



# World Veterinary Association

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

## Newsletter

No. 6 – April 2007

### World Veterinary Day 2007: Saturday, April 28



Dear Colleagues and Friends of Veterinary Medicine

This is the day to celebrate a great profession and show its greatness throughout the World. You might ask why do we need such a celebration? All veterinarians are aware of the multitude of beneficial professional activities and artful practices that the profession does for its patients and clients.

In talking with my colleagues and the public throughout the world, I have experienced two definite emotions – one of **joy** and one of **sadness**.

I feel gleeful **joy** in global colleagues and learning the great things they do for their patients, and the global society the profession serves. On the other hand, I feel extreme **sadness** when I learn of the lack of awareness of the diverse scientific activities our profession by non-veterinarians that I

meet on airplanes, buses, trains and in public meeting places, department stores and restaurants. The public as a whole just does not know the great diversity of the veterinary profession. They are unaware that we are involved in food safety and other public health programs. Although the public may have a high level of respect for the profession, it knows little of the veterinary profession's continuous support of animal welfare and well being.

To help educate the public, the theme for this year's World Veterinary Day is "**Celebrate our Diversity**". It can be celebrated by each veterinarian, veterinary clinic, veterinary organization or agency in a way that each believes best demonstrates the contributions of the scientific activities from the veterinary profession. In order to educate the informational media, public officials, and the general public, they all must be well informed through messages and exhibits that we veterinarians are key players in all areas of public health, as well as animal health and welfare.

Through World veterinary Day, let us all work towards one emotion, that of joy, for the veterinary medical profession.

**Dr Leon Russell, President**

The WVA will be pleased to receive news of plans before World Veterinary Day and will publish these and reports of activities.

## World Veterinary Congress 2008



**29<sup>th</sup> World Veterinary Congress,  
July 27-31, 2008  
Vancouver, Canada.**

As the time of our Congress draws near, we are putting the finishing touches to our program. We will provide an exceptional educational and social opportunity for private and public veterinary practitioners, animal health technologists, veterinary technicians and others employed in the animal health field.

An outstanding team of speakers is being put together for the Private Practice Track. During the four day course of the Congress, we will simultaneously host daily: five streams in small animal practice, one in equine, one in bovine and two covering other species such as swine, avian, laboratory animals and aquatic animals. The invited speakers will cover a wide range of topics regarding their respective species, including: medicine, surgery, veterinary specialties, practice/business management, diagnostics and other areas of clinical interest. The list of speakers and their biographies will be posted on the web site as they become available.

The Public Practice/Public Health Track will feature guest speakers as well as oral and poster presentations selected from submissions received between May and November 2007. These presentations will feature two days of content on each of three themes:

- Disease Surveillance, Biosecurity and Emergency Preparedness,
- Production Animal Welfare and Animal Care,
- Judicious Use of Animal Health Products.

I am very pleased to tell you that Monday morning will feature one common session for all the congress participants. "One World, One Medicine, One Health". We anticipate brief welcoming remarks from Congress dignitaries, followed by a full program of speakers who will set the stage for what promises to be a very informative congress. Our objective in this session is to highlight the fact that all animal health care workers share a common goal in providing for the health of society. Whether you work in small animal clinical practice or biotechnology research, the impact your field of veterinary science has on the health of the global human and animal population is undeniable. Three speakers have been engaged to look at this reality from very different angles. Dr. Brian Evans, Canada's Chief Veterinary Officer; Dr. Lonnie King, American Centre for Disease Control and Dr. Hugh Bilson Lewis, senior Vice President Banfield, The Pet Hospital, have agreed to participate in this session.

For more information visit [www.worldveterinarycongress2008.com](http://www.worldveterinarycongress2008.com)

Please join us in Vancouver in the summer of 2008. The city is beautiful, the scientific program will be exceptional and Canada awaits your visit. "Come for the congress and stay for the adventure".

**Dr. Duane Landals, DVM  
Chair 29<sup>th</sup> World Veterinary Congress**

**WVA to Commemorate the 150th Anniversary at 2013 World Veterinary Congress**

## What are we all doing on World Veterinary day 28<sup>th</sup> April 2007?

By now all veterinarians that realize the opportunities that this one day each year presents will know how they intend to promote the veterinary family. Whether in veterinary practice, in veterinary teaching or research or engaged in charity work with animals at home or abroad, the range of the professional activities are clear to all within the profession. Not so to those outside the profession who might view veterinarians as only skilled fixers of ailing animals!

In preparation for World Veterinary Day in the UK there has been an analysis by BVA of veterinary diversification. Veterinarians can highlight those areas of activity that are most relevant to their own activities. Why not consider a similar approach in your own practice or veterinary school, laboratory or Government facility by drawing attention to some of the veterinary functions that people outside the profession may not appreciate? Certain of the UK ideas were designed to inform and promote our role through the media. Many spokespersons were keen to make themselves available on national, regional and local radio. A database of contacts from all areas of veterinary endeavor is now to hand. Many responses to the question: "How should we celebrate veterinary diversity on World Veterinary day?" came from the national veterinary association and its various species and discipline divisions. I am sure you could expect similar responses in your own countries, associations and regions. I assumed that I knew about the profession but admit I was surprised by the range of veterinary sources that wanted to be assured that their role was explained during any World Veterinary day publicity. Understandably there is a loud voice representing the general and specific veterinary practitioner with the many clinical and surgical skills in their armory.

Some of the ideas that might be useful are highlighted below:

- Many practices will use Poster boards to illustrate their latest techniques for restoring differing species of mammal and avian to health and improved welfare.
- With global change veterinarians are the "eyes and ears" for early detection of new and/or reemerging disease. (plenty of examples from different regions)
- The veterinary role in both passive and targeted surveillance and the crucial links between Government veterinarians and practitioners.
- The veterinarians that work on national disease control strategies /contingency planning with disease modelers & epidemiologists.
- Veterinarians that work directly in the Welfare field, in promoting sustainable agriculture and human existence. (e.g. SPANA, TAWS, VetAID, WSPA, etc.)
- Veterinarians in your research groups bringing forward new diagnostic tools; new research on zoonoses and HACCP analysis for the food chain
- International mobilization of veterinarians working in disaster relief for people and their animals, and to control epidemic disease.
- The veterinarian and his/her commitment to lifelong learning and the obligation to CPD.
- Your veterinary efforts to plan for health and welfare of all animals in order to prevent or mitigate the effects of disease.
- Veterinary development of parasite control strategies and prudent use of antimicrobials in order to minimize the development of resistance in the future.
- Veterinary teaching and the cutting edge of undergraduate teaching and learning.

Would any of these suggestions work in your area perhaps?

**Bob Stevenson WVA Councilor**

### **Dr. Shuja, architect of veterinary development in Mauritius**

The veterinary world of Mauritius learnt, with deep regrets, about the death of Dr. SHUJA Jalal-Ud-Din (John) on 10 January 2007 in Edinburgh, UK. He left behind him a legacy of achievements for current and future veterinarians of the country. His hard work earned him the prestigious Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) and the award of Officer of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean (OSK).

Dr Shuja set up the infrastructure for an appropriate animal quarantine system. He established livestock breeding stations (LBS) at four different locations, namely, the LBS for cattle at Richelieu, for cattle, pigs and rabbits at Curepipe, for cattle, goats, sheep and rabbits at Palmar and for poultry at Réduit.

Dr. Shuja's service to the veterinary profession of Mauritius is commendable and he remains one of the premier architects for the multifaceted development of Animal Health activities of the country. The veterinary profession bows to his dynamic leadership; many activities of veterinary services that were created and nurtured up to the present status and to his vision for the nation.

**Dr. Ramchurn, WVA Councilor for Africa**

### **World Veterinary Day 2007 in Tunisia**

Tunisia is celebrating the World Veterinary Day by organizing their annual Pet exhibition and open animal hospitals for the large public and the Press and Media. This event will be organized by the ATVAC, Tunisian Veterinary Association and with the participation of the North African Veterinary Association. A scientific veterinary seminar and continuous education session will be organized for veterinarians, nurses and para-professionals.

### **New Members to WVA**

After the PVS/OIE missions performed by Dr Faouzi Kechrid, Djibouti, Gabon, Mauritania and Syria will join the World veterinary association. The African Veterinary Association and the Euro-Arab veterinary Association are applying to become WVA associate members instead of their current positions as Observers. Portugal and Algeria confirmed their return to the WVA.

### **New African Veterinary Association Board**

During its General Assembly held in Bamako, Mali on December 5th, 2006, a new Executive Board was appointed. Contacts: Dr Faouzi Kechrid [faouzikechrid@yahoo.fr](mailto:faouzikechrid@yahoo.fr); President: Dr Khaled El Hicheri: [elhicheri-k@lycos.com](mailto:elhicheri-k@lycos.com)

### **Congresses**

**Third African Veterinary Congress  
Yaounde 13-15 November 2007**

**11th Euro-Arab Veterinary Congress  
Khartoum, Sudan 7th to 9th December 2007**

**Fourth African Veterinary Association  
Congress, Algiers, Algeria, May 2008**

Contact: Dr Faouzi Kechrid:  
[faouzikechrid@yahoo.fr](mailto:faouzikechrid@yahoo.fr)

**Canadian IVAS Affiliated Basic Veterinary  
Acupuncture Course. October 2007.**

**2007 CanWest Veterinary Conference** October 13-16, 2007. More details at: [www.avma.ab.ca](http://www.avma.ab.ca) or [www.bcvma.org](http://www.bcvma.org).

**13<sup>th</sup> International Symposium for the World  
Association of Veterinary Laboratory  
Diagnosticians** More details at:  
<http://www.wavld2007.com/melbourne.php>

### **Newsletter sponsored by the Taiwan Veterinary Medical Association**

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