# The New York City Veterinarian

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#### PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Anthony Miele, DVM

I want to apologize to any of our members who got turned away from any of the lectures in the NY Pavilion at the NYVET Show. When we chose the group of local speakers we were hoping that these lectures



would be supported. In fact, initially, we set up the room to seat about 120. We also figured that a few tables in the back of the room would be a great idea and would give us some working flexibility between lectures and lunch time. The Daniel Lantz lecture became problematic when we saw everyone forming a long line out the door and in fact at one point we were told by Javits officials that we had to shut the doors and not let anyone else in the room, leaving many shut out. This trend continued for the entirety of the show. We did add additional chairs bringing our number to 220, but this still did not accommodate everyone. So much for planning. Next year we will be doubling our space size while getting the best speakers available again. If you missed this event, you really missed out on some great CE and a new found VMANYC camaraderie, not to mention a free 3-day meeting.

A special shout out to our NYVET Show supporting sponsors (and those that made it happen) is also in order. Thanks to Zachary Fogel (Antech Diagnostics), Lisa Alexander (MWI Veterinary Supply Co.), and Tyler Miller (Blue Buffalo Company), we were able to donate over \$20,000 to the NYSAVE foundation. Without

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George Korin, DVM Jennifer Tsung, DVM President's message continued ...

Without their help and support this event would have never taken place. Please, when you see them, give them a special NYCVMA thank you.

The VMANYC is changing it's CE format for next year. We will no longer have ten meetings since in addition to the NYVET Show, we will be participating in CE & the City in April. Effectively we are offering up over double the CE hours next year for our member while eliminating a few evening dinner meetings. The quality of the lectures however, will not change. These are changes that we feel will help us in many ways in addition to making us even more relevant.

Hopefully our entire membership will turn out for our annual holiday party immediately following our December meeting.

## **NYVET Show 2022**







# What's Happening at NY SAVE



<u>Hospital Partnership Program</u> - NY SAVE is now funding cases at twelve hospitals in The Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, and Manhattan. We actively seek more partner hospitals, particularly in Staten Island. Please consider applying to become a Hospital Partner by clicking here.

<u>Pet Memorial Program</u> - We also encourage more hospitals to join our Pet Memorial Program, a lovely way to comfort your clients on the loss of their pet and help us fundraise. Click <u>here</u> for the enrollment form.

If you would like to donate to NY SAVE directly, <u>click here</u>.

### **Calendar of Events**

#### Program Committee - Megan McGlinn, VMD and Jennifer Tsung, DVM

The schedule of the VMA of NYC Continuing Education meetings for the 2022 calendar year is listed below, including the speakers and topics. The meetings will start at 7:00 pm. Members must register prior to each meeting.

#### December 7, 2022 - 6:00-8:00 pm

Speaker: J. Catharine Scott-Moncrieff, DVM Topic: Diabetic Monitoring in Dogs and Cats

Location: Dock's Oyster Bar & Seafood Grill, 633 Third Avenue, NYC 10017

#### December 7, 2022 - Holiday Party - 8:00-10:00 pm

Location: Dock's Oyster Bar & Seafood Grill, 633 Third Avenue, NYC 10017

#### January 11, 2023 - 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Speaker: Taryn Donovan, DVM, DACVP

Topic: Pathology

Location: STATE Grill and Bar, 21 West 33rd Street, New York NY 10118

#### May 3, 2023 - 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Speaker: TBD Topic: TBD

#### September 6, 2023 - 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Speaker: TBD Topic: TBD

#### November 2-3, 2023 - NYVET Show

Location: Javits Convention Center

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

# The Topsy-Turvy Disruption of Veterinary Care

#### By George Korin, DVM

If you and your staff are feeling overworked and approaching burn-out it may be important to know why this is happening across the USA but especially in our tri-state area.

When COVID-19 hit the NYC area in the early spring of 2020, clinics and hospitals had to make many adjustments to the way of practice. At first, we all took a pause, practices closed, some of you took ill or were confronted with illness and grief within your families or social circles, which certainly took an economic and emotional toll on many of you.

Once clinics re-opened for service, we all had to be cautious, and had to adapt to curbside servicing of our patients. This method of pet care became far more time and staff intensive. Many practices at this point had lost staff including doctors, AHT's and front office personnel. Clients, who for weeks or months could not get their pets' needs met, were now calling for limited appointments. To make matters worse, some clinics with veterinary owners approaching retirement took the opportunity to cash in and close their practices rather than deal with the new COVID burdens. This forced their clients to pursue veterinary care in other facilities, and add to the strain on existing practices to serve the community. Add to this the surge in adoptions and purchases of new pets for people sequestered at home, who were now observing their pets more closely, and at the hint of a sneeze were seeking services more proactively. This created a perfect storm of demand for veterinary care, which was already becoming difficult to meet by the depleted and time-constrained veterinary hospitals. The veterinary community was now becoming overwhelmed. COVID induced supply chain shortages meant that inventory was also in short supply. So lack of crucial personnel (doctors, nurses and receptionists), medicines, PPE, and time caused a condition of lower productivity across the industry.

Throughout the course of the pandemic even if your practice was lucky to retain staff members, each wave of COVID infections meant some of you're staff would, in order to follow COVID protocols, have to be recused from the office for 5-10 days, creating unexpected shortages in personnel, again lowering productivity. Some practices also had to adapt to virtual appointments which again increased costs in adopting this new technology.

In the last few years and accelerating into this year another disruption occurred in the veterinary industry which again put more pressure on existing practices. Private equity and venture capital money had entered our profession in the creation of many new corporate veterinary practices in NYC. Within the metropolitan area Bond vet has opened 18 practices; Veterinary Care Group 10; Small Door 5; VEG 4; UR Vet Care 1 with several more in its plans. These are and will surely continue to put even more strain on our collective limited resources. These entities have offered veterinarians, nurses and front office personnel signing bonuses and increased salaries to entice them to join. You can't blame individuals for wanting a better income, but it has caused existing practices to scramble to find personnel to fill the void, or a further dip into capital to meet the "new" competitive salary demands.

Combine this with the rising costs of doing business because of inflation means that productivity and profitability have plummeted.

Now that the pandemic has been "declared over", clients and their pets who chose to postpone veterinary care because of the fear of COVID infection, are now knocking at our doors for updated care within a very limited scheduling window. This may be especially true for our "healthy" sequestered cats and exotic pets. Compounding this pressure is the impatient, demanding, entitled client who demands immediate veterinary care in a facility that is already at capacity or beyond.

These new paradigms have created an overworked, emotionally drained and overburdened veterinary community. If you ever needed a vacation to restore yourselves, this may be time. However, doing so will put even more pressure on your existing team (I'm sure you didn't want to hear that!).

Here's hoping our veterinary community can imagine a post-pandemic world with a more stable, pleasing and enlightened environment in which to practice. Please don't give up. Somehow and someday we will get through these turbulent times.

In the meantime, please find ways to de-stress. whether with mental health care, physical activity or pursuing a positive experience, and please read Dr Jennifer Tsung's accompanying article on coping with stress within this newsletter.

# **Thank You to Our NYVET Show Sponsors**





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# **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!**

# New York

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# **Wellness Corner**

# **Tips for Dealing with Holiday Stress**

By Jennifer Tsung

The holidays are just around the corner. At work now, there is talk of getting our reservations for the work holiday dinner. We need to get our Secret Santa list out to buy presents. Did we pick a date for the Thanksgiving potluck yet? These are just a few of the things in the air at work as we suddenly move at hyper-speed to the end of the year. Work is just one aspect of our lives and during the holiday season, many of us struggle to complete a long list of tasks in what feels as a very limited time. We can run ragged figuring out social gatherings, family events, decorating, shopping, travelling, and cooking. When this is added to our already hectic lives, many of us can start to feel overwhelmed.

Even though the holidays are supposed to be this magical time where we should be feeling very happy, these activities can increase our stress levels. For some, the most wonderful time of the year can also be the most dreaded. Although it may be difficult to avoid stress, we need to try to find ways to minimize the effects of stress during this time.

Tips to help maintain sanity and coping with holiday stress:

- Accept Realistic Goals Try to set realistic goals to keep expectations for the holiday season manageable by not having to make this holiday 'the best'. Organize your time. Pace yourself. Make a list and prioritize what is the most important things for you to do. Sometimes, we can't get everything done.
- 2. Keep up with healthy habits Taking care of your health can help combat the stress of the holidays. Keep up with the gym nights, good sleep, and good food. Keeping your daily routine can also help to take your mind off of holiday demands.
- 3. Take a break We are pulled in many directions with the different family and friends this time of year. Take a time to get away and breathe. Take some time to clear your mind.
- 4. Communicate When there are the added pressures of the holidays on us, some people may isolate themselves. This is the season to be reaching out to people. Reach out to loved ones and let them know how you feel. If there is a way to make planning or events simpler, then that is the way to do it. Unless you have the time and energy to have complex events, look for the simple path.
- 5. Seek Support Support can come of a lot of places. As most people turn to family and friends, others may find it at work or other organizations. The holidays and the pressure felt from people during this time can lead to depression. Stay connected and tell some one if you are feeling depression. We can be a community for each other.
- 6. Spend time with your pets Animals are the best stress relievers as we all know.

Be kind to yourself this holiday season. Be your best advocate. Be forgiving with yourself. With planning, communication, and support, you can find peace and some joy during this time of year.

#### **VETERINARIANS WANTED**

**ABC Animal Hospital** in the East Village seeking per-diem veterinarian for 2 to 3 days a week. We are a fully equipped hospital with a digital x-ray, surgical suite, and multiple exam rooms. Looking for an independent and experienced veterinarian who would work well with the team. Open to discussions regarding compensation and scheduling. Please email <a href="mailto:shireo@gmail.com">shireo@gmail.com</a> for more information.

**Broadway Veterinary Care.** Join our rapidly growing practice 20 miles from NYC on the south shore of Nassau County. Serving an upscale community with high quality medicine, surgery, an advanced dental operatory, and digital radiology and ultrasound. Privately owned and operated and ready for the right individual to move into the future. This would be an ideal position for a new or experienced veterinarian. We can accommodate your existing client base or you will have the opportunity to build your own loyal clientele. Very competitive compensation, vacation and benefits package, and a flexible schedule. To apply submit your resume to glendina@optonline.net

**Queens Animal Hospital.** Growing practice in Forest Hills, NY is seeking veterinarians to join our team. New graduates are welcome, Bilingual is a plus. Willing to train with existing veterinarians in holistic and conventional medicine. We will beat any salary and benefits offered in the NY area. Also looking for feline specialists. Our hospitals are equipped with digital x-ray and complete in house blood equipment. Email resume to <a href="nyvet-care@gmail.com">nyvet-care@gmail.com</a>.

**Steinway Court Veterinarian.** Part time associate for Astoria veterinary office. Busy clinic with great staff and the ability to practice quality medicine. Experience preferred. Great opportunity to get into a thriving practice. Please contact Dr. Glasser at <a href="mailto:rglasser@steinwaycourtvet.com">rglasser@steinwaycourtvet.com</a>.

Westside Veterinary Center is looking for an energetic and compassionate associate veterinarian. A veterinarian who is confident in their ability to diagnose and treat complex medical cases. Westside Veterinary Center offers great mentoring because we have many experienced and knowledgeable veterinarians. We are one of the largest private veterinary hospitals in Manhattan established in 1985. Several of our veterinarians have been trained at the Animal Medical Center and at other advance training hospitals. Our experienced and talented support team provide outstanding care for our patients 24 hours/7 days a week. We have a full range of equipment and all necessary tools to excel in both the diagnosis and treatment of medical, surgical and dental cases. We continually strive to grow the knowledge base of our practice and embrace new ideas. Competitive salary and benefits offered. If you are interested in job opportunity at Westside Veterinary Center please contact: Dr. Karen Cantor, Director at Cantor@westsidevetcenter.com. 212-580-1800 / 917-836-7417.

#### **VETERINARIANS WANTED**

**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.

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

**Per Diem Veterinarian Available**. 39 years of experience. Recently sold my practice after 33 years in the same location. Can perform most routine surgeries. No orthopedics please. Willing to travel up to 40 miles from central Nassau county. Call Paul Fish DVM 516-241-7278 or email <a href="mailto:PaulFishdvm36@gmail.com">PaulFishdvm36@gmail.com</a>.

**Relief/Per Diem Veterinarian.** General practice. Orthopedic and Soft Tissue Surgery. DVM, Cornell. Internship Oradell. Residency in Small Animal Surgery, Cornell. Phone Dr. Kathy Sevalla at 718-578-9085.

**Relief Veterinarian**. NYC Relief vet in Manhattan and Brooklyn. Lorelei Wakefield, VMD, internship-trained with 9 years of experience. Soft tissue surgery, derm. expertise. NY/ DEA licensed. 917-930-8936. lorelei@wakefieldvet.com.

#### **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 <a href="https://www.nyacc.org">www.nyacc.org</a>.

Banfield Pet Hospital seeking Associate Veterinarians in New York! Leadership Positions, Flexible Full and Part-time Schedules! Banfield Pet Hospital is seeking Veterinary professionals for leadership positions, as well as full time and part time Associate Veterinarian positions with flexible schedules. As an Associate Veterinarian, you will be able to make independent medical decisions, continually grow and learn as a Veterinary professional, as well as fulfill a higher purpose by improving the quality of life for millions of pets across the United States. You will also have the opportunity to work alongside a highly trained team, providing the best preventive care possible for both clients and their pets, improving the quality and business performance of our veterinary hospital. A typical day for an Associate Veterinarian will include performing all surgeries, including the use of state of the art medical instruments and equipment. You will diagnose, treat and control diseases and injuries in pets, prescribe and administer drugs and vaccines and educate clients on all aspects of pet health, including Optimum Wellness Plans®. To hear more, or simply to see what we have available, call Andrew Cowley at (360) 784-5057 or e-mail Andrew.Cowley@banfield.com.

**Bideawee**, a leading pet welfare organization serving the metropolitan New York and Long Island, is seeking Associate Veterinarians to join our team in the Manhattan location. Associate veterinarians provide care for dogs and cats in our adoption centers including spay/neuter surgeries/dentals, as well as surgical and medical care for clients of our animal hospitals that is open to the public. The following is a list of essential job functions. This list may be revised at any time and additional duties not listed here may be assigned as needed: Wellness exams, preventative care, management of medical and surgical cases for shelter animals and client-owned animals; Performing spay/neuter and other surgery including dental procedures; Working with our trainers to manage behavior issues; Leading staff and volunteer training sessions in animal care; Participation in educational events held for the community or volunteers/donors; Some administrative work required. Requirements: At least 7 years of experience as a veterinarian; NYS veterinary license required; Shelter medicine experience preferred; Able to perform soft tissue surgeries including but not limited to spays and neuters of dogs and cats; Graduate with a DVM or VMD from a U.S. accredited veterinary school required.

**InstaVet** is a modern veterinary practice, with a focus on providing pets with top level care in the comfort, convenience and stress-free environment of home.. We are looking for an experienced veterinarian to join our growing team, serving clients at home, in the office or local preferred partner clinics. An ideal candidate would be someone who understands the value of administering care in the patients own environment, on demand... while remaining cool, calm and determined under extenuating circumstances. A team player fully invested in their colleagues' success...someone who takes enormous pride in their ability to listen and speak to clients like a trusted friend...a service-minded professional who is energized by the once in a lifetime opportunity to revolutionize the field of in home veterinary care forever.

Skills and Qualifications: A Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree, or equivalent, from an accredited university, Licensure in good standing to practice in New York or New Jersey; Professional demeanor and appearance, with excellent interpersonal skills and a positive, friendly attitude, The ability to make decisions and communicate clearly and effectively with fellow team members, A commitment to practicing the highest standard of medicine, upholding the veterinary code of ethics. Please note we have PER DIEM, PART TIME and FULL TIME positions available. Benefits include generous compensation, professional discounts on pet care, continuing education opportunities and more!Please reply with a cover note and attach your resume. To learn more about our services, please visit our website: www.InstaVet.com. Required experience: 2 years. Salary commensurate with experience. Salary: \$80,000.00 to \$100,000.00 /year.



#### **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 affects the public good and welfare.



Post Office Box 959 New York, NY 10024

Phone: 212-246-0057 Fax: 212-721-1620 E-mail: info@vmanyc.org Website: www.vmanyc.org