



SVME Newsletter

Newsletter of the Society for
Veterinary Medical Ethics

Winter 2018

President's Message

"The problems of the world cannot possibly be solved by skeptics or cynics whose horizons are limited by the obvious realities. We need men and women who can dream of things that never were!" John Fitzgerald Kennedy

President Kennedy has no connection to the Millennials of the present world. Except for some of his quotes, he has become a President of the United States lost in time. I have tried to emulate his words, through action, during my tenure as President of the Society for Veterinary Medical Ethics.

I want to be remembered as the President who opened SVME dialogues with the American Veterinary Medical Association; the American Animal Hospital Association; the North American Veterinary Community; the New England Veterinary Medical Association; the American Association of Feline Practitioners as well as many others. All of us share the same goal of the ethical and moral care of all members of the Animal Kingdom and the preservation of the Five Freedoms.

In 1979 in the UK, the Five Freedoms were penned and codified. The welfare of an animal, which includes its physical and mental state, has been defined as the Five Freedoms:

1. Freedom from Hunger and Thirst: by ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigor.
2. Freedom from Discomfort: by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area.
3. Freedom from Pain, Injury or Disease: by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment

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4. Freedom to Express Normal Behavior: by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animal's own kind.
5. Freedom from Fear and Distress: by ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering.

Many have written about the accelerated trend of depression and suicide that plague the veterinary profession. Most agree that "stress" in the workplace has caused an astronomical increase in mental health. Veterinary students are not being prepared for their journey as health care providers. This leads to an immediate dislike of their vocation or soon to follow compassion fatigue and burn-out.

Young veterinarians find it difficult to handle moral dilemmas. The most frequently asked question of me as President of the Society for Veterinary Medical Ethics was how does a veterinarian handle the care of a patient who is sick or suffering when the client cannot afford veterinary care? This is a problem of private practice; corporate practice; the generalist; and the specialist. Leo Buscaglia wrote: *"Don't spend your precious time asking: "Why isn't the world a better place? that is time wasted. The question to ask is: How can I make it better? to that there is an answer!"*

"Making it better" involves initiating within all veterinary curriculums in our veterinary schools Integrative Ethics. Integrative Ethics is a "melting pot" of how each and every decision made in veterinary medicine has an important ethical and moral connection. If students can experience what their work is going to be like and how to approach difficult problems, it will help lead to positive results that are rewarding. This escalates to renewed passion in care of all members of the Animal Kingdom and passion for personal growth within our profession.

After graduation, young veterinarians must seek mentorships in practices that continue to initiate discussion and dialogue on common moral and ethical dilemmas in addition to the commonly discussed economic strategies of practice.

There is a tri-pronged approach to improving the moral and ethical care of the Animal Kingdom. It must be initiated in the veterinary curriculum; made part of the workplace; and renewed in Integrative Ethics in continuing education.

(Men and women need to be industrious and tenacious of purpose not only so as to be able to house, clothe and feed themselves, but also to pursue human ends having to do with love and friendship. They need the ability to form family ties, friendships and special relations with neighbors. They also need codes of conduct. And how could they have all these things without virtues such as loyalty, fairness, kindness and in certain circumstances obedience?" Philip Foot

We can extend the words of Foot in our relationship to the Animal Kingdom. We are their advocates and must share in their care while providing excellent homes and freedom from want.



We must return the unconditional love that is given to us by all creatures great and small while remembering to share time and provide access to appropriate medical care when needed.

A virtue is a trait of character manifested in habitual action. Codes of conduct are linked to the virtues of morality, humility, and justice. As veterinarians, we must be tenacious and industrious in the physical and moral care of the Animal Kingdom.

Love and compassion must be hallmarks of our interactions with the patients we treat. ***Leadership compassion is the wonder of the Human-Animal Bond derived from mono-tasking and focus-tasking with compassionate care. Leadership compassion is the conduit between ethics in principle and ethics in action.***

As I step away from the office of President, I wish to thank the Board of Directors and the Executive Secretary for allowing me to express my vision. Dreams can become reality. If you can imagine it, you can achieve it! An organization that grows is never an organization of one leader. Many minds working together will continue the mission of the Society for Veterinary Medical Ethics.

In appreciation,

Donald H DeForge, VMD
Immediate Past President of the Society for Veterinary Medical Ethics

SVME VetEthics Listserv through Google Groups

VetEthics Listserv is a great communication tool for SVME Members.

- * All SVME members are automatically entered into the VetEthics Listserv.
- * SVME BOD members enter new topics or post interesting articles for discussion.
- * You are encouraged to ask your SVME Colleagues questions regarding ethical dilemmas that have disturbed you.
- * We encourage your comments on the various ethical topics under discussion.



SVME at VMX (formerly known as NAVC)

Monday, January 21, 2019 7:00pm
SVME Board Meeting

Cafe Gauguin located at the Rosen Centre
 Reservation under: Dr. Alice Villalobos

Tuesday, January 22, 2019 12:00pm
SVME Renaissance Workshop Meeting

Cafe Gauguin located at the Rosen Centre
 Reservation under: Dr. Alice Villalobos

2019 Ethics Track at VMX Convention in Orlando, FL

- 8:00- 9:15am Do Publication Review System Issues Affect Practice?
 Dennis F. Lawler, DVM, FNAP
- 9:55- 10:45am Are We Obligated to Help Clients Prepare for Expenses?
 Kent A. Kruse, DVM
- 10:55- 11:45am Value Conflicts Surrounding Expanded Access to Veterinary Care
 Heather Woodke, DVM, MA(Ethics)
- 1:45 – 2:35pm Veterinary Ethical Issues in the Digital Age
 Kerri E. Marshall, DVM, MBA
- 2:45- 3:55pm Dilemmas of Televeterinary Practice
 Rolan Tripp, DVM, CABC
- 3:55- 4:45pm End of Life Ethics Fatigue & Ethics Exhaustion: When Your Sense of Right is Wronged
 Alice Villalobos, DVM, FNAP & Sonnya Dennis, DVM, DABVP
- 4:45– 6:00pm Clinical Brief
 Annual General Meeting, Student Essay Contest Winner, & Shomer Award Recipient - Dr. Andrew Knight from U.K.

2019 Ethics Track Abstracts **Dennis F. Lawler, DVM, FNAP**

Part 1

Ethics of the Scientific Publications Process: Effect on the Clinical Community

Structure of the process, from publishers to authors;
Functions at each process stage, and opportunities for mistakes and misconduct;
What presently is overtly unethical, and what should be labeled as unethical;
Why is publications misconduct important within the practice community?
Questions and Discussion

Part 2

Ethics of the Scientific Publications Process: Can Failure Be Reversed?

Layers of complexity: Who is responsible? Who will be responsive?
What are the questions at each publications process stage?
How do we recognize publications that should have been disallowed?
Can we separate marginal ethics from incompetence?
How should we approach imposing solutions against resistance
Questions and Discussion

Dennis F. Lawler DVM, FNAP

Center for American Archaeology (research associate)
Illinois State Museum (adjunct in paleopathology)
Pacific Marine Mammal Center Laguna Beach CA (population diseases)
Associate Editor, International Journal of Paleopathology

2019 Ethics Track Abstracts

Kent Kruse DVM

Increase Practice Revenues and Build Your Team Ethical Pride

Are We Obligated to Help Clients Prepare for Expenses?

Veterinary revenues are often restricted because of pet owner's reliance on discretionary funds to pay for veterinary fees. This presentation will discuss management tools which can enhance client's ability to afford veterinary services and assist in fulfilling our ethical responsibility to support patient care and protect the human-animal bond.

Kent A. Kruse, DVM
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

2019 Ethics Track Abstracts

Heather Woodke, DVM, MA (Bioethics)

Will the New Social Ethic Expand Access to Veterinary Care?

State Veterinary Associations often lobby against non-profit animal welfare and humane care societies to limit the scope of veterinary services provided to low-income companion animal caregivers. The consequences of legislative barriers to low-income veterinary care constitute serious harms to animals that are part of our communities, including untreated health conditions, and high rates of economic-based euthanasias. Opposition to expanding veterinary services for financially disadvantaged caregivers usually is based on unproven claims of unfair competition, and a “quiet” view that companion animal ownership is a luxury, rather than a social benefit. This type of reasoning favors weak interpretations of animal welfare principles, and thus sanctions current animal health disparities that lead to economic euthanasias, shelter surrenders, or continued pain and suffering for companion animals that have otherwise preventable or treatable conditions. Historic justifications to limit veterinary access for low-income caregivers fail to recognize a newer social ethic, in which companion animals are integral and valued members of the family. As responsible leaders in animal welfare, it is the veterinary profession’s imperative to revisit and re-interpret humane treatment principles in the context of the contemporary social ethic that values human-animal bonds as a crucial element to companion animal and human health and well-being. By supporting efforts to expand veterinary services to those who cannot afford it, State Associations can lead the profession towards a more productive future with non-profits that serve vulnerable human populations and their companion animals.

Heather Woodke, DVM, MA (Bioethics)

Magpie Mobile Vet

Seattle, Wa. 98146

2019 Ethics Track Abstracts Kerri Marshall, DVM, MBA

Veterinary Ethical Issues in the Digital Age

“Obedience to the Unenforceable” is the definition of Ethics by Lord Moulton, British lawmaker in the 19th century. Laws result from the breakdown of ethics said Rushworth Kidder, president of the Institute for Global Ethics. Laws only reflect the *minimum standard* of behavior—ethics is at the core of the unwritten code of human behavior. The choice is ours to make: what type of world will we be practicing in as we evolve in the digital age and adopt new technology that allows unprecedented generation and access to digital data? Will we practice in a world where people in animal health just obey the law, or one where they are obedient to the unenforceable—honesty, integrity, responsibility, respect, caring for others, and courage? These are the universal elements of ethics that we can think of as we encounter specific challenges of embracing and using technology in practice.

What is the veterinary professional’s role in creating the new ethical code in the digital age? Even though the independent practices represent the clear majority of veterinary practices today, how do they have a voice in the future of how their patients’ data will be used? How is their clients’ privacy maintained? And how will the quality of medicine be upheld when the relationship between the veterinary team and the client is virtualized? What is the future of veterinary telemedicine or televeterinary medicine?

Kerri Marshall, DVM, MBA
Society for Veterinary Medical Ethics, Telemedicine Task Force
Association for Veterinary Informatics, Interoperability Task Force Chair
Chief Veterinary Officer, BabelBark, Inc.
Newton, MA USA

2019 Ethics Track Abstracts

Rolan Tripp, DVM, ACVB

DILEMMAS OF TELEVETERINARY PRACTICE

PREDICTING THE FUTURE IS UNRELIABLE

So far, no one has shown an existing significant demand for global Televeterinary Consultation. However, in my opinion, the greatest future opportunity for veterinary practice is providing remote consulting directly to animal owners around the world. I published my first futurist article in 1984, “Veterinary Telecommunications” and incorporated a business of the same name in 1986 so I have been watching this field for a long time. It has been very slow progress and we still don’t have the ubiquitous global broadband web access that was predicted decades ago.

TELEVETERINARY MAY NOT FOLLOW TELEMEDICINE GROWTH

In history, the veterinary profession has generally followed along the path set by human medical practice. Human telemedicine already has a strong foothold and is predicted to grow. According to the Mordor Intelligence Report, “*The global telemedicine market is anticipated to register [an annual growth rate of] approximately 18.5% during the forecast period (2018-2023).*” As people gradually warm to the idea of health teleconsulting for themselves it is reasonable to imagine that these same people will begin to look for a similar experience for their pet.

WE CAN’T BE CERTAIN THE GLOBAL EMERGING MIDDLE CLASS WILL ADOPT PETS

We also can’t be certain they will adopt bankcards, cell phones, and internet access. There was a time before each of these technologies was common and now each is arguably a middle-class status symbol. Will pets be added to this list? One report described, “*How Pets Became China’s New Status Symbol.*” The article goes on to predict China’s pet industry to expand dramatically in the next few years. China is already 3rd in world pet-dog ownership after Brazil - another country with a growing middle-class. Once they have disposable income, will this emerging middle class discover the Human Animal Bond and obtain pets? I think so.

[WE CAN’T BE CERTAIN THE PET OWNING GLOBAL MIDDLE CLASS WILL GROW](#)

The world goes through economic growth and recession cycles, but the overall trend is up. Countries labeled as “third world” will likely continue to struggle but “developing” is a status between “third-world” and “developed.” The prestigious Brookings Institution recently released a report called, “*The Unprecedented Expansion of the Global Middle Class*” (2017). They report that the global middle class (families earning between \$10-100 per person per day) in 2016 was estimated at 3.2 billion people. The predicted increase is 160 million (equal to half the current US population) every year for the next 5 years.

[THE EXISTING GLOBAL MIDDLE CLASS HAS NOT EMBRACED TELEVETERINARY SERVICES](#)

So, where is the demand right now from the existing 3.2 billion middle class people? My view is that it hasn’t arrived because not all the required components are in place such as the familiarity of using Telemedicine for human health. Further, regarding televeterinary, some of the existing components are hostile such as prosecution of pioneers, limited professional liability protection, outdated wording in many US veterinary practice acts and lack of awareness or any legal guidelines in most other countries. All these are likely to change over time.

DEALING WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS IS PROBLEMATIC

Each licensed veterinarian providing global televeterinary practice will likely be licensed in the country of their residence. Further, if following recommended guidelines, the contract to provide service to a lay pet owner will contain a clause that any legal activity occurs in the country of the televeterinarian residence. If the person is providing poor televeterinary advice that detracts from the reputation of televeterinary practice in general, then it is

2019 Ethics Track Abstracts

Rolan Tripp, DVM, ACVB

important that the local licensing board do a review. If the Televeterinarian were practicing from a different country, then that person would deal with their own laws. It is hard to imagine a televeterinary consulting problem would require any foreign government getting involved.

EXISTING VETERINARY LICENSING BOARDS WILL NOT WANT TO DEAL WITH FOREIGN COMPLAINTS

One stated purpose of every veterinary examining board is to review complaints. Currently, most US state boards review complaints originating in a different state and the overriding goal is that those licensed by that board are competent. If providing poor service out of state or country, it is likely that person is also providing substandard service to the public in general and deserves at the least a review.

US PRACTICE ACTS ARE UNDER LEGISLATIVE CONTROL

In the US, control at the state level made sense when every animal patient lived within a reasonable travel radius. But seeking world class veterinary knowledge often means telecommunicating across state and country boundaries. This is already done between veterinarians. However, the real growth is predicted in consulting directly with the pet owner. I am suggesting that in the future, televeterinarians could potentially sell their knowledge to anyone in the world with a pet, a smartphone, and a bankcard—either full time or during slow times within their practices. The dilemma is that currently, most US State Practice Acts, governed by their respective state legislatures have wording that prevents providing veterinary expertise to pet owners until after a “hands-on” examination has been completed.

SOME US STATES WOULD HAVE TO CHANGE THEIR PRACTICE ACT

US State Veterinary Licensing Boards operate under their state Practice Act and most require an exam where, at least for pets, the veterinarian must be able to see the patient. With the advent of high definition mobile phone video, is it now possible to remotely “see” live animals and this makes it easier to record the examination. Separate from modifying the definition of “see,” I suspect there will be constituent pressure on elected officials to direct the examining boards to change their practice act to adapt to the information age. Millennials will likely demand the convenience and televeterinarians living in the approved states will make so much more money (and pay taxes) that the government will be highly motivated to avoid lawsuits and attract a new tax base.

STATES HAVE A HISTORY OF PROSECUTING TELEVETERINARIANS

Ron Hines is a veterinarian in Texas who was providing televeterinary advice by telephone to people around the globe for a fee. He was cited, fined and the Texas State Veterinary Examining Board revoked his license. Dr. Hines appealed all the way to the 11th Circuit Court then the U.S. Supreme Court refused to review his appeal. The court decided that the state’s right to regulate the practice of veterinary medicine trumped his free speech.

Many US State Boards are now reconsidering their wording, and each is making up their rules based on what that group of individuals decide in that room at that time. This type of patchwork legislation causes potential prosecution for those interested in providing a national or global televeterinary service.

PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE MIGHT NOT COVER TELEVETERINARY PRACTICE

The most common US veterinary professional liability insurance is provided by the AVMA PLIT. That policy does not cover Televeterinary Practice. However, there are other policies in place now that do cover televeterinary work. Because human communication and veterinary outcomes have been known to fail, having professional liability insurance protects everyone. If the veterinarian is unfairly targeted, insurance will provide legal protection. If the pet owner was upset, then there is money available for a reasonable settlement.

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Rolan Tripp, DVM, ACVB

THERE ARE NO EXISTING TELEVETERINARY LICENSES OR CERTIFICATION GUIDELINES

I invited every attendee of the 2018 Veterinary Information Summit (VIS) and encourage anyone else interested in the future of the veterinary profession to visit www.VeterinaryFutureSociety.org, register for free, and join the online discussion about these proposed guidelines. The plan is to allow up to one year to get consensus on wording, then bring that wording to next year's VIS for final consideration and then distribution to any interested party.

ONE TO ONE TELECOMMUNICATIONS IS DIFFICULT TO CONTROL

Only regulatory agencies such as country or state veterinary examining boards can control a license, but there are other ways. One proposal being discussed is to create a telemedicine protection fund by calling on every company that has an interest in the global growth of veterinary medicine. If any pet owner reported they were wronged via telemedicine consulting, this proposed entity would investigate. If the practitioner was following the telemedicine guidelines and was sued, then there would be legal protection available. Conversely if a little digging discovered that a person (DVM or not) was harming the credibility of telemedicine consulting then the protection fund would protect pets, people, and the profession by investigating, reporting findings to the appropriate regulatory agency, and, where necessary, bringing a lawsuit directly.

TELEVETERINARIANS MAY BE RESTRAINED FROM HELPING THOSE IN NEED

It is easy to imagine that all over the world there are already millions of pets suffering and living with owners who would readily pay for quality veterinary diagnosis and recommendations if it were available remotely. I predict that in the future state boards will be charged with "restraint of trade" if they are unnecessarily preventing veterinarians from increasing their income by helping those people and pets. We all know there are people who resist change and some of those are in a position to try to prevent telemedicine progress. However, if these dilemmas of telemedicine practice are resolved, there might be benefits for all involved.

Rolan Tripp, DVM

Founder, Veterinary Future Society (www.VeterinaryFutureSociety.org)

Vancouver, Washington State

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Dr. Tripp is the founder of www.VeterinaryFutureSociety.org and published his first Veterinary Futurist article in 1984, "Veterinary Telecommunications." He writes and frequently lectures on, "The Future of Veterinary Medicine." He can be reached at DrRolanTripp@gmail.com.

1 Telemedicine Market - Segmented by Type, Clinical Service, Technology, Mode of Delivery, and Geography - Growth, Trends, and Forecast (2018 - 2023). June 2018, Mordor Intelligence Report <https://www.mordorintelligence.com/industry-reports/global-telemedicine-market-industry>

2 How Pets Became China's New Status Symbol, Marianna Cerini, April 24, 2016, Thatsmag Online <http://www.thatsmags.com/china/post/12891/how-pets-became-china-s-new-status-symbol>

3 The Unprecedented Expansion of The Global Middle Class, Homi Kharas, Feb, 2017. Brookings Institute Online https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/global_20170228_global-middle-class.pdf

4 Vetinsure, "VetPro Policy" - Athens, Georgia, (800) 272.1249 ext. 700

2019 Ethics Track Abstracts Alice Villalobos, DVM, FNAP

Easing Ethics Fatigue at End of Life

Practitioners would benefit and suffer less from ethics fatigue regarding end of life issues if we carefully RETHINK our viewpoint and role regarding compassionate euthanasia for beloved family pets. If we visualize ourselves and our role in a more positive light, being similar to an honored and respected minister, a chaplain, rabbi, priest or priestess and NOT an executioner, we will feel better at the end of each day. We have many occupational stressors that cause ethics fatigue, compassion fatigue and depression. Rethinking compassionate euthanasia on both sides of the leash, as described in this presentation, should alleviate its associated stress and depression. If we RETHINK what a meaningful and spiritual honor it truly is for us to oversee and minister compassionate euthanasia services for beloved pets in society, we can alleviate one big factor that contributes to ethics fatigue.

Alice Villalobos, DVM, FNAP

www.pawspice.com

pawspice@yahoo.com

2019 Ethics Track Abstracts

Sonnya Dennis, DVM, DABVP (C/F)

Ethics Exhaustion: When Your Sense of Right is Wronged

1. Learn about a new concept, Ethics Exhaustion, and how it is different from Compassion Fatigue and relates to moral stress.
2. Understand how Ethics Exhaustion affects you, as a person and us, as a profession.
3. Mitigate the effects of Ethics Exhaustion by moving it from the subconscious to the conscious.

Join me to learn about a new concept, Ethics Exhaustion, and how it is different from Compassion Fatigue and relates to moral stress. Understand how Ethics Exhaustion affects you, as a person and us, as a profession, no matter what role you play on the veterinary team. By recognizing and understanding how this affects you, you can move it from the subconscious to the conscious and guard against and mitigate its negative effects on your emotional and professional well-being.

Sonnya Dennis, DABVP (c/f)

SVME Board Meeting at VMX 2019

The Society For Veterinary Medical Ethics Board Meeting will be held at the VMX Conference (formerly known as NAVC) at:

Cafe Gauguin located at the Rosen Centre
 Reservation under: Dr. Alice Villalobos
 Monday, January 21, 2019 7:00pm

The SVME Renaissance Workshop Meeting will be:

Cafe Gauguin located at the Rosen Centre
 Reservation under: Dr. Alice Villalobos
 Tuesday, January 22, 2019 12:00pm

The 2019 Ethics Track will be:

Located at OCCC North - Room N310 A/B
 Wednesday, January 23, 2019
 8am - 5pm



The SVME Awards Ceremony on Jan. 23rd followed the ETHICS Track at VMX in Orlando. From left to right, Dr. Alice Villalobos, Student Essay Contest Winner, Maria Suarez of Missouri, Dr. Andrew Knight, of the UK, who was honored with the 2019 Shomer Ethics Award, and Dr. Marty Greer, JD, SVME President.



APPLICATION FORM

SOCIETY FOR VETERINARY MEDICAL ETHICS

NAME: _____

BUSINESS _____

ADDRESS: _____

HOME (optional) _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

PLEASE SEND MAIL TO: ___Office ___Home

Business Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Home Phone: _____

OCCUPATIONAL AND PRESENT POSITION:

PROFESSIONAL DEGREES:

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

INTERESTS IN VETERINARY ETHICS:

MAJOR OBJECTIVES OF THE SOCIETY ARE:

- To encourage ethical practices and professional behavior of veterinarians in all aspects of the profession.
- To increase the understanding of the philosophical, social, moral and ethical values encountered by the veterinary profession.
- To sponsor seminars and other presentations on ethics and values at local, state, regional and national meetings of veterinarians and other interested individuals.
- To promote the teaching of ethical and value issues at colleges of veterinary medicine and to identify speakers on these subjects.
- To encourage persons from other professions and disciplines, such as biomedical research, discussions and studies of these issues.
- To exchange information about veterinary ethical issues via bulletins, periodicals, and newsletters.
- To maintain archives of appropriate documents and materials related to these disciplines.

I hereby make application to the Society for Veterinary Medical Ethics

(Signature of Applicant)

(Date)

Dues are \$40 for Regular Membership & Free for students per year.

Please mail this completed & signed application to: John S. Wright, DVM, SVME Treasurer, Dept. of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine, 1352 Boyd Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108 (email: wrigh008@umn.edu)

SVME Mission Statement

c/o

John S. Wright, DVM, SVME Treasurer
Dept. of Veterinary Clinical Sciences
University of Minnesota College of
Veterinary Medicine
1352 Boyd Ave.
S. Paul, MN 55108



The Society for Veterinary Medical Ethics was founded in 1994 by a group of veterinarians, biomedical researchers and academics to promote discussion and debate about ethical issues arising in and relevant to veterinary practice. The SVME publishes a newsletter, provides a listserv, holds an annual meeting at the AVMA convention, sponsors an annual student essay contest and honors an individual annually with the Shomer Award for outstanding contributions to veterinary medical ethics.

Individuals interested in information or in joining the SVME can visit the SVME website below to learn more about the organization.

www.svme.org/

SVME Board of Directors member list:

President	Marthina Greer, DVM, JD
Past President	Don DeForge, VMD, FAVD
President-Emeritus	Alice Villalobos, DVM, FNAP
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Chair of the Shomer Award Committee	Karyl Hurley, DVM, DACVIM, DECVIM
Course Coordinator - SVME Ethics Course	Alice Villalobos, DVM, FNAP
Membership Committee	Don DeForge, VMD, FAVD
Administrator	Roni Miyashiro

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