



## SVM UPDATE NOVEMBER 2008

Welcome to the **November 2008** edition of the LSU SVM's e-mail newsletter. In this issue, we'll talk about the dedication of [Connections](#), the [Annual Conference](#) for Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians, [Distinguished Alumnus Awards](#), the [SWVS Visionary Award](#), LSU [Equine Clinicians](#) honored for service, National [Veterinary Technician Week](#), LSU SVM alumni now working with [Banfield](#), [alumni events](#), [new faculty](#), [accolades for SVM faculty](#), [supporting the School of Veterinary Medicine](#), [upcoming events](#), and [classified ads](#).



### LSU SVM TO DEDICATE SCULPTURE TO THOSE WHO COME TO THE AID OF ANIMALS

The LSU School of Veterinary Medicine will dedicate *Connections*, a bronze statue to honor the people who support animals in need, which is epitomized by the rescue, shelter, and reunification of animals in the aftermath of hurricanes. This sculpture will be dedicated on Thursday, November 6 at 3:30 p.m. in the School of Veterinary Medicine's Serenity Garden near the entrance to the Small Animal Clinic.

*Connections* depicts a young girl offering water to a thirsty cat and dog representing both the relationship and responsibility we all share with domestic animals. "This sculpture illustrates the importance of animals in our lives, which was seen time and time again after the hurricanes as people refused to evacuate without their pets," said Dean Peter F. Haynes. "This sculpture is dedicated to all of those people who braved high waters and dangerous situations to rescue animals and to the thousands of people who supported and cared for those animals after they were taken from harm's way. It stands as a memorial to their grace, perseverance and dedication."

This one-of-a-kind artwork, designed by Kentucky sculptor Meg White, is a central part of the Milton J. Womack Serenity Garden. Donated by the Womack family and dedicated in memory of the late Milton J. Womack, Sr., the Serenity Garden is located near the Small Animal Clinic entrance of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Landscaped by LSU landscape architecture graduate students, it provides a peaceful spot for reflection.



Participating in the dedication ceremony will be President Emeritus William Jenkins, Dean Peter Haynes and Ms. Margaret Womack. All hurricane volunteers and the public are invited to attend.

To learn about other ways that you can support the SVM, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at 225-578-9826 or visit our website at [www.vetmed.lsu.edu](http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu) and select "Support the LSU SVM."

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## LSU SVM HOSTED 77<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE FOR VETERINARIANS AND VETERINARY TECHNICIANS

Over 140 veterinarians, veterinary technicians, and students attended the LSU SVM's 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference for Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians on October 18 in Baton Rouge, La. The conference featured two nationally recognized speakers, Dr. Steve Marks and Dr. Sharon Kerwin, and the conference focused on Companion Animals. Dr. Marks, Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, is a clinical associate professor of critical care and internal medicine, section chief of small animal medicine, and director of small animal emergency services at North Carolina State University. Dr. Kerwin is a professor of small animal surgery at Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine and Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons. The educational program was sponsored by Hill's Pet Nutrition and IDEXX Laboratories. The conference also included a reunion weekend with an alumni reception and dinners for the milestone classes of 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, and 2003. Hitachi sponsored the alumni reception. Plans are already underway for the 2009 Annual Conference! ***Above, the class of 1988 pauses for a photo at the Alumni Reception.***

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## VETERINARY SCHOOL BESTOWS DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARDS

The LSU School of Veterinary Medicine honored two alumni at its 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference for Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians with the Distinguished Alumnus Award. The recipients are Dr. Marie Louise Martin (LSU 1982) and Dr. Debra Sellon (LSU 1983). In 1995, Dr. Klaucke, Dr. Martin's husband, was assigned to Kenya to work in a polio immunization program for the World Health Organization. Dr. Martin left her job at the CDC, and the family moved to Nairobi, Kenya. In Nairobi, Dr. Martin was working as the director of the Jimmy Carter Foundation in the fight against malaria. She was a pilot and became a Medivac pilot while in Africa. Dr. Martin lost her life in the terrorist bombing of the U.S. embassy in Nairobi on August 7, 1998. Dr. Sellon is an outstanding educator, as evidenced by numerous teaching awards. In addition to her lectures, labs and clinical duties at Washington State University, where she is associate dean of the Graduate School, she mentors interns, ACVIM resident candidates, and doctoral students. ***For more information about the 2008 Distinguished Alumnus Award recipients, click here.***



***Top: Dr. Sellon's award was presented by Dean Peter F. Haynes (right) to Dr. Rebecca McConnico, associate professor of veterinary medicine (LSU 1987), who accepted the award on behalf of Dr. Sellon.***

**Bottom: Dr. Martin's award was presented by Dean Peter F. Haynes (right) to Dr. & Mrs. Jim Bob Ourso, Dr. Martin's brother-in-law and sister. Dr. Martin lost her life in the terrorist bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi on August 7, 1998.**

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## LSU VETERINARY PROFESSOR RECEIVES VISIONARY AWARD

Dr. Dennis McCurnin, professor of veterinary surgery in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, received the 2008 SWVS Visionary Award at the Southwest Veterinary Symposium during the Alumni/Student Reception on October 4. This award is presented each year to the individual who is recognized by their profession and is actively engaged in the private, public, or corporate practice of veterinary medicine and whose contributions

have aided in elevating the standards and goals of veterinary medicine. This is accomplished by a variety of contributions to the industry that include veterinary practice, veterinary medical association involvement, continuing education, papers, publications, public education, civic activities, and a variety of other accomplishments. Nominees are submitted from the five SWVS partner states and the SWVS Awards Committee selects the winner. The Southwest Veterinary Symposium is a partnership combining the efforts of the Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas Veterinary Medical Associations to provide exceptional continuing education for veterinary professional in the southwest region and the rest of the nation.

***Pictured with Dr. Dennis McCurnin (center) are (left), Merial, Ltd., Representative; and Practice Owner, Texas Veterinary Medical Association Treasurer and Past President, , TVMA RepresentativeSWVS Managing Board of Directors.***

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## LSU EQUINE CLINICIANS HONORED FOR SERVICE

Dr. Frank Andrews (right), new director of the Equine Health Studies Program, and Dr. David Senior, associate dean for advancement and strategic initiatives (left) presented Dr. Susan Eades, professor of veterinary medicine, and Dr. Dan Burba, professor of veterinary surgery, for their service to the LSU Equine Clinic while the SVM searched for a new director. Dr. Eades oversaw research endeavors for the EHSP, while Dr. Burba served as interim service chief for Equine Clinic.

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## HOSPITAL CELEBRATES NATIONAL VETERINARY TECHNICIAN WEEK

In honor of National Veterinary Technician Week, the LSU SVM's Veterinary Teaching Hospital & Clinics coordinated a number of activities, including goodie bags, ice cream delivered by Hospital Director Steven Winkler, a lunch courtesy of Hill's Pet Nutrition/Science Diet, and the presentation of the Susan Weeks Memorial Award. This award was created in memory of Susan Weeks, a VTH&C veterinary technician who passed away. The award honors a veterinary technician who has demonstrated exemplary, passionate patient care and outstanding service to the VTH&C. **Steven Winkler presents the 2008 Susan Weeks Award to Jenny Cassibry, technician in the Cancer Treatment Unit.**

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## BANFIELD WELCOMES ALUMNI FROM THE LSU SVM

Banfield, The Pet Hospital®, the nation's largest private veterinary practice, recently hired 10 veterinary graduates of the LSU SVM. Following is a list of new Banfield doctors from LSU:

- Ed Ragan, DVM, class of 1981, practicing in Cedar Park, Tex.
- Scott Grittith, DVM, class of 1982, practicing in Culver City, Calif.
- Diana Lalor, DVM, class of 2008, practicing in Baton Rouge, La.
- Layne Holland, DVM, 2008, practicing in Slidell, La.
- Courtney Miani, DVM, class of 2008, practicing in Chesapeake, Va.
- Megan Stone, DVM, class of 2008, practicing in Sterling, Va.
- Ashley Turner, DVM, class of 2008, practicing in Shreveport, La.
- Lauren Long, DVM, class of 2008, practicing in Cedar Park, Tex.
- Sarah Crenshaw-Pitre, DVM, class of 2008, practicing in Vista, Calif.
- Katie Foote, DVM, class of 2008, practicing in Harahan, La.

Founded in Portland, Oregon in 1955, Banfield, The Pet Hospital has more than 725 locations across the country.

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## UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

In February 2009, the LSU SVM will host alumni receptions at the Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association Winter Meeting in New Orleans, La., the Arkansas Veterinary Medical Association Winter Meeting in Hot Springs, Ark., and the Western Veterinary Conference in Las Vegas, N.V. **For information on these alumni events, contact Gretchen Morgan at [gmorgan@lsu.edu](mailto:gmorgan@lsu.edu) or 225-578-9565. For**

**information on other upcoming alumni activities, click [here](#).**

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## UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES

November 6	<b>Connections Sculpture Dedication</b> , Serenity Garden, LSU SVM, Baton Rouge, La.
November 8	Alabama v. LSU Football, Baton Rouge, La.
November 9	<b>Santa Paws Photos</b> , LSU SVM Lobby
November 15	Troy v. LSU Football, Baton Rouge, La.
<b>November 17-December 13</b>	<b>Fall NAVLE Window</b>
November 22	Ole Miss v. LSU Football, Baton Rouge, La.
<b>November 26</b>	<b>Grand Rounds</b>
<b>November 27-28</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Holiday</b>
November 29	LSU Football v. Arkansas, Little Rock, Ark.
<b>December 1-12</b>	<b>Second Year PBL</b>
December 6	LSU classes end
<b>December 12</b>	<b>SVM semester ends</b>



For information on these and other events, please go to the School's website at [www.vetmed.lsu.edu](http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu).

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## CLASSIFIED ADS FROM LSU SVM ALUMNI

**Associate position available in Hammond, LA** in a mixed animal practice. Our clinic is approximately 70% small animal and 30% large animal. Salary based on experience, new graduates encouraged to apply. Compensation package includes all fees related to licensure, malpractice and liability insurance, CE, AVMA, LVMA and local VMA dues. **Please contact Dr. Jody Bondurant (LSU 2004) at Knight and Associates Veterinary Practice, 46631 River Road, Hammond, LA 70401. 985-345-0440 [bondurantjb@yahoo.com](mailto:bondurantjb@yahoo.com)**

**Are you looking for career options?** The USDA, Food Safety & Inspection Service is currently hiring veterinarians in Booker, Del Rio, Mount Pleasant, and Stephenville, Texas. Our Public Health Veterinarians work in Meat and Poultry establishments and are vital to the safety of the American Food Supply. We offer a competitive salary - a new veterinarian will make at least \$54,494.00 (GS-11) to start. Some salaries will be higher, depending on the location and qualifications of the person selected. Many of our Public Health Veterinarian positions advance to the next grade after one year of satisfactory performance and conduct. The starting salary for the next grade (GS-12) is \$65,315.00. We offer a recruitment bonus of 25% of starting salary with a one year service agreement, as well as a paid move. We offer paid sick and vacation leave, health, life, and dental insurance, and an attractive retirement plan. In addition, any work performed over 40 hours per week is compensated, and training is provided. Please feel free to contact us if you are interested or would like more information! **Submitted by Dr. Jennifer Beasley-McKean (LSU 1993).**

 800-370-3747, x2556  (612) 370-2377 [Jennifer.McKean@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:Jennifer.McKean@fsis.usda.gov)

**Associate Veterinarian wanted - come for a visit - stay for a career!!**

Phone: 775-575-5851

Fax: 775-575-6606

State: Nevada

A great opportunity to get in on the ground floor of a brand new facility! Our small animal general practice is steadily growing and we are breaking ground in the immediate future for a new clinic building. We have an excellent support staff, who enjoy what they do; great clientele, and we are in the fastest growing county in Nevada. We offer exclusively laser surgery, quality medicine and work in a great atmosphere with its fair share of challenges. Clientele are excellent and we have easy access to specialists. Fernley is a great safe place to raise kids, we still have a small town farming community atmosphere complete with our well known junior and senior pro rodeo right here in town. Fernley Nevada is almost rural - but close to Reno, Nevada, to the northwest and Fallon naval air station to the southeast. Lake Tahoe with all its summer and winter recreation opportunities is a 2 hour easy drive from here. Salary is negotiable DOE, standard benefits package offered. **Contact Dr. Laura Remsen (LSU 1990) @ 775-575-5851 or send resume to Animal Care Center, 805 E Main St., Suite D, Fernley, NV 89408. Email - [animal.cc@earthlink.net](mailto:animal.cc@earthlink.net).**

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