Day Dreaming of Getting Away to the Sandy Shores? Join Us for the MVMA 2014 Summer Meeting at Perdido Beach Resort Registration Information Inside!

MVMA Young Veterinarian of the Year
Dr. Hannah Heaton

Happy Birthday Dr. Gates!

A Day in the Life… Veterinarian Moms

Become A Mentor

A Special Tribute To Dr. Jack Nunnery
South Paws offers a wide variety of procedures, including:

**Orthopedic Surgery:**
- Stifle Injury Repair: TPLO, TTA
- Lateral Fabellar Suture, Patellar Luxation
- Treatment of Hip Dysplasia: FHO, TPO
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**Neurologic Surgery:**
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**Soft Tissue Surgery:**
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- Head & Neck: Ear Canal Ablation, Laryngeal Paralysis, Salivary Mucocele, Stenotic Nares, Staphylectomy
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PLEASE VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE! WWW.SOUTHPAWSVETSPECIALISTS.COM
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Dr. Heaton is a native of Union County, Mississippi and graduated from Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 2009. She moved to Oxford Mississippi after graduation to join Dr. Payne, Dr. Wilson, and Dr. Redding at the Animal Clinic of Oxford. She has since developed into a wonderful private practitioner serving the community of Oxford in a great capacity.

Dr. Heaton genuinely has the patient’s best interest in all aspects of her care. Her clients regularly speak in high regards for Dr. Heaton and the wonderful care she provides. Dr. Heaton’s leadership qualities and willingness to serve make her the perfect candidate for the MVMA 2014 Young Veterinarian of the Year. She is no doubt deserving of this award.

Dr. Hannah Baskin Heaton is presented with the MVMA 2014 Young Veterinarian of the Year Award by MVMA Vice – President, Dr. Todd Archer

Happy 100th Birthday to Dr. Glenn Gates!

At the MVMA 2014 Winter Meeting, the Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association honored member, Dr. Glenn D. Gates on achieving his centenarian status. Dr. Gates had recently celebrated his 100th birthday on December 31, 2013.

A native of Clarksdale, MS, Dr. Gates graduated with honors from Southwestern College in 1936 with a degree in Chemistry and obtained his Veterinary Medical degree with honors from the University of Pennsylvania in 1941. He returned to Clarksdale and practiced with his father, Dr. William L. Gates. After his father’s passing, he was joined by Dr. Elmer Landess and continued to practice until just a few years ago.

Dr. Gates is a member of the AVMA, the MVMA, and numerous civic and professional fraternities. In the MVMA, he served as president in 1951, was on the board of examiners, was honored as Veterinarian of the Year in 1991, and was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2002.

He still enjoys his mornings out with friends in his coffee club. Several years ago, he was quoted as saying his secret to longevity was enjoying life, hard work, and dancing!

compiled by Dr. Frank Branch and Dr. Mary Jo Roark
NexGard™ (afoxolaner) Chewables

Kills Fleas and Ticks

- Soft Beef-Flavored Chewables
- Kills fleas before they can lay eggs
- Prevents flea infestations
- Lasts for the entire month
- Net Contents: 6 Chewables
- Each chewable contains 28.3 mg afoxolaner

Give once a month
FOR USE IN DOGS AND PUPPIES 8 WEEKS OF AGE AND OLDER

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION: For use in dogs only. The most common adverse reaction is vomiting. Other adverse reactions reported are dry/flaky skin, diarrhea, lethargy, and anorexia. The safe use of NexGard™ (afoxolaner) in pregnant, breeding, or lactating dogs has not been evaluated. Use with caution in dogs with a history of seizures.

Warnings
- Not for use in puppies and kittens, and other non-target animals such as cats and ferrets. In case of accidental ingestion, contact a poison control center.
- The safety of the product in breeding, pregnant, or lactating dogs has not been evaluated. Use with caution in these dogs, and contact a veterinarian (see Adverse Reactions).
- The safety of NexGard™ (afoxolaner) in breeding, pregnant, or lactating females has not been evaluated. Use with caution in these females and contact a veterinarian (see Adverse Reactions).

Adverse Reactions
- In a well-controlled study of 157 beagle dogs, which included a total of 233 beagle dogs and 675 cats, 0.1% of dogs (3/233) and 0.1% of cats (1/675) died within 21 days after treatment. Forty percent of dogs and 0.1% of cats showed signs of anorexia, depression, and vomiting. In a second study of 0.1% of dogs (3/233) and 0.1% of cats (1/675) died within 21 days after treatment. Two percent of dogs and 0.1% of cats showed signs of anorexia, depression, and vomiting.

Table 1: Basic Adverse Reactions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment Group</th>
<th>Anorexia</th>
<th>Depression</th>
<th>Vomiting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NexGard™</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Placebo</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

NexGard™ can be administered with a Jeffrey Gold®. Care should be taken that the dog consumes the entire dose. In case of accidental ingestion, contact a veterinarian (see Adverse Reactions).

Adverse effects:
- In a 4-week study, 16 dogs on NexGard™ showed signs of anorexia, depression, and vomiting. In a second study, 15 dogs on NexGard™ showed signs of anorexia, depression, and vomiting. In a third study, 14 dogs on NexGard™ showed signs of anorexia, depression, and vomiting.

Storage Information
- Store at room temperature (15°-30°C/59°-86°F) and protected from light. Bottle is overprinted with PV-30102-0.3.

NexGard™ is available in four sizes of beef-flavored soft chewables: 1.3, 3.3, 5.5, and 10 mg. Each chewable contains 0.03 mg afoxolaner and 0.03 mg afoxolaner. See also the USP. NexGard™ is available in coated sustained-release pellets of 0.0001 mg afoxolaner and 0.0001 mg afoxolaner. See also the USP. NexGard™ is available in coated sustained-release pellets of 0.0001 mg afoxolaner and 0.0001 mg afoxolaner. See also the USP.
Mentorship

Organized veterinary medicine is an important part of our profession. It offers resources to veterinarians, student support to future veterinarians and keeps members informed on many emerging issues in our industry and community. The MVMA provides quality continuing education opportunities, a wide variety of membership benefits, networking with colleagues, and a voice for our legislative concerns to protect us from bills that could hurt our profession.

As a member of the SCAVMA Executive Board here at the MSU-CVM, I have had the privilege of sitting in on the MVMA board meetings and speaking with members. One problem facing veterinary medicine is the lack of interest in organized veterinary medicine from students and recent graduates. Associations are only as strong as their total numbers, and with dwindling applications from recent grads, it is important to work to ensure the future of organized veterinary medicine. SCAVMA and the MVMA have been working together to find ways to help increase the awareness of the benefits of joining the MVMA.

One idea is to have a “Mentoring Program” between MSU-CVM students and veterinarians in the state who are open to having students come and shadow under them. Many students here are looking for more hands on experience working in clinics and on farm calls when they have time off. This would allow students to call you and see if you would be open to having them come visit your practice and assist you, at your convenience. This would be an available scenario so that if you sign up, you are not obligated to have someone come, you are simply stating that you would be open to having a student contact you about the possibility of shadowing under you. We will be composing a list of doctors in the state willing to participate, their location and type of practice, and make it available to students.

A program such as this would help MVMA members become more involved with students and pass on advice and lessons, as well as giving them a firsthand view of the benefits of joining an organized veterinary medicine structure. It would not only increase student involvement in organized veterinary medicine here in the state, it would also provide opportunities for networking, allowing students to evaluate various practices throughout the state, and allow you to meet potential future employees. This is an easy way to help give back to your profession without having to take any time off work or do any traveling. I urge you to contribute if you can, let’s work together to preserve the future of organized veterinary medicine and our profession in the state. There are a variety of ways for veterinarians to volunteer that are all adaptable to your individual needs. To anyone interested in the MVMA/SCAVMA Mentoring Program or volunteering in other ways, please contact the MVMA Office at 662-323-5057 or MSvetmed@gmail.com, or contact me directly at Rsmills88@gmail.com

Spencer Mills
MSU-CVM Class of 2016
SCAVMA Executive Board, Treasurer
SCAVMA Representative for the MVMA
The job requirements: advanced “animal-to-human” translation skills, strong hands, steely nerves. With these, veterinarians handle life and death and everything in between. They work much as your physician does—dashing between patients, performing procedures and interpreting lab results. Except their patients are usually furry or feathered.

“People are surprised that we deal with all the same things as in human medicine—diabetes, heart disease, cancers,” says Jennifer Lawrence, DVM, a Santa Clara, CA-based vet and mom of Justin, 14, and Garrett, 12. “People think I just pet puppies all day.” In fact, Jen faces situations most MDs never dream of. One patient arrived in a storage tub so heavy a vet tech had to help the owner carry it in. Once the lid was opened, Jen had to keep her cool while the patient, a 14-foot Burmese python, slithered around the tiny exam room.

“You want to project a calm, ‘we’re all good here’ body language,” says Jen, who, with some coaching from its owner, was able to examine inside the snake’s mouth and nostrils and listen to its lungs. “I was a bit nervous, but she was a patient and I had to fully examine her.”

The Case of the “Drunken” Emu
Beyond fangs and claws, vets cope with another major challenge—their patients can’t talk. Which means a good vet is also a good sleuth. “Seventy-five percent of it is figuring out what’s wrong,” says Angela Woodward, DVM, mom of Reese, 5, and Braylon, 3, who works at Banfield Pet Hospital in Eden Prairie, MN. “It’s like the TV show CSI. You’re listening to the owners, trying to put together the pieces and solve the puzzle.”

For instance, what did the puppy swallow? That’s one medical mystery vets are often called to solve. “You’d be amazed at what they eat,” says Jami-Lyn Derse, DVM, an emergency room vet based in suburban Chicago and mom of Juliana, 9 months. “Rope, socks, coins, women’s underwear. Once I took five pacifiers out of a lab’s belly.”

Other puzzles are considerably more complicated. What to make of the buffalo that presents with poor weight gain and frequent aspiration pneumonia? The hairy fellow had a cleft palate (a hole in the top of the mouth) that was forcing food out his nose and germs into his windpipe, according to Lynette Hemker, DVM, co-owner of Greenville Veterinary Clinic in Greenville, IL, and mom of Allison, 5, and Hunter, 2.

Or how about the emu stumbling drunkenly around its enclosure? Jen examined the giant bird in the clinic’s parking lot (too tall for the door) and then did some research. Lynette discovered the animal had likely contracted a roundworm infection from stepping in raccoon droppings in its enclosure. “This work makes you use your brain, and I love that about it,” she says.

It’s Not for Scared Bunnies
The job is intellectually challenging, but hardly bookish. Typically, vets either specialize in small or large animals, but Lynette, who works in a rural area, treats both pets and farm animals. She helps birth some 40 calves and several foals each year, often driving over rutted fields in a pickup equipped with a surgical kit and 30 gallons of water. She also wears shoulder-length gloves and coveralls—though profound, birth is a messy process!

Vets don’t just get dirty; they get scratched, kicked and bitten. Parakeets will chomp your cuticle; an anti-dental-exam cat may swipe defensively. “I talk to my patients,” says Jen, who prides herself on her animal impersonations. To a hissing cat she’ll say, “You’re right, I suck! But we’ll get through this.”

As well as a sense of humor, vets also need speedy reflexes and self-preservation instincts. Lebanon, NH-based Abigail Fisher, DVM, mom of daughters Rainey, 2, and Ella, 10 months, remembers going out on an emergency call to examine a horse when she was eight months pregnant with her first child. The owner said the horse didn’t need sedation, but Abbie overruled. “I said, ‘Yes, I’m going to sedate the horse,’” she recalled. “This is a creature that outweighs me by a thousand pounds. People get killed every year from kicks. With little kids depending on you, you can’t get kicked.”

Even in less dangerous situations, it’s a physically demanding job. Want a killer upper-body workout? Try pulling out a bulldog’s tooth, quips Angela.
Landing on All Fours

Outsiders assume the hardest part of the job is euthanizing, or “putting down,” a pet. It’s not, say vet moms. “It’s an opportunity to relieve suffering, say goodbye and get some closure,” says Angela. “It’s pretty instantaneous. I always let people sit as long as they need afterward with their pet.”

The hard things are the horrific injuries, the cases you can’t solve, the neglect you see or the clients who can’t afford lifesaving treatment. All day long, you manage animal health and human emotions. “You can’t think, Oh, I like animals but not people, so I’ll be a vet,” asserts Abbie. Anxious owners can be as snappish as their sick pets. “Some people are comforted to meet with you, but others, because they’re worried, can be a bit belligerent,” explains Angela. “I don’t take it personally.”

As in any caretaking profession, you have to guard against burnout. Jami-Lyn drives home in silence to let her brain rest. She and her husband, Baruch, also an ER vet, have a “30 and done” policy—meaning they’ll give each other half an hour to rehash the day’s cases, and then change the subject. To last in the profession, Abbie adds, “you have to come to terms with the fact that you can’t save every animal.” However, adopting them is an occupational hazard. Combined, the women interviewed here have seven children and 23 pets. Jen Lawrence’s family, for instance, includes Labradors Coal and Jenny, catfish Mr. Johnson, cockatiel Summer and crested geckos Da Boss and Dude (named by her sons). “Maxed out,” laughs Jen.

Beyond the obvious unconditional pet love, there’s a family upside: Kids who grow up with pets have statistically fewer allergies and often learn early lessons about caretaking and cleanup (score!). They also learn compassion and how to respect other creatures’ “rules.” For instance, Abbie’s daughter Rainey knows that their golden retriever, Bruiser, loves a cuddle, but their border collie, Callie, requires personal space.

Work like a Dog?

Though not long ago the veterinary profession was male-dominated, today slightly more than half of the almost 100,000 U.S. vets are women. And 80 percent of vet school entrants are, too, says the Association of American Veterinary Colleges. Some say the shift is due to women now being the majority of undergrads, as well as today’s veterinary salaries not being competitive with those of other medical professions. Yearly pay now starts around $55,000 and can run to $120,000 or higher for someone who works with food-industry animals.

Of course, as for other docs, hours are long and often come with on-call nights and/or weekend shifts. “If you are treating a sick or injured animal, you can’t set it aside,” says Clark Fobian, DVM, president of the American Veterinary Medical Association. “You are compelled no matter what your prior personal commitments may have been. I tell young vets, ‘Get used to a life with some guilt.’ ”

These days, though—maybe in part because more women are entering the profession—there’s greater schedule variety than before. Jami-Lyn works 12 shifts a month at the ER, freeing time for a house-call practice. Angela chose a practice that refers overnight care elsewhere. That means she has dinner with Reese and Braylon every night.

And Lynette loves the variety of mixed-animal work: “Every day is different. when you have lots of barking dogs in the office, you’re glad to get outside. And when the weather is bad or I’ve had enough dust up my nose, I’m glad to get inside.” It’s a profession that stretches you, exhausts you and exhilarates you, claims Jami-Lyn. “On the best days, you save a life.”

Lessons from the Front

Find cleanup tricks.
Dog hair is the world’s clingiest substance. Invest in lint rollers.

Nix fragrance and stash treats.
It’s downright distracting for many pets if you smell like Eau de Joy. But a chew or biscuit tucked into a lab coat pocket to tantalize a keen nose and pique curiosity doesn’t hurt. Good tip for a cranky tot, too.

Keep adopters on file.
Kittens, dogs and other pets get dropped off at vets’ offices, because they either were part of a feral litter or aren’t a good match for their current family.

Go machine washable.
And not just your clothes—if you’re doing calls out at farms, everything should be washable, including your car’s seat covers.

Got a toddler? Same rules apply!
By Katherine Bowers
Reprinted from AVMA Animal Health SmartBrief via Working Mother Magazine
### Thursday, July 17 – 4 hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>GENERAL SESSION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:00pm – 3:00pm</td>
<td>Developing the &quot;Million Dollar Plus Practice&quot; without the Million Dollar building – Dr. Mark Russak</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00pm – 3:15pm</td>
<td><strong>BREAK—VISIT THE EXHIBIT HALL FOR REFRESHMENTS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:15pm – 5:15pm</td>
<td>Mastering the Exam Room-Where Success Happens! - Dr. Mark Russak</td>
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### Friday, July 18 – 8 hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>GENERAL SESSION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30am – 8:30am</td>
<td>Risk Assessment/Regulatory Topics – Dr. Jim Watson – State Veterinarian</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30am – 9:30am</td>
<td>Risk Assessment/Regulatory Topics – Dr. Gail Anderson – Board of Veterinary Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30am – 9:45am</td>
<td><strong>BREAK—VISIT THE EXHIBIT HALL FOR REFRESHMENTS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45am – 11:30pm</td>
<td>Safely Navigating the Muddy Waters of Compounding - Gigi Davidson, BSPh, FSVHP, DICVP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30am – 12:45pm</td>
<td>What Your Pharmacist May Not Know About Filling Prescriptions for Animals - Gigi Davidson, BSPh, FSVHP, DICVP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45pm – 1:45pm</td>
<td><strong>LUNCH—PROVIDED</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1:45pm – 2:45pm</td>
<td><strong>SMALL ANIMAL TRACK</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Canine Theriogenology - Ovulation Timing, Estrus Induction, Elective C-Section Timing – Dr. Jack Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:45pm – 3:45pm</td>
<td><strong>FOOD ANIMAL /EQUINE TRACK</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wounds Near Joints and Tendon Sheaths Dr. Earl Gaughan – 3 hours (Equine) - <strong>Sponsored by Merck</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:45pm – 4:45pm</td>
<td>Is There a Best Intra-articular Therapy for Equine Joints? – Dr. Earl Gaughan— <strong>Sponsored by Merck</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Case Discussions of Specific Joint Diseases (1 hour – case example of joint treatment selections – how and why) – Dr. Earl Gaughan— <strong>Sponsored by Merck</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FRIDAY FAMILY FUN NIGHT!

Join us in the Ballroom for Food, Fun and Games for Kids of **ALL** Ages!
*Bring Yourself or Your Family and Come Casual!*

6:00—10:00 pm
### Saturday, July 19 - 4 hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>SMALL ANIMAL TRACK</th>
<th>FOOD ANIMAL/EQUINE TRACK</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30am – 9:30am</td>
<td>Infectious Disease Topics - Dr. Ron Shultz – <strong>sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim</strong></td>
<td>Equine Topics – Dr. Kate Mochal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30am – 9:45am</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45am – 11:45am</td>
<td>Infectious Disease Topics - Dr. Ron Shultz – <strong>sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim</strong></td>
<td>Bovine Reproduction/Synchronization – Dr. Jack Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45 – 12:45</td>
<td><strong>MVMA BUSINESS MEETING</strong></td>
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### Sunday, July 20 - 4 hours

<table>
<thead>
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<th>TIME</th>
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<th>FOOD ANIMAL/EQUINE TRACK</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30am – 9:30am</td>
<td>Emergency/Critical Care – Dr. Jennifer Devey</td>
<td>Beef Replacement Heifer Development – Economic Considerations and Technological Opportunities – Dr. Jason Osterstock – <strong>Sponsored by Zoetis</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30am – 9:45am</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45am – 11:45am</td>
<td>Emergency/Critical Care – Dr. Jennifer Devey</td>
<td>Enhancing Sire Selection and Management Through Use of Genomic Technologies - Dr. Jason Osterstock – <strong>Sponsored by Zoetis</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Agenda has been approved by Mississippi Board of Veterinary Medicine for CE Credit hours. If attending from out of state, please verify agenda with your licensing board prior to registration.
- Speakers and/or sessions are subject to change do to unforeseen circumstances.
- Proceedings booklets not guaranteed for on-site registrations.
- A $50 processing fee applies to conference registration cancellations after July 1, 2014.

### HOTEL INFORMATION

The MVMA has blocked rooms at the Perdido Beach Resort.
In order to take advantage of the discounted rate, reservations must be made by June 16th. To make reservations, log on to www.perdidoceanresort.com or call 1-800-634-8001.

**The MVMA Booking ID # is 8469.**

Room rates are $242.00 per night.
MISSISSIPPI VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
2014 ANNUAL SUMMER CONVENTION ● PERDIDO BEACH RESORT ● ORANGE BEACH, AL
JULY 17 - 20, 2014

PLEASE PRINT
Registrant's Name: ____________________________________________________________
Telephone Number: __________________________ Email: __________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________________
City_______________________________________ State _____________ ZIP_________________
Spouse’s/Guest's Name (if attending) ____________________________________________

THIS REGISTRATION FORM IS VALID UNTIL - JUNE 30, 2014 - After this date, please register at the meeting

____ MVMA member, or member of another state association $300.00
____ Non-Member of ANY state association $375.00
____ MVMA Life Member (30% discount off of regular pricing) $210.00
(Includes 1 ticket for Family Fun Night for MVMA life member only; spouse/guest tickets can be purchased below)

ON-SITE REGISTRATION—$375.00 FOR MEMBERS, $450.00 FOR NON-ASSOCIATION MEMBERS
Friday night activities feature a Family Fun Night! Join us for a casual night of food and fun for kids of all ages – 1 to 100! Please include the TOTAL NUMBER in your party that will be attending. Two adult tickets and two kid tickets are included in the price of regular registration and one ticket is included with a Life Member registration. Should you need to PURCHASE additional tickets, you may do so below by purchasing an “Extra Meal Ticket”.

I WILL NOT BE ATTENDING FAMILY FUN NIGHT

I WILL HAVE ______ ADULTS ATTENDING FAMILY FUN NIGHT
I WILL HAVE ______ KIDS ATTENDING FAMILY FUN NIGHT

IF YOU NEED EXTRA TICKETS FOR FAMILY FUN NIGHT, YOU CAN PURCHASE THEM BELOW
(2 ADULTS AND 2 KIDS ARE INCLUDED WITH REGISTRATION)
Extra Meal Tickets - Adults and Children over 12 Qty ____x $40.00 $________
Extra Meal Tickets – Children 12 and under Qty ____x $12.00 $________

TOTAL ENCLOSED $________

Mail registration form and check or credit card information to:
MVMA
P. O. BOX 964
TRUSSVILLE, AL 35173

Phone: 662-323-5057 Fax: 205-655-0777 Register online at www.msvet.org

By attending all of the scientific meetings, you will earn 20 clock hours of continuing education.

If paying by Credit Card:
Type of Card__________________Card Number________________________________________
Exp. Date:_______ CVV #_______ Name on Card:________________________________________
Billing Address: ____________________________________________________________________
Letter to the Editor:
A tribute to Dr. Jack Nunnery
By Joseph Sclafani

Reprinted from the Editorial Column of the Enterprise Journal
McComb, MS
February 27, 2014

If it is true, as it must be, that all dogs go to Heaven, the Streets of Gold were overflowing with anticipation and gratitude on Sunday, February 23rd as its four-legged residents awaited the arrival of their friend Dr. Jack Nunnery.

As a veterinarian serving Pike County for nearly 60 years, Dr. Nunnery cared for and looked after the needs of tens of thousands of family pets, in addition to tens of thousands of head of livestock. Dr. Nunnery had a tireless work ethic and seemed to be on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

His skilled hands saved the lives of thousands of animals in distress, bringing relief, happiness and peace of mind to their owners. If measured solely by his professional accomplishments, Dr. Nunnery will long be remembered as a talented veterinarian.

But Dr. Jack was much more than a veterinarian. No matter how many owners and animals filled the waiting room of his Magnolia clinic, Dr. Jack always took an extra few minutes to ask how your family was doing and what was going on in your life, and to share with you what was going on in his life.

Dr. Jack enjoyed talking about sports, his family, his travels and his beloved Auburn University. It was evident to all that he loved taking care of animals, but I believe that Dr. Jack’s true passion in life was getting to know and making a positive impact on the life of each and every person who walked into his clinic. He was a source of encouragement to many young people, always asking how they were doing in school and what their plans were for college.

Dr. Jack took great pride in the academic and professional success of his family and friends. Dr. Jack was a man of faith, honesty, integrity and compassion, and a shining example of a life well lived.

Dr. Jack often commented that he lived his entire life doing exactly what he loved to do. Everyone — man, woman and animal — who had the privilege of encountering Dr. Jack over the past 60 years was a beneficiary of his passion for helping others.

God Bless You, Dr. Jack, you were one-of-a-kind. And please give my beloved Midnight a scratch behind her ears when you run into her on the other side of the Pearly Gates. She will remember that you saved her life.

Joseph Sclafani
Chatawa