates and experienced clinicians for part time work schedules. Compensation will be production based and is negotiable. Practice and live as you dreamed. We supply the facility and staff. You bring your energy and expertise. We can fulfill our goals of balanced work and family life in the great borough of Brooklyn. Contact Dr. Edward Osterman at 718-339-0557 or (c) 917-916-4012.

Middletown Animal Clinic. Full-Time Associate Veterinarian. Experienced Veterinarian needed for Small animal practice located in the northeast bronx. Great middle class neighborhood close to westchester county and the long island sound. Very well equipped and modern facility with great support staff and established clientele. No after hours emergencies. Medical/dental/vision and 401-k benefits. competitive salary. Two years experience preferred, but will consider all applicants. please contact Dr. Earle at 718 824-8300. or send CV to info@middletownanimalclinic.com.

Urban Vet Animal Hospital. Manhattan Animal Hospital located in Village seeks full time, part time, relief doctor. Experience preferred but new graduate/intern trained considered. Send resume to 212-674-8600, or email to onedogtwo@aol.com.

Wanted: Full time veterinarian for a progressive, well equipped modern small animal veterinary hospital. We have locations in two of the most sought after neighborhoods in Brooklyn. Positions available at both our Williamsburg and Park Slope offices. Available equipment includes in house diagnostic lab, digital x-ray, digital dental x-ray, ultrasound, laparoscopy and endoscopy. Experienced veterinarians and new graduates considered. Flexible hours. Salary and benefits commensurate with experience. Will consider either straight salary or base salary with production bonuses. Please contact Allan Bregman, DVM; Cell 516-456-1209; Google Voice: (516)-495-9838; Fax: (718)-313-0746.
www.BregmanVetGroup.com

Williamsburg Brooklyn Clinic. Part-time or per-diem veterinarian with interest in preventive and shelter medicine needed for one or two days a week. New York State license and prior experience required. Email resume to feltonvet@verizon.net or fax to 718-388-6968.

FOR SALE

Used Equipment. Stainless Shoreline animal cages in good condition. 224x24 (8) for \$75; 30x30 (11) \$85; 36x30 (6) \$90; 48x30 with double door (2) \$120. Other items include exam table, EL SAM table, surgery table, exam table with cabinet, anesthesia machine, automatic x-ray developer. For more information contact Lydia Perez at 718-829-2355, 718-829-8084, or 347-266-4190.

Want to place a classified ad? Please send your submission to info@vmanyc.org. Submissions will only be accepted from VMA of NYC members. Be sure to provide a brief description of the posting and appropriate contact information.

Introducing Our New Lobbyist; Jonathan Bing

Jonathan Bing is the head of the New York City government affairs practice of Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP, New York State's top-ranked lobbying group for the past eighteen years. Mr. Bing also practices insurance regulatory and hospitality law at the firm which is comprised of nearly 800 attorneys located in 28 offices around the United States.

Prior to joining Wilson Elser, Mr. Bing was appointed by Governor Andrew Cuomo as the Special Deputy Superintendent for the New York Liquidation Bureau and served as the chief executive officer of the 260-employee entity with a \$60 million budget. The Bureau carries out the responsibilities of the Superintendent of Financial Services to protect the interests of policyholders and creditors of approximately 60 distressed insurance companies that have been declared impaired or insolvent.



Before the NYLB, Mr. Bing was elected to five terms representing the Upper East Side and East Midtown Manhattan in the New York State Assembly. During his tenure, Mr. Bing authored 85 bills that passed the Assembly, 35 of which also passed the Senate and were signed into law by four New York governors. His most notable legislative achievements include the 2006 law which expanded the statute of limitations for workers' compensation claims made by 9/11 rescue, recovery and clean-up workers; the 2010 no-fault divorce law; and, the 2010 adoption of the UPMIFA statute which allowed cultural and higher education institutions more flexibility with their endowments. Mr. Bing worked closely with veterinarians from the VMA-NYC and NYSVMS during his tenure, supporting efforts to protect veterinarians from civil or criminal prosecution for reporting abuse or neglect of animals they treat, and to prevent discrimination against senior citizens from being denied public housing for having a companion animal.

Before being elected to the Assembly, Mr. Bing was a practicing attorney in Manhattan. After serving as law clerk to U.S. District Court Judge Bruce M. Van Sickle in Bismarck, North Dakota, he joined the predecessor law firm to what is now Torys LLP as an attorney in its litigation and labor and employment practice groups. After the tragic events of September 11, 2001, Mr. Bing was chosen to organize over 250 attorneys as the New York Coordinator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency/American Bar Association's Disaster Legal Services program which provided free, comprehensive legal assistance to nearly 1,000 New Yorkers affected by the terrorist attacks.

Mr. Bing received his J.D. from the New York University School of Law, a B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania, and a 2009 Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from LIM College. Among his philanthropic and community activities, Mr. Bing has been appointed as a member of the ABA's Standing Committee on Governmental Affairs and serves on the Board of the Primary Stages off-Broadway theatre company, the Steering Committee of the Association for a Better New York, and the Board of the Insurance Federation of New York.

Harmful Algal Blooms

Routine monitoring of Prospect Park Lake in Brooklyn and Central Park Lake in Manhattan by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has identified the presence of harmful algal blooms (HAB). Regular sampling is done by DEC and will be used to determine when the HABs have dissipated. The NYS DEC has one of the most robust monitoring systems in the country; current information can be found on their website by visiting <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/83310.html>. Veterinarians should be aware of the signs of cyanobacterial toxicosis in dogs.

BACKGROUND:

Most algae and even algal blooms are a natural occurrence and are not harmful to people or animals. Green algae are necessary for a healthy ecosystem. However, under certain conditions, blue-green algae (which are really a type of bacteria called cyanobacteria) can produce toxins such as microcystins and anatoxins. A harmful algal bloom (HAB) is the term used to define a large proliferation of blue-green algae (or cyanobacteria) capable of producing toxins. HABs can occur in both freshwater and marine water. Factors associated with the occurrence of HABs include warmer temperatures, stagnation, the use of fertilizer and nutrients (e.g., nitrogen and phosphorus), and sewage which can contaminate a body of water either as runoff or leaching (failing septic tanks).

TOXICITY AND CLINICAL ILLNESS:

Cyanobacteria can produce hepatotoxins and neurotoxins, as well as irritants that can cause a dermatologic allergic reaction. The clinical manifestation depends on the route of exposure (consumption and/or contact). Dogs are especially susceptible because they are more likely to drink and swim in the water. They may also ingest cyanobacterial toxins when grooming themselves after being in the water. A tentative diagnosis is based primarily on history (recent contact with cyanobacteria) and signs of toxicosis. Common signs of HAB toxicosis include:

LIVER TOXINS

- Repeated vomiting
- Diarrhea or tarry stool
- Loss of appetite, anorexia
- Jaundice
- Abdominal swelling and tenderness
- Cyanosis of skin
- Dark urine or reduced/ no urine output

NERVE TOXINS

- Stumbling, seizures, convulsions, paralysis
- Excessive salivation/drooling
- Disorientation, inactivity or depression
- Elevated heart rate, difficulty breathing
- Diarrhea
- Lacrimation

SKIN TOXINS

- Skin rashes, hives



Blue-green algae may look like blue, green, or white spilled paint on the water surface. Photo credit: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

PREVENTION:

If a HAB has been identified or is suspected in a body of water, owners can reduce the risk of cyanobacterial toxicosis in dogs by doing the following:

Keep dogs on a leash near shoreline to keep them from wading, swimming or drinking the water.

If a dog goes in the water, remove it immediately and do not allow the dog to lick its fur or paws.

Rinse/wash it thoroughly with soap and fresh water using rubber gloves. Otherwise a towel or rag can be used to remove algal debris.

The dog owner should wash his or her hands with fresh water.

The dog owner should look closely for any symptoms.

TREATMENT:

If you need immediate assistance in a possible HAB-associated case, you may call the Cornell University 24-hour hotline at (607)253-3060. According to the Merck Veterinary Manual, while no therapies have been investigated in detail, activated charcoal slurry is likely to be of benefit in addition to palliative care tailored to the individual patient. Because there is a strong dose dependent curve, dogs that survive the initial insult are more likely to survive illness from neurotoxins. This is less clear with the hepatotoxins as secondary effects (e.g., fibrosis) can have more long term effects. Cholestyramine was used to treat microcystin toxicosis with questionable success in a paper by K. Rankin et al.

REPORTING A HAB TO NYS DEC:

Water containing HABs may look like scum floating on the surface of the water, or have the appearance of pea soup, spilled paint or colored water. Most often they are green to blue-green colored, though are occasionally red or brown, (or white, as a bloom is ending). As the bloom dies off, you may smell an odor like rotting plants. To report a suspected HAB, visit the NYS DEC website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/77118.html> to find the online Suspicious Algae Bloom Report Form. You may also send an email to HABsInfo@dec.ny.gov.

REPORTING HAB POISONING IN A DOG OR OTHER ANIMAL:

To report suspected HAB poisoning in a dog or other animal, please contact the New York State Department of Health by emailing harmfulalgae@health.ny.gov.



Millie, a cocker spaniel who weighs 33kg is one of the entrants in the PDSA Pet Fit Club competition.

Picture: Hannah McKay/PDSA/PA

REFERENCES

1. Dogs and Harmful Algal Blooms SeaGrant Brochure http://www.albany.edu/sph/cphce/behp_habs_seagrant.pdf
2. CDC NCEH Veterinarian Reference Card http://www.albany.edu/sph/cphce/behp_cdc_vet.pdf
3. NYS DEC HAB Webpage <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/77118.html>
4. Merck Veterinary Manual http://www.merckvetmanual.com/mvm/toxicology/algal_poisoning/overview_of_algal_poisoning.html?qt=blue%20green%20algae&alt=sh
5. Rankin KA, Alroy KA, Kudela RM, Oates SC, Murray MJ, Miller MA. Treatment of Cyanobacterial (Microcystin) Toxicosis Using Oral Cholestyramine: Case Report of a Dog from Montana. *Toxins*. 2013;5(6):1051-1063. doi:10.3390/toxins5061051. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3717769/>



A dog jumps into the swimming pool at the Dog Resort in Sao Paulo. City dwellers in the South American concrete jungle of Sao Paulo are increasingly living on their own in high rise apartment blocks, turning to pets for company rather than traditional family cohabitation. Care centres, such as this, who look after the animals during the working hours of the day are becoming increasingly popular.

Picture: REUTERS/Nacho Doce



A fox was spotted strolling down in Downing Street in London

Picture: Joe Pepler/REX

VMA of NYC

***The mission of the
Veterinary Medical
Association
of New York City is:***

*To improve and advance the education of veterinarians
and the science of veterinary medicine; to foster and maintain high
standards of integrity, honor, courtesy and ethics in the profession;
to foster protection of the public health, and enlighten
and inform the public in regard to veterinary medicine, science,
knowledge and the avoidance of cruelty to animals, wherein it af-
fects the public good and welfare.*



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