



World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association

One Profession; One Discipline; One Voice – Cohesive & Inclusive!

www.WAVMA.org

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WAVMA President's Welcome and Best Wishes for 2012

Dear Colleagues,

With 2012 just ahead, I would like to praise WAVMA activities in the past year, and share my hopes for the year to come. Dr Julius Tepper will be assuming the role of Past President, and I will become the President starting January 1st. Dr Mohamed Faisal will be our President-Elect. The three of us will continue to work diligently on WAVMA member's behalf, and hope to continue the line of successful undertakings that started during 2011.

Our web site had a significant overhaul in 2011. Thanks to members of the communication committee, and Dr Tepper who made this the top of his priorities, the new web page is offering our members a suite of options and privileges that will continue to grow and upgrade in 2012. If you haven't done so, please check our website (www.wavma.org) and, of course, please renew your membership for 2012 if you haven't already.

In 2011, WAVMA initiated the development of the Aquatic Veterinary General Practitioner Credentialing program. The program was spearheaded by our Credentialing Committee (Drs Faisal, Miller-Morgan, Palić - chair, Palmeiro, Scarfe, and Walster). Thanks to numerous members' inputs and committee work, we hope to release this program in early 2012.

A WAVMA Fellowship Program is in the works, and Dr Faisal will be inviting nominees for WAVMA Fellows in early 2012 as well. The honor of Fellowship will be bestowed to outstanding WAVMA members who have contributed significantly to the development of aquatic veterinary medicine practice, art and science. Please consider nominating colleagues that you would like to recognize for their contributions to the field.

Other membership services will continue to grow in 2012. The Aquatic Vet News, members listserv, and online payment system, are embedded in the new web site. The members database, and archive of listserv messages about your cases and questions are developing, and we hope to offer access to an online store with WAVMA branded items soon. The executive board is exploring a cloud data storage option that would allow our members in good standing (renewed before April 1, 2012) unlimited personal computer files backup for a fraction of the cost of similar services. Another possible membership service that is being developed is the discounted book purchase program, which we hope to offer with support from several major publishers who offer titles in the areas of veterinary medicine and aquaculture.

I will likely be the first WAVMA president to run the Association from two continents. I am starting my term in North America (Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine), but will be finishing it in Europe (Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Munich, Germany). Regardless of geographical location, I will be expecting to hear from you, and I will also do my best to expand WAVMA's presence in the EU and worldwide. I am here to serve you, and to lead the WAVMA through another successful year.

However, I don't think anyone can do this work alone. Therefore, I invite all members to help us expand and grow our Association. Please, invite new members "Are you a WAVMA member?"; Ask colleagues "Did you renew your WAVMA membership yet?"; and, most importantly, please talk about WAVMA membership benefits that are important to you, with your colleagues and students "Have you seen this (insert cool membership service here) that WAVMA provides?".

For 2012 to be successful, we most certainly need your inputs on multiple programs that are developing, and most of all, please share with me what you would want to see in return for your membership dues. It is my primary goal as the President to bring new programs online as WAVMA member services. However, to keep evolving and serving our members, we need your ideas and input about new services and improving existing. I will be waiting for your e-mails (president@wavma.org) in 2012 and beyond.

All the best in the next year,

Dušan Palić, 2012 WAVMA President

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