Please mark your calendars and join us for a joint WDA-WVS/AAWV session at the 2013 WDA meeting in Knoxville, TN 27 July – 2 August 2013:

http://fwf.ag.utk.edu/WDA2013/

The session is titled “Integrating clinical veterinary science in wildlife conservation”. We are seeking submissions for oral presentations on wildlife anesthesia and analgesia, wildlife related surgery, and best clinical practices for wildlife. Please contact Dr. Jon Arnemo for additional information. The deadline for submissions is 1 April 2013.

WVS Notes:

- Have you paid your WDA membership dues AND donated to the WVS? If not, please do so today.

WDA—WVS Officers

- Chairman: Jon M. Arnemo, jon.arnemo@hihm.no
- Secretary: Anne Justice-Allen, ajustice-allen@azgfd.gov
- Treasurer: Nadine Lamberski, nlamberski@sandiegozoo.org
- Student Representative: Tom Vowell, vow3021@uni.sydney.edu.au
- Newsletter Editor: Kevin Castle, kevin_castle@nps.gov
MEET THE WVS BOARD MEMBERS

We are pleased to introduce our WVS Advisory Board Members. These individuals have volunteered to provide the WVS Officers with input to decisions that affect the Section Membership, and to provide guidance on the direction and goals of WVS. Each Board member brings unique insights to the issues we face, while embracing the core objectives of the Section. Welcome WVS Board members and thank you for helping lead the section in its inaugural years!

Gerardo Acosta-Jamett, DVM, PhD

Dr. Acosta-Jamett is an Assistant Professor at the Universidad Austral (Chile). He is a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, Master in Ecology and PhD in Veterinary Epidemiology (U. of Edinburgh). After four years working in a governmental organization leading conservation project he returned back to school and completed his doctoral studies on the implications of dog-wildlife co-existence for conservation and human health, studying the epidemiology of canine parvovirus, distemper virus and hydatidosis in central Chile. Dr. Acosta-Jamett is continuing his work on epidemiology and disease ecology of zoonotic diseases such as hydatidosis, rickettsiosis, anaplasmosis, toxocariasis and other micro and macroparasites in domestic and wild carnivores (Pseudalopex spp., Leopardus guigna and Puma concolor) and on wild ungulates such as Lama guanicoe. He is the current president of AMEVEFAS (Chilean Association of Wild Vets), Director of Postgraduate Studies and Director of the Applied Research Program on Wildlife at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in the Universidad Austral and lives in the beautiful city of Valdivia in Southern Chile (gerardo.acosta@uach.cl).

Mark W. Atkinson BVSc MRCVS

Mark is a wildlife veterinarian from Zimbabwe who for the past 20+ years has been involved in a wide variety of wildlife conservation programs in southern Africa, Asia and North America. After working in a mixed-animal practice he joined the government veterinary services in Zimbabwe to investigate diseases of wildlife and livestock, undertake wildlife capture and translocation work, and develop health and disease management programs for wildlife, much of which focused on rhino and elephant conservation. In the late 1990’s he moved to the US, working within the zoological community as Director of Wildlife and Conservation Medicine at the Wilds. He later became the state wildlife veterinarian for Montana, and then for Nevada, establishing health programs for each of the states department of wildlife. After a period working as Division Chief, in 2010 he joined the Wildlife Conservation Society as AHEAD (Animal & Human Health for the Environment And Development) Senior Policy Advisor working to address health-related wildlife/livestock/human interface issues in southern Africa and managing a health policy initiative with a special focus on the five-country Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA TFCA). He is currently based in Botswana. (matkinson@wcs.org)
Marc Cattet is a wildlife veterinarian and professional research associate with the Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre and an adjunct professor in the Department of Veterinary Pathology at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Canada. He provides technical expertise in the areas of wildlife capture and handling to government wildlife agencies in Canada and serves as project veterinarian for the Foothills Research Institute Grizzly Bear Research Program and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Polar Bear Research Program. He also conducts research within these and other long-term wildlife research programs with a common focus toward detecting, understanding, and reducing the effects of a range of human activities on the health of wild species. (marc.cattet@usask.ca)

Colin Gillin, DVM, PhD
Colin Gillin is a graduate of the University of Wyoming and Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine. He has worked in the field of wildlife conservation and management as a field biologist and Supervisor of Biological Services for the Wyoming Game and Fish Department and as a faculty member with Tufts University giving lectures on wildlife diseases while leading a disease ecology research program with the Consortium for Conservation Medicine in the Yellowstone-to-Yukon bioregion. Colin still teaches as adjunct clinical faculty at Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine and as affiliate faculty at Oregon State University College of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Biomedical Sciences. He serves as the state wildlife veterinarian for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and as the president of the American Association of Wildlife Veterinarians and is Vice-Chair for the US Animal Health Association Committee on Wildlife Diseases.

Wayne Boardman BVetMed, MANZCVS
Wayne Boardman is a wildlife veterinarian and conservationist. After qualifying from the Royal Veterinary College, University of London, Wayne worked for five years in mixed practice in England and New Zealand, before taking up a new position as Veterinary Officer at Auckland Zoo. Following a period as veterinarian at Perth Zoo, he then worked as Senior Lecturer in Wildlife Medicine at Massey University, NZ a joint posting between the university and the Department of Conservation developing systems and standards for wildlife health. A period as Senior veterinarian at Taronga Zoo, Sydney was followed by consultancy work in Cambodia training wildlife veterinarians. He then spent nearly three years working in Uganda training veterinarians and capacity building for the Jane Goodall Institute and the World Bank. After a short wildlife consultancy in China, he became Head of Veterinary Services for the Zoological Society of London covering both London Zoo and Whipsnade Zoo. During this period he ran and participated in training courses for veterinarians on wildlife health in several countries in Africa and Asia. In 2006, he took up a position as Head of Veterinary Conservation Programs at the Royal Zoological Society of South Australia before joining the School of Animal and Veterinary Science in January 2011. Wayne’s teaching and research interests include conservation biology, veterinary biosecurity, wildlife health and medicine, zoo medicine, conservation medicine, wildlife management and wildlife anaesthesia.

Marc Cattet, DVM, MSc, PhD
Marc Cattet is a wildlife veterinarian and professional research associate with the Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre and an adjunct professor in the Department of Veterinary Pathology at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Canada. He provides technical expertise in the areas of wildlife capture and handling to government wildlife agencies in Canada and serves as project veterinarian for the Foothills Research Institute Grizzly Bear Research Program and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Polar Bear Research Program. He also conducts research within these and other long-term wildlife research programs with a common focus toward detecting, understanding, and reducing the effects of a range of human activities on the health of wild species. (marc.cattet@usask.ca)
Sonia M. Hernandez, DVM, DACZM, PhD

Sonia is Assistant Professor of Wildlife Disease in a joint position with the University of Georgia Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources and the College of Veterinary Medicine (SCWDS). Her research revolves around how human activities affect the health and disease dynamics of wildlife populations. Her long-term aim is to bridge veterinary medicine with ecology and conservation. She teaches Wildlife Disease Ecology: Investigation and Management, the Teaching Practicum for grad students, co-teaches Ornithology, and Conservation Medicine and Biology in Costa Rica. Recent research projects include: basic ecology of the pygmy hippo, transmitter effects on sturgeon, effects of domestic cats on urban wildlife, pathogens of urban white ibises, the effects of mercury and PCB’s on least terns and Salmonella wildlife surveillance. She obtained her DVM from LSU School of Veterinary Medicine (1996); completed a Small Animal Medicine/Surgery Internship at Sonora Veterinary Specialists (1997), and a Residency in Zoo/Wildlife medicine at Cornell University (2001). She became a Diplomate in the American College of Zoological Medicine (2002), completing the ACZM examination in free-ranging wildlife medicine. She completed a PhD at the Odum School of Ecology, UGA (2008) focusing on the relationship between sustainable agricultural practices and the risks and benefits to avian biodiversity and health in Costa Rica. She lives in Athens, GA with her husband and her 21-month-old son who is keeping her on her toes! (shernz@uga.edu)

Victoria Olsen-Mikitowicz, BS, Student Representative

As a second year veterinary student at Washington State University and part of the Paul Allen School for Global Animal Health Pathway, Victoria is invested in the impact of policy and social structure on animal health and disease dynamics. She is currently working with the USDA on projects involving wildlife immunology and disease research, specifically looking at big horn sheep and innate immune function. In the vet school, Victoria is the Senior Community Service Chair, helping organize events such as World Rabies Day and Public Relations Chair for the Veterinary Ethics and Animal Law Club to facilitate discussions on the moral obligations of students and future veterinarians. Victoria hopes to continue participating in practical applications of research and sustainable change to promote the One Health Initiative.

Chris Walzer, Dr. med. vet. Dipl. ECZM (Wildl. Pop. Health)

Dr. Walzer is a professor and the chair of conservation medicine at the university of veterinary medicine in Vienna, Austria. He is a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and a habilitation in wildlife medicine and is a Diplomate of the European College of Zoological Medicine (Wildlife Population Health). After 4 years in private mixed-animal practice he became a full-time zoo and wildlife vet in 1993. Since 1999 Dr. Walzer been the director of science for the International Takhi Group and the Przewalski’s horse reintroduction program to Mongolia. He has internationally recognized expertise working with wildlife, especially equids, rhinos and carnivores, gained from combined years of work and study in Europe, Asia and Africa. When he is not working he is out trail running, mountain biking and backcountry skiing.
TREASURER’S REPORT
Nadine Lamberski

WDA membership dues reminders were sent out via e-mail. If you accidentally deleted this request or it is lost in your inbox, you should receive a request to renew by mail. You can also renew your WDA membership dues on our website.

There are 2 ways to donate to the WVS. 1) Go to our website (www.wildlifedisease.org). Click on the "Sections" heading, then "Donate to a section", followed by "Wildlife Veterinary". Alternatively, you can click on "Sections", then "Wildlife Veterinary", then "Donate to a section". The drop down menu suggests a minimum donation of $20; or 2) Respond to the hard copy renewal notice if you receive one in the mail.

Based on your responses to our recent survey, the majority of respondents agree with using funds to support student involvement, offset workshop expenses, and cover travel costs for invited speakers at the annual meeting.
2012 WVS SURVEY MONKEY RESULTS SUMMARY (SEE WVS WEBSITE FOR DETAILED RESULTS)
(Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding error or because multiple responses were requested)

Background/interest in veterinary medicine (138 responses):
- 57% Veterinary degree plus a masters or PhD
- 34% Veterinary degree only
- 4% Masters in veterinary science
- 2% Undergraduate degree in veterinary science
- 2% None of the above but interest and some experience

Board certification (137 responses):
- 63% Not board certified
- 17% Board certified in zoo or wildlife medicine
- 8% Other
- 7% Board certified in epidemiology, preventive medicine, or public health
- 5% Board certified in a specialty discipline, e.g. pathology, clinical pathology, toxicology

Primary job emphasis (139 responses):
- 29% Clinical veterinarian
- 18% Veterinary scientist (e.g. immunology, molecular diagnostics, virology, disease ecology, toxicology)
- 15% Other
- 12% Pathologist
- 11% Wildlife ecosystem manager
- 9% Epidemiologist
- 6% Administrator/management

Type of employer (141 responses):
- 40% Academia, university, college
- 28% Government agency
- 23% Public or private institution, Zoo, or NGO
- 8% Private veterinary practice
- 6% Other

Years of experience working in wildlife health (139 responses):
- 27% > 20 years
- 27% 10-20 years
- 23% 2-5 years
- 17% 6-10 years
- 5% 0-1 year
Your vision for the role of the WVS (140 responses):
In order of those ranked “Important”
94% Promote strategies to effectively manage wildlife disease issues
92% Educate policy makers on the veterinary aspects of wild animal populations
89% Create awareness of emerging diseases
87% Support disease investigations
76% Mentor students
75% Promote preventive medicine in wildlife management practices
71% Promote animal welfare (as it pertains to wildlife)
63% Advance clinical medicine through research and sharing of ideas

Would you like to see a WVS session at a WDA meeting (139 responses)?
58% Yes, every year would be great
30% Yes, but not every year
12% No, I don’t think this is necessary

If checked Yes above, the topics that respondents would like to see are listed in order (122 responses):
83% Disease management and control strategies
71% Advances in disease diagnostics
63% Communicating about wildlife disease (with public and public health practitioners)
61% Applied field anesthesia technique
50% Interpretation of diagnostic tests
48% Pathology
44% Application of modeling tools such as STEM to wildlife disease epidemiology
43% Advances in physiological monitoring equipment

What topics would you like to see presented as a workshop at a WDA meeting (132 responses)?
74% Forensic pathology
60% Field necropsy techniques
57% Field anesthesia techniques – emergency procedures for biologists
46% Biological sample collection
45% Advanced clinical skills

The WVS is asking for members to donate to the section when they pay their WDA membership dues. How would you like to see these funds used? (135 responses)
61% Support student involvement
49% Offset workshop expenses
41% Travel costs for invited speakers at the annual meeting
24% Travel costs for WVS officers to represent WDA/WVS at appropriate meetings
16% Save it for a rainy day
**Upcoming Meetings**

**Feb. 9 to 10:** Wildlife and Aquatic Animal Medicine Annual Symposium, University of California, Davis, and Webinar online

**Feb. 15 to 18:** International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance, Vienna, Austria

**Feb. 25 to 27:** ASM Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases, Washington D.C.

**March 5 to 9:** National Wildlife Rehabilitators Symposium Association, Portland, Oregon

**March 15 to 18:** European Assoc. for Aquatic Mammals Symposium, Nuremberg, Germany

**April 2 to 5:** International Congress on Infectious Diseases, Cape Town, South Africa

**April 20 to 26:** International Conference on Avian, Herpetological, and Exotic Mammal Medicine, Wiesbaden, Germany

**April 21 to 26:** International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine, Sausalito, California

**Apr. 29 to May 10:** Advanced Principles of Toxicology, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, Canada

**May 8 to 11:** International Conference on Diseases of Zoo and Wild Animals, Vienna, Austria

**May 26 to 29:** Prion, Banff, Canada

**June 13 to 21:** Epi on the Island 2013, Centre for Veterinary Epidemiological Research, Prince Edward Island, Canada

**July 27 to Aug. 2:** Wildlife Disease Association Conference, Knoxville, Tennessee

**Sept. 18 to 21:** International Conference on Behavior, Physiology, and Genetics in Wildlife, Berlin, Germany

**Sept. 28 to Oct. 4:** American Association of Zoo Veterinarians, Salt Lake City, UT

**Tom Thorne and Beth Williams Memorial Award**

The AAWV and WDA are seeking nominations for the Tom Thorne and Beth Williams Memorial Award. The award is given in acknowledgment of either an exemplary contribution or achievement combining wildlife disease research with wildlife management policy implementation or elucidating particularly significant problems in wildlife health. Nominations are open to all professionals and students in the field of wildlife health, regardless of membership in the AAWV or WDA. Nominations shall consist of a letter stating the nominee’s name, affiliation, brief biographical history and a description of the contribution or achievements for which the person is nominated. Nomination letters shall specifically reference the nominee’s contributions as they relate to the award criteria as outlined in paragraph two of these guidelines. Nomination letters should be sent to Colin Gillin (colin.m.gillin@state.or.us) or Dolores Gavier-Widén (Dolores@sva.se). **March 10th is the deadline** to submit nominations. A committee consisting of 2 members from the AAWV and 2 members from the WDA will review the nominations.
WVS OBJECTIVES

- To promote and encourage the utilization of veterinarians in the field of wildlife resource management and research.
- To enhance the contribution of veterinary medicine to the welfare of the wildlife resource.
- To stress the importance of the connectedness of human, wildlife, domestic animal, and environmental health.
- To encourage cooperative efforts among resource management professionals and wildlife veterinarians.
- To encourage and promote a philosophy of animal management and preventative medicine as it relates to free-ranging species.
- To encourage an increased emphasis in colleges of veterinary medicine relative to management and preventative medicine of free-ranging species.
- To encourage the recognition of disease syndromes in their broadest sense as potentially influenced by habitat succession, alteration and pollution.
- To educate and gain rapport with government agencies and wildlife resource interest groups concerning the importance of wildlife preventative medicine and disease in relation to the wildlife resource and domestic species.
- To educate and inform governmental agencies and wildlife resource interest groups of support and educational services which may be provided by wildlife veterinarians.
- To help establish and work for continuing education programs for wildlife veterinarians.
- To provide mentorship to students interested in all aspects of wildlife health.

To have an item included in the newsletter, contact Kevin. To have an announcement sent to the WVS members, directly contact Anne. Feel free to contact any of the officers regarding section business.