The CVMA honors individuals and organizations that make significant contributions to veterinary medicine and the human-animal bond at the Pacific Veterinary Conference. The latest inductee into the California Animal Hall of Fame is also recognized.

Congratulations to the 2012 CVMA award winners! They illustrate the very best of the veterinary profession in California and the human-animal bond. Meet the award winners at the Pacific Veterinary Conference in San Francisco, June 28-July 1. Each winner will be honored during the Gala Awards Ceremony on June 29.

Donald J. Klingborg, DVM

The CVMA has had an excellent partner in Dr. Klingborg – he has served on 18 CVMA committees or task forces, including the mentoring task force that developed the CVMA’s Mentoring Presentation Kit. He also helped develop the CVMA internship/residency program. Dr. Klingborg helped create the annual Don Low/CVMA Practitioner Fellowship program. The groundbreaking “CVMA’s Eight Principles of Animal Care and Use” was developed by the Animal Welfare Committee that Dr. Klingborg co-chaired. He served in the CVMA House of Delegates for six years as the UC Davis representative, and was chair of the House for two years.

Dr. Klingborg has contributed to California veterinary medical education, public health, leadership, and mentoring since graduating from UC Davis in 1972. He is a CVMA Distinguished Life Member and a three-time recipient of the CVMA President’s Award. A former dairy veterinarian and a current Cooperative Extension and academic veterinarian, he has also been part of the UC Davis SOM leadership team for 20 years. At UC Davis he is the Associate Dean for Veterinary Medicine Extension, the Director of the School of Veterinary Medicine (SOM) Center for Continuing Professional Education, and leads the UC Agriculture and Natural Resources Strategic Advocacy & UC-County Partnerships. Until recently, he was also Associate Dean at the UC Davis SOM. Dr. Klingborg has been a vocal advocate for veterinary school students, teaching and mentoring them, and encouraging them to become active members of the CVMA.

Dr. Klingborg has made myriad contributions to CVMA legislative and political action programs, acting as a key witness and advisor on state legislation related to veterinary medicine. He has established close relationships with the legislators who have UC Davis within their legislative districts. As a state senator recently said, “In addition to hearing from the CVMA, I need to hear from Don.”

The CVMA is pleased to honor Dr. Klingborg for his lifetime service to California veterinarians, to organized veterinary medicine, to academic veterinary medicine, and to the CVMA.
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
The CVMA’s Highest Honor

Richard L. Schumacher, DVM

A graduate of Iowa State University in 1961, Dr. Schumacher has been helping the animals of California since 1965. That year, he moved to the San Francisco Bay Area from Virginia (where he was in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps and White House veterinarian to President Lyndon B. Johnson) and established a veterinary practice. As a local veterinarian, he was active in the Napa-Solano Veterinary Medical Association, serving as president in 1977, and the California Veterinary Medical Association, serving for two terms on the Board of Governors and as the CVMA president in 1988. Dr. Schumacher’s involvement with the CVMA became a full-time job in 1991, when he took over as the association’s executive director.

Dr. Schumacher’s influence is still felt at the CVMA, eight years after his retirement as executive director. Under his 13 years of leadership, the CVMA achieved financial security, increased membership, strengthened its legislative position, built an excellent reputation throughout the state and achieved national prominence. Dr. Schumacher also formed coalitions with animal welfare groups, shelters, and government organizations. In 1991, he was instrumental in creating the California Coalition of Companion Animal Advocates, a result of the first Pet Overpopulation Symposium. It proved that these disparate groups could work together toward a common goal. The legacies of this effort include today’s Animal Care Conference and a legislative coalition that continues to this day. His many accomplishments include creating the CVMA’s regulatory manual for membership, finding a new building for the CVMA, working to build CVMA.net, helping form the Don Low/CVMA Practitioner Fellowship, managing a feral cat and low income spay/neuter program, and molding the CVMA’s insurance program (he continues to do that as a board member of Veterinary Insurance Services Company).

In 2006 Dr. Schumacher was honored with the CVMA’s Distinguished Life Membership Award. Although retired, he continues to donate time to the CVMA as a member of the CVMA Legislative Committee, as chair of the Physical Therapy Task Force, and as an area disaster coordinator. His receipt of the CVMA Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes the great work he has done to better the veterinary profession in California.

The CVMA is pleased to honor Dr. Schumacher for his lifetime service to California veterinarians, to organized veterinary medicine, to academic veterinary medicine, and to the CVMA.

CALIFORNIA ANIMAL HALL OF FAME

The CVMA’s California Animal Hall of Fame, created in 1990, celebrates the companion and working animals of California and the veterinarians who care for them. The winning animal’s care provider is recognized at the Pacific Veterinary Conference as well.

2012 Inductee:
Jessie, Labrador Retriever – Search and Rescue K9

Owner:
Mike Taul,
Novato Fire Dept., Novato, CA

Nominating Organization:
Marin Humane Society, Novato, CA

Jessie, a Labrador retriever, is a Marin County Urban Search and Rescue K9. Novato Fire Engineer Mike Taul’s black lab is one of only about 200 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) certified search and rescue canines in the entire country. Jessie responds to search and rescue calls not only in Marin, but across the United States. He was on the scene during the aftermath of Hurricanes Rita, Gustav and Ike. The training regimen required to keep Jessie in a state of operational readiness is very demanding. The dog and his canine handler regularly train in hazardous environments meant to mimic disaster scenes. They are on call 24/7 with many days, sometimes weeks, away on deployment living under very stressful conditions. Jessie is trained to find survivors. Search and rescue dogs like Jessie can make the difference between life and death for disaster victims.
Nicole Montroy

Alley Cat Guardians (ACG), a non-profit organization in Modesto that promotes the humane control of feral cats through trap/neuter/return, also works to place tame cats and kittens into adoptive homes. ACG works closely with local veterinary professionals to provide low-cost spay/neuter services. As the CEO of ACG for six years (she recently resigned from that position), Ms. Montroy oversaw day-to-day operations, adoptions, fundraising and promotion (including the Furball Soiree), trap-neuter-release assistance, transportation and distribution of food donations for feral colonies, and colony caretakers. She led the drive to create ACG’s own veterinary facility by organizing and motivating volunteers, setting up and designing the layout of the facility, and even rolling up her sleeves to spackle drywall and install ceiling tiles. Ms. Montroy’s dedication to ACG demonstrated a level of commitment far beyond the regular duties of a clinic director. She worked hard for her community and her group is having an impact on the free-roaming cat population in Stanislaus County.

OUTSTANDING RVT OF THE YEAR IN NON-PRIVATE PRACTICE

Ms. Linda Markland, RVT

Ms. Markland is the Senior Veterinary Education Specialist for Veterinary Pet Insurance Company (VPI). In 1995, she created the department at VPI that educates and services veterinarians and their teams on pet insurance and the role of technicians in the success of the practice. Prior to working at VPI, Ms. Markland was an RVT, surgical nurse, and business manager for a veterinary practice in Orange County, and taught at a veterinary technician college. Ms. Markland also participates in many CVMA activities and programs. She chairs the RVT Committee and is the RVT Committee representative to the Board of Governors, and serves on the Allied Industry Committee. Ms. Markland is also chair of the practice management track for the Pacific Veterinary Conference, developing an entire program of technicians presenting to technicians. In a nutshell, Ms. Markland believes in giving back to the profession. “Being a member of an organization is good, but being involved is even better,” she says.

MERITORIOUS SERVICE

Jon Peek, DVM

Dr. Peek has been a CVMA member since 1966, when he graduated from UC Davis. He was CVMA president in 2001-02 and a CVMA board member for six years. Dr. Peek was also chair of the CVMA House of Delegates and has served on 20 CVMA committees or task forces, including the Agriculture Committee, Disaster Preparedness Committee, Finance Committee, Legislative Committee, RVT Committee, and Ways and Means Committee. He also has served on the board of the California Veterinary Medical Foundation. Most recently, he chaired the task force that developed the CVMA Certified Veterinary Assistant program for veterinary assistants, including reviewing the training videos and writing many of the exam questions. Now retired, he owned a small animal hospital in Grass Valley for many years, and previously worked as an equine veterinarian and in a mixed animal practice. Dr. Peek is originally from Claremont.

Nominate A Colleague for a 2013 CVMA Award

It is the CVMA’s honor and pleasure to recognize significant contributions to the veterinary profession! The announcement of the award recipients is the highlight of the Pacific Veterinary Conference. We invite all readers to take a moment and ask, “Who has stood out in the crowd? Who has made a difference?” Then, send your nomination packet to the CVMA by the deadline of December 31, 2012. In June 2013 you can join your colleagues in Long Beach in applauding the recipients of these prestigious awards!

Go to www.CVMA.net for descriptions of the following awards and the criteria for submitting nominations:

- Lifetime Achievement Award
- Distinguished Life Membership
- Dan Evans Memorial Award
- California Animal Hall of Fame
- Outstanding RVT of the Year in Private Practice
- Outstanding RVT of the Year in Non-Private Practice
- RVT’s Outstanding DVM of the Year
- Meritorious Service Award
- Outstanding Service Award