

VBMA Board Meeting September 29, 2011- Agenda

Attendees: Cynthia Lankenau, Nancy Scanlan, Hue Karreman, Beth Lambert

Guests: Bill Bookout, Susan Wynn

Absent: Jasmine Lyon, Barbara Fougere

1. Continued discussion that began on September 20 about potential concerns raised by Susan Wynn about the wording in the AVMA Code of Ethics that "It is unethical for veterinarians to promote, sell, prescribe, dispense, or use secret remedies or any other product for which they do not know the ingredient formula."
 - a. Susan Wynn raised the concern that the issue has been brought up on the Veterinary Skeptics List. She thinks that it could be mentioned in Vet Practice News. Her concern is that the lack of definition and clarity could have an effect on vets' ability to practice medicine. She believes that this is an evolving issue that the VBMA Board should be prepared to discuss when necessary.
 - b. An exploratory discussion followed that included
 - i. Bill Bookout related the history of the issue of proprietary formulas with NASC, that early on NASC had advocated disclosure. Hilton Herbs had disclosed formulas and been copied by a distributor. He had discussions with the FDA. Lynn Post of FDA said that with the systems NASC has in place that FDA is comfortable with their position of regulatory discretion.
 - ii. It was pointed out that Michael McGuffin (AHPA) had suggested that if a change in the policy were possible that the word "formula" be taken out of the AVMA policy line.
 - iii. Many vet and business groups will have a stake in this issue including NASC and AHVMA.
 - c. Motion to prepare a memo with talking points for Bill Bookout to approach to Elizabeth Curry Galvin of AVMA (along with Lidia Gray if available) in Illinois to get clarification on policy of AVMA Code of Ethics that "It is unethical for veterinarians to promote, sell, prescribe, dispense, or use secret remedies or any other product for which they do not know the ingredient formula." Bill to use such document in his discussion with E. Curry Galvin to clarify of what is meant by secret formula and ingredient formula. Such memo to include potentially affected Vet and Product/Markets groups.
 - i. Motion by Cyndi Lankenau; Second by Nancy Scanlan. Motion carries by general consent.
 - ii. Discussion revolved around implications for Groups/markets that might include: AHVMA, Dog food, NASC members/Supplements, Livestock vets and companies, ASSEME – State associations & equine people, AAEP, ACVIM, Pet Food Institute.
 - iii. Working group of Bill Bookout, Hue Karreman, Susan Wynn and Beth Lambert was established.
2. Meeting was suspended without completion of agenda. Completion meeting scheduled for Monday, October 3 at 9pm.

VBMA Board Meeting Resumed October 3, 2011- Minutes

Board Members attending: Cynthia Lankenau, Hue Karreman, Nancy Scanlan, Jasmine Lyon, Beth Lambert

Board Members absent: Barbara Fougere

3. Motion to approve June Minutes and Annual Meeting Minutes by Nancy Scanlan; seconded by Cynthia Lankenau; passed by general consent
 - a. Report on VBMA & Jade Institute joint Jeremy Ross, BSc, DAc (Br), LAc. Seminars. 6 vets attended making up about 25% of class; attracted mostly local vets. VBMA would not have carried by itself. Jade Institute will host once a year; was good to share marketing. Will keep membership posted; good core group in Seattle. Unofficially credit from CE from IVAS; still waiting for official notice.
4. Teleseminar Program
 - a. Hue's winter lecture December 6, 2011 – **Grazing-Herbs for Herbavores**
 - i. Hue to provide description of what will be covered; topic will include Sustainable agriculture. Need marketing & to develop schedule for rehearsal of event.
 - b. Suggestions for teleconference topics and speakers (April 3/Fall)
 - i. Members interested in topics: Cancer treatment and differentiation and Kidney
 - ii. Cindy to approach Steve Marsden to speak on Kidney Issues for April
 - iii. Nancy Scanlan interested in speaking on Cancer Issues
 - iv. Joyce Harmon-Equine lecture a possibility if we need a third
 - v. Others: Susan Wynn-too busy for next year, Barbara Fougere, Cynthia Lankenau, Ihor Basko
5. Review of International Herb Symposium - 24 Participants in first time Vet Track; a lot of enthusiasm; still some administrative issues to work out, but worth committing to continue. Financially-brought in small amount of income, which helps defray organizational costs. Call for papers for 2013 - Dr. Xie may be able to come or someone from Chi Institute and perhaps Dr. Kelleher on Northwest herbs
6. AHVMA
 - a. VBMA Track Next Year Speakers: Dr. Xie and David Winston; Twilia Ford and Mary Battestilla are going down to the hotel in the next few weeks to check out the botanical garden. They already have someone in mind to lead the walk.
 - b. Review of 2011:
 - a. Herb Walk had 40 people; will need to limit size because some people wanted a "Western style" herb walk instead of communing with the herbs that Ihor had proposed. In future, signups should be limited to 25 per one herbalist

- b. Certification exams worked out
 - c. Annual meeting –Sat noon working well. Working Groups for (1) white papers and standard of practice established-Cindy to head and (2) lapsed members contact-Hue to head; will start after member renewals in early 2012.
 - d. Tee Shirt Sales continue
7. IVAS in Ireland August 2012. Barbara incoming President – She spoke with the board; program chair is asking vets to submit abstracts on botanical medicine for consideration for the congress in Ireland next year. Speakers will be paid for their lectures. Abstracts need to be into Vikki Weber by Dec 1st 2011. VBMA can have a display. Hopefully we will have members there to rep VBMA. And VBMA will be acknowledged.
 8. Website – Payment section will be updated for dues payment and seminar sign-ups. Has pictures and a lot more user friendly.
 9. FACEBOOK Page - <http://www.facebook.com/pages/VBMA/145268985568718?v=wall> Discussed definition of posts: No discussion of medical issues; permission of clients before posting pictures. Adding Nancy Scanlan and Susan Wynn as administrators. Nancy Scanlan will post basic Info about VBMA on page.
 10. Financial – Budget is currently on track to come in very close to projected budget (\$20K income; \$17K expenses, including new website). Still have another teleconference. Membership been volatile and yet seems to be increasing; need to get yearend numbers and adjust our historical picture. Balance Sheet strong with about \$39k in cash.
 11. VBMA Tee Shirts – Need website set up, now buyers need to send size to Jasmine and pay through Paypal. Jasmine selling tee shirts for \$20. Sweatshirts on Sale: Hoodies \$30 and Sweatshirts \$22. Dark green only.
 12. Journal Next Issue –Issued a call for articles. Hoping to publish mid-2012. Could be earlier.
 13. CIVT Educational Course discounts for VBMA members – **Need update from Barbara**
 14. RACE situation – no new developments, but no backsliding. In between meetings. Colorado has approved homotox course; some states no problem; some getting more friendly. Nutrition and intro courses accepted; Chinese medicine not accepted; Rosemary Gladstar not accepted. Some equine accepted, but not if includes acupuncture; osteopathy ok; practice management ok. Project to get new group into AVMA on hold until next year.
 15. Eco-tour **April 19 – May 2, 2012 – Jasmine to get posted on website**
 - The 2012 VBMA ecotour will take us to sunny Spain! This tour will combine a bit of culture with a lot of hiking, relaxation, eating and some herbaleducation. The dates are April 19 – May 1, 2012. We will start our tour in Barcelona to sample the art, architecture, and tapas. We then move on to the mountains, where we will have 6 days of seminars, hiking, and culture with a team consisting of a traditional Spanish curandero and an herbalist who earned a BSc in herbal medicine at Middlesex University. Next, we leave for Cabo de Gata National Park, a quiet spot in the hills with easy access to the beach for 2 days of leisure.
 - Testimonials for the Bootlace teaching tour: Chris Dowrick MD, Professor of Primary Care, University of Liverpool: "...it is an excellent week. The herbalism teaching is high quality, and genuinely rooted (literally!) in the flora all around you. The walks are wonderful. And then there is the food - vegetarian cooking at its very best, and lots of it. All done in the lightest of spirits, and with the finest bunch of people you can hope to meet. Enjoy!"
 - Itinerary
 - April 18 Fly to Barcelona
 - April 19 Thursday Arrive in Barcelona
 - o Check into Rialto Hotel (<http://www.hotel-rialto.com/en/>)
 - o Spend Afternoon on La Rambla, Explore Boqueria Market on our own (<http://www.boqueria.info/mercat-benvinguts.php>)
 - o Dinner on our own
 - April 20 Friday Breakfast at hotel
 - o 8:00 AM Full day sightseeing:
 - o Picasso Museum
 - o Casa Batillo (visit of the whole house), outside view of Casa Vicents
 - o Lunch in La Barceloneta
 - o Sagrada Familia
 - o Shopping in the cool district of independent boutiques
 - o Dinner at Tickets (<http://www.ticketsbar.es/>) (If you are a foodie, this is the only restaurant left where one of the world's most revered living chefs (Ferran Adria) still advises and cooks on occasion).
 - o Return to the Rialto Hotel
 - April 21 Saturday
 - o Breakfast at hotel
 - o Transfer to airport and fly to Granada
 - o Check into Bootlace tour accommodations <http://www.bootlace.com/herbal-remedies-walking-andalucia/> April
 - April 22 Sunday
 - o Morning orientation and short walk to La Palmera where workshops will

- o be held. Meet Julio and discuss his plan for the week. Picnic or light lunch at our farmhouse. Short walk 1 1/2 hrs in valley.
 - o Supper 7.30pm
- April 23 Monday
 - o Practical workshops with Sophie at farmhouse then lunch and afternoon workshop with Sophie. Supper 7.30
- April 24 Tuesday
 - o Day walk in La Taha approx 4hrs of actual walking and visit to villages for shopping, etc.
- April 25 Wednesday
 - o Workshop with Julio at la Palmera lunch at farmhouse. 4pm herbal identification walk with Julio. Supper 7.30
- April 26 Thursday
 - o Free morning with option to visit Orgiva market OR horseback riding.
 - o Afternoon at La Palmera with Julio. Supper 7.30
- April 27 Friday
 - o Day walk approx. 4hrs of actual walking with picnic visiting O Sel Ling tibetan buddhist retreat centre. Supper 7.30
- April 28 Saturday
 - o Transfer to Las Negras, Calagrande hotel : <http://www.calagrande.es/en>
 - o Area and park map: <http://www.degata.com/>
- April 29 Sunday
 - o Open plans - go to the beach, hike, or explore the nearby towns
- April 30 Monday
 - o Open plans - go to the beach, hike, or explore the nearby towns
- May 1 Tuesday
 - o Transfer to Granada airport and fly to Barcelona; Depart for the U.S.
- Approximate price is \$3600-3800, double occupancy, including flight to and from the U.S. and Barcelona. (This price will be firmed up in the next 2 weeks).
- *Round trip flight between your home and U.S. departure point is on your own *Barcelona package will include portorage (1 piece per person), 2 breakfasts, lunch and dinner, all taxes.
- *Does not include dinner on 4/19, or any meals/tips following our departure from Orgiva on April 28th.
- THERE ARE ONLY 9 SPOTS LEFT FOR THIS TRIP. If you're interested, please write to me personally (wynndvm@gmail.com) to reserve your spot. We will need a deposit within the next month or so to reserve it.

16. Next meeting scheduled for January 9, 2012

Meeting adjourned.