

## **CIVTA Meeting Notes Jan 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Sponsored by Royal Canin**

Meeting called to order by Jeannie Stall at 7:00 pm

11 members were present

Also present: Michelle Beaty and Dr. Jen Styrsky both from Royal Canin

The goal for the CIVTA this year is to have fun!

All meetings have been booked with speakers and topics for this year except August. If you have ideas or suggestions please let Jeannie know.

No old business to discuss.

New business:

The email survey regarding a topic for February's meeting was a success; 8 people responded and their names were entered into a drawing for a prize. The two possible topics were canine influenza or lyme's disease. The topic chosen was canine influenza. Schering-Intervet will be the sponsor of the February meeting. Linda Blazek-Garvin's name was drawn as the winner for the prize. Thanks to everyone who responded. Please keep your eye open for future surveys from the CIVTA. Your response is greatly appreciated.

The next meeting will be held February 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the FFA Enrichment Center room 160 on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. Schering-Intervet is sponsoring the meeting. The topic will be canine influenza.

A sign up sheet for providing the meal at upcoming meetings was passed around. If you volunteer to bring a meal please save your receipts; you can be reimbursed for your expenses. The usual dollar amount for the meal is \$50-\$60.

It was decided that the CIVTA will not have a booth at the IVMA Winter Conference this February 10-11.

We are looking for topics and/or speakers for this year's Fall Conference. We want to get this scheduled asap. If you have ideas please let Jeannie or DeeDee know.

Mary Stritzel reported that most of the CIVTA meetings have already been approved for CE credit through the Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine. Please see Mary if you need a CE slip.

Lori Martindale presented the news letter report. The USPS policy on returning bulk rate mail has changed. From now on, the address labels will say the recipient's name and "or current resident". The post office is charging to forward bulk mail now. We have opted not to pay for this service. Please keep your address current with the CIVTA.

Lori is also in need of articles and information to include in the news letter. If she does not receive more contributions the news letter will not be sent out monthly but rather on a quarterly basis.

Jen Firzlaff presented the treasure's report. She presented a spread sheet of last year's debits and deposits. Our current checking account balance is \$11,947.49

Dr. Jen Styrsky from Royal Canin was our featured speaker. She discussed pancreatitis. All members present received copies of her power point presentation.

Door prize winners:

Jacki Strovers-Olive Garden gift certificate (Donated by Royal Canin)  
Lori Martindale-Olive Garden gift certificate (Donated by Royal Canin)  
DeeDee Schumacher-Canin nutrition book (Donated by Royal Canin)  
Sarah Siperstein-dog collar (Donated by Midwest Vet Supply)  
Mary Stritzel-dog collar (Donated by Midwest Vet Supply)  
Jeannie Stall-CIVTA Frisbee

### **CIVTA Meeting Notes Feb 24<sup>h</sup>, 2010 Sponsored by Schering Intervet**

Meeting called to order by Jeannie Stall at 7:00 pm

9 members were present

Also present: Kent Johnson from Schering Intervet

No old business to discuss.

New business:

Jeannie Stall reminded members that dues are now due. Annual CIVTA dues are \$25 and increase to \$35 if not paid by the end of March. Students currently enrolled in a vet tech program only pay 50% dues. It was also discussed that door prizes are for dues paid members only. The Vice President (Mary Stritzel) and the Treasurer (Jen Firzlaff) will be coordinating a list of dues paid members and who is eligible for door prizes each month.

Jeannie Stall and Jen Firzlaff updated members about the status of the CIVTA web site. Jen has been working on trying to update the site. Despite her efforts she has not been able to contact the previous web host. She is researching possibly changing the site's host. She is getting quotes. Jen has also looked into some free host possibilities for 501(C)(3) not for profit groups. DeeDee Schumacher and Jen will look through their records to find the official IRS letter stating our not for profit status. More information will be forthcoming next month.

A big thanks went out to Lori Martindale for providing tonight's meal. We still need one volunteer to bring the meal for the September meeting. All other months have volunteers

already. DeeDee volunteered for Sept. Sara Siperstein will be providing the meal next month instead of Jen Firzlaff.

Jeannie has been contacted by Cyndy from the IVMA office. They want to know if we plan to have a booth at their annual meeting September 16 and 17, 2010. Members agreed that having a booth at the meeting provides valuable marketing opportunities for the CIVTA Annual Fall Conference. It was decided that until we know the speakers and topics for the meeting that we cannot commit to manning the booth. Several members expressed interest in volunteering if they ended up attending the meeting anyway. DeeDee stated that even if we don't end up having a booth the IVMA will still allow us to hand out brochures or at least make them available at the meeting to attendees. Jeannie will contact Cyndy to clarify prices and relay the booth (in)decision. More information will be forthcoming come next month.

Jeannie asked for ideas for speakers and/or topics for this year's fall conference. Jeannie suggested that the cytology meeting a few years ago was popular. Jen and DeeDee expressed concern that it has not been long enough since we had that topic. DeeDee asked for topics that members definitely did not want to hear about. The following topics were ruled out: nutrition and dentistry. It was agreed that DeeDee would try to line up another speaker like we had last year that could cover many topics. Jeannie spoke to the ARL about prices and possible dates for the meeting. The fee for using the ARL meeting room will be \$275. The ARL doesn't have October 16, 2010 available. After a brief discussing it was agreed that we would try to schedule the conference for Saturday October 9<sup>th</sup>. Jeannie will find out if we need to leave a deposit with the ARL. DeeDee will contact potential speakers in the next few days. Jeannie and DeeDee will coordinate meeting location dates with speaker dates prior to making any deposits on a facility. It was also decided that we will again use the Hyvee in WDSM for catering the event since they did such a good job last year. More information will be forthcoming next month.

The next meeting will be held March 31<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the FFA Enrichment Center room 160 on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. Dr. Brent Reimer from the Iowa Veterinary Specialty Center in Des Moines will be the featured speaker. Dr. Reimer will be discussing how to perform a neurological exam and neurological issues.

Jen Firzlaff presented the treasure's report. Our current checking account balance is approximately \$11,500.00

Kent Johnson from Schering Intervet was our featured speaker. Kent discussed both canine influenza and the new Schering lyme vaccine. Kent provided members with many brochures and information about both topics.

Door prize winners:

Jen Firzlaff-Target gift card (Donated by Schering Intervet)

Mary Stritzel- Target gift card (Donated by Schering Intervet)

Billy Joe Bates-Dairy Queen gift certificate (Donated by Ankeny DQ)

Sarah Siperstein-CIVTA frisbee

## CIVTA Meeting Notes April 28, 2010

Meeting called to order by Jeannie Stall at 7:00 pm

7 members were present

Also present: Dr. Fales from ISU

Welcome and dinner

### Old business:

Fall Conference Updates discussed. The meeting will start at 2 pm in the Auditorium at the ARL. Jen has taken care of payment for the room rental at the ARL. DeeDee is checking into catering options but she asked for food ideas. It was decided that pasta will not be on the menu for dinner options. Jen will check the approved ARL list of caterers before DeeDee books anything. DeeDee will have the caterer set up during the break prior to dinner so as not to disturb the meeting.

13<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Conf scheduled for Saturday October 23, 2010. Registration from 1-1:30 then meetings and dinner from 2-8. Bea Biddinger from MSU will be our featured speaker. Topics include:

#### **Heart failure and scary cardiac arrhythmias**

Basic hallmarks of right and left sided heart failure will be discussed. Common arrhythmias will be looked at ranging from innocent to deadly with discussion of how to examine an ECG strip in a systematic fashion.

#### **Euthanasia and compassion fatigue**

Euthanasia is an all too common occurrence that can build to a crescendo level of stress in veterinary team members. Sometimes it's the caregivers that need small tokens of compassion.

#### **When blood pressure bottoms out**

Before you place that call to the doctor, "How do you know what the real blood pressure is"? Measuring methods will be discussed as well as what to do if you suspect your patients' pressure has bottomed out.

#### **Geriatric anesthesia and analgesia**

Geriatric patients can present certain risks and challenges, and the literature sometimes doesn't tell us a lot of specifics. Discussion of typical changes within the geriatric body and anecdotal opinions of anesthesia considerations will be shared.

#### **Monitoring the critical patient**

Discussion includes what to watch for within the major body systems so you may recognize trouble early. Sometimes referred to as a list of 10 or 20, this discussion will hit the high points of watching over a critical patient and when to warn the doctor.

Jen Firzlaff has created a new CIVTA web site. Please email her information about content and ideas for the site. It looks great so far! [www.civta.com](http://www.civta.com)

The topic of door prizes was discussed. DeeDee sent out over 15 requests for donations and only received responses from 3 companies: Panera, DQ and Vesta Salon. It was decided that the CIVTA would spend \$200 to purchase door prizes for the monthly meetings. Jen will purchase but she needs/wants suggestions regarding where to go.

**New business:**

Jeannie discussed the idea of including high lighters in this year's fall conf. packet. Everyone agreed it was a good idea. We will explore options from vendors for donations. If no donations are received we will purchase inexpensive highlighters from an office supply store.

The next meeting will be held May 26, at 7:00 pm at the FFA Enrichment Center room 160 on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. Dr. Jennifer Schleining from ISU will be the featured speaker. The topic will be equine emergencies.

Thanks to Amy Galloway for providing tonight's meal. It was delicious.

Dr. Amanda Fales from ISU was tonight's featured speaker. Dr. Fales discussed biopsy busters and pathology cases she has seen while at ISU.

Door prize drawing

Meeting adjourned

**CIVTA Meeting Notes May 26, 2010**

Meeting called to order by Jeannie Stall at 7:00 pm

7 members were present

Also present: Dr. Jennifer Schleining from ISU

Welcome and dinner

**Old business:**

Fall Conference Updates discussed. The meeting will start at 2 pm in the Auditorium at the ARL. DeeDee has been working on the brochure. A copy of the current brochure draft was passed around for everyone to see. She is still waiting on pictures and a logo from the ARL to complete the brochure. In addition, she has found out that we can bring our own non-alcoholic beverages, cookies, fruit and veggie trays etc. into the meeting room at the ARL. This will help save a lot of money since we don't have to purchase these items from a caterer. DeeDee has received quotes from In the Bag and Tasteful Dinners caterers. The latter is not currently an ARL approved caterer so she is waiting to

hear back from the ARL to see if we can use them or not. Currently DeeDee has received donation pledges from Iams and Blackwell Publishing. She will be meeting with the Abbott rep. tomorrow to hopefully secure additional donations. Fourteen other companies have also been sent donation request letters.

13<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Conf scheduled for Saturday October 23, 2010. Registration from 1-1:30 then meetings and dinner from 2-8. Bea Biddinger from MSU will be our featured speaker. Topics include:

Heart failure and scary cardiac arrhythmias

Euthanasia and compassion fatigue

When blood pressure bottoms out

Geriatric anesthesia and analgesia

Monitoring the critical patient

It was noticed and announced to the members that the CIVTA is listed in the new veterinary management book that the CIVTA is listed as the state's official technician association. Yeah CIVTA!

Jeannie and Jen have purchased door prizes for the year. Gift certificates are from Target, Michaels, Brown Dog Bakery and Panera. Good luck!

### **New business:**

The IVMA needs the names of the volunteers that will be working the CIVTA booth at the IVMA annual meeting Sept 16 & 17. Jeannie is looking for volunteers. Mary Stritzel has tentatively volunteered to help work the booth on Thursday. Please contact Jeannie if you can volunteer.

Ways to recruit new CIVTA members was also discussed. Over the last few months attendance at monthly meetings has been down. Possible incentives for joining the CIVTA were discussed. Possible options include: visiting area clinics, including flyers in delivery boxes from vet distributors, possibilities of winning prizes for attendance. It was asked that everyone bring ideas to recruit new members to next months meeting.

The next meeting will be held June 30, at 7:00 pm at the FFA Enrichment Center room 160 on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. Dr. Bill Williams from Altoona Vet Hospital will be the featured speaker. The topic will be zoonotic parasites.

Thanks to Linda Blazek Garvin for providing tonight's meal. It was delicious!

Dr. Jennifer Schleining from ISU was tonight's featured speaker. Dr. Schleining discussed equine emergencies.

Door prize drawing

Meeting adjourned

### **CIVTA Meeting Notes June 30, 2010**

Meeting called to order by Jeannie Stall at 7:00 pm

14 members were present

Also present: Michelle Beaty from Royal Canin and Dr. Bill Williams from Altoona Veterinary Hospital.

Welcome and dinner-provided by Royal Canin

#### **Old business:**

Jen Firzloff checked into whether or not the CIVTA actually received the promised donations from last year's fall conference. In fact the invoices were never sent to either Hills or Idexx last year so we in fact didn't receive the donations.

#### **New business:**

Although we had decided last year to not sell Entertainment Books this year; Erica placed an order for the books. Jeannie had the ship to address changed to her address instead of Erica's. We also discussed the reason we decided not to sell the ET books was because they contain a 1-800-Petmeds coupon. Jen will look into the Des Moines version of the ET books that we can possibly sell instead. Jeannie will check to see if we can cancel the order for the books this year since they are not due to be shipped until August.

Until tonight we have had a dwindling attendance at our monthly meetings this year. Last month Jeannie asked all members to think about ways to increase attendance at our meetings. Here are the ideas that were discussed

- Working with the IVMA and possibly including meeting reminders in the IVMA communiqué.
- Creating a members only section of the web site.
- Placing meeting reminders in the flyers of delivery boxes.
- Calling veterinarians to encourage their staff to attend.
- Plaques for clinics that have good staff attendance.
- Member of the year
- Discussion of groups at the practice manager meetings.
- Phone tree

The IVMA needs the names of the volunteers that will be working the CIVTA booth at the IVMA annual meeting Sept 16 & 17. Jeannie is looking for volunteers. Mary Stritzel

has tentatively volunteered to help work the booth on Thursday. Please contact Jeannie if you can volunteer. Jeannie reminded us that many people agreed we should have the booth but that no one is volunteering.

Fall conference update. The caterer will be In the Bag. It is one of the ARLs approved caterers. The exact meal has not yet been decided. Donations thus far include: Hill's \$1000, Royal Canin \$200, IVS \$300, Invisible Fence \$100 and Merial and Iams but exact amounts are not yet known. The only no to our request for donations thus far has come from MWI. Idexx and BI are still unknown. Lori will contact Ryan Ong with BI to put some pressure on him.

Nancy Shaffron has declined our offer to be our 2011 Fall Conf. speaker due to travel restrictions.

The next meeting will be held July 28, at 7:00 pm at the FFA Enrichment Center room 160 on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. Laura McAdams from Miltex Instruments will be the featured speaker. The topic will be how to sharpen dental instruments. Sara Tasler will bring the dinner.

Thanks to Michelle Beaty for providing the Pizza Hut pizza and bread sticks for tonight's dinner.

Dr. Bill Williams from Altoona Veterinary Hospital was tonight's featured speaker. Dr. Williams discussed zoonotic diseases.

Door prize drawing: Target gift card went to Terry Graham  
CIVTA Frisbee went to DeeDee Schumacher  
Panera Bread gift card went to Sara Tasler

Meeting adjourned

### **CIVTA Meeting Notes July 28, 2010**

Meeting called to order by Jeannie Stall at 7:00 pm

Welcome and dinner

#### **Old business:**

Entertainment book sales have been cancelled. Leslie will get information about the DSM local books to decide if we want to try selling those.

At the last meeting Lori requested being relieved of the newsletter duties. Derek Wessman will be taking over as the newsletter editor. Lori is working on training Derek.

**New business:**

The raffle for the IVMA conference was discussed. A \$50 gift certificate was chosen. The gift certificate will be purchased from the Olive Garden and raffled off at the IVMA meeting.

We are in need of volunteers to work at the CIVTA booth during the IVMA meeting Sept 16-17. A sign up sheet with shifts to choose from was passed around.

The fall conference caterer will be In the Bag which is an ARL approved caterer. Voting slips for dinner entrees was passed around.

The next meeting will be held Aug 25, at 7:00 pm at the FFA Enrichment Center room 160 on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. Deb Coleman from Vetamac will be the featured speaker. Deb will be discussing anesthesia machines and protocols.

Thanks to Sara Tassler for providing tonight's meal. It was delicious!

Laura McAdams from Miltex was tonight's featured speaker. She discussed sharpening dental instruments.

Door prize drawings

Meeting adjourned

**CIVTA Meeting Notes August 25, 2010**

Meeting called to order by Jeannie Stall at 7:10 pm  
11 members present plus Deb Coleman

Welcome and dinner

Stuffing of fall conference brochures into envelopes for mailing

**Old business:**

Passed around IVMA booth sign up sheet for volunteers

People that were not able to attend last month's meeting had a second opportunity to vote on fall conference dinner menu. We will be having Pork loin with apple stuffing, fresh vegetables and green salad.

**New business:**

Tonight we have a substitute speaker since Amanda Penning with Bayer was not able to come. Tonight's featured speaker will be Deb Coleman discussing anesthesia machines.

Sherry Howell will no longer be able to send out CIVTA meeting reminder faxes for us. We will check the storage facility to see if the old fax machine is still there. For now, only email reminders for CIVTA meetings will be sent.

Need preconference snack makers/buyers. Coffee and pop will also be available.

We discussed updating the CIVTA board that we use at the IVMA annual meeting in our booth. Jeannie stall presented an idea that is based on the "priceless" master card commercial. DeeDee presented an idea based on "got milk" commercials. Although both ideas were good, the got milk idea will be used this year. We will keep Jeannie's idea on tap for next time.

DeeDee brought up the idea to purchase Dr. Garst's season I-Cubs tickets and use them as a perk for being a CIVTA member. DeeDee will ask Dr. Garst if this is an option and she will also send out a survey via survey monkey to determine interest in using the tickets. We will discuss the results at the next meeting.

We are in need of volunteers to work at the CIVTA booth during the IVMA meeting Sept 16-17. A sign up sheet with shifts to choose from was passed around.

The next meeting will be held Sept 29, at 7:00 pm at the FFA Enrichment Center room 160 on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. Dr. Yanik from Iams will be discussing probiotics.

Thanks to Jeannie and DeeDee for providing tonight's meal. It was delicious!

Deb Coleman discussed anesthesia machines and troubleshooting.

Door prize drawings

Meeting adjourned

## CIVTA Meeting Notes Sept 29, 2010

Meeting called to order by Jeannie Stall at 7:00 pm  
12 members present plus Janet Holtus with Iams and Dr. Yanik also with Iams

Welcome and dinner-can you believe it is the last meeting of 2010?

### Old business:

Discussed Fall Conference updates:

- We will purchase highlighters for the conf. packets
- It was decided that we will provide pop, tea, coffee and hot chocolate
- Will order premade snack and veggie trays from Hy-Vee or Sams club instead of making our own.
- Will have desert provided by caterer

Discussed the IVMA meeting. Approximately 58 people signed up for the Olive Garden Gift Certificate raffle. Jen will add these names to our mailing list.

Discussed results of the survey monkey with regards to the CIVTA purchasing a set of Iowa Cubs season tickets. 12 people answered the survey. 11 people were CIVTA dues paid members and 1 was not. It was decided by vote that the CIVTA could sponsor an outing to an Iowa Cubs game but not to purchase season tickets at this time.

### New business:

We forgot to take nominations for the soon to open up board positions for the CIVTA. Both the Vice President and the Treasurer are up for election. Jen Firzlaff was nominated for Treasurer again. Both Sara Stevens and Mary Stritzel ran for VP. It was a very close race. Jen will continue to be the CIVTA Treasurer for another 2 years and Sara Stevens will be the new VP as of January.

Dr. Yanik from Iams discussed probiotics. Samples of Prostora were passed around for sampling. They taste like cookie dough!

Thanks to Jeannie and DeeDee for providing tonight's meal. It was delicious!

Door prize drawings

Meeting adjourned