

# California Veterinary Medical Association Membership Snapshot

## A Guide for the CVMA Member



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2016-2017

# Table of Contents

## **BENEFITS OF CVMA MEMBERSHIP**

Continuing Education at Member Rates  
Information & Resources  
Veterinary Safety & Compliance  
Regulatory Compliance  
Legislative Information  
Protection of Your License  
Insurance Services through VISC  
Legal Services  
RVT Distance Learning  
CVMA CVA Program  
Access to CVMA Staff  
Your Personal Account Information on CVMA.net  
Listing in Find a Veterinarian  
CVMA Directory  
Classified Ad Discounts  
Mentoring Kit for Classroom Presentations  
Disaster Brochures  
CVMA Economic Survey

## **CVMA MEMBER SERVICES**

Insurance Program

- Veterinary Insurance Services Company (VISC)
  - Professional and Personal Lines
- Delta Dental
- Vision Service Plan (VSP)

Member Benefit Providers

- CareCredit
- CheckmarcUSA
- HireRight, Inc.
- IC Systems
- Infintech Merchant Card Processing
- Staples
- Wilke, Fleury, Hofelt, Gould & Birney, LLP

Other Services

- Car Rental Discounts
- Amusement Park Discounts
- Online Store

## **UPCOMING EVENTS – CONTINUING EDUCATION**

CVMA's Spring Seminar in Yosemite  
California Licensing Curriculum  
CVMA's Fall Seminar  
Pacific Veterinary Conference

## **CVMA PUBLICATIONS**

*California Veterinarian* magazine  
*CVMA Weekly* e-newsletter  
*CVMA At the Capitol* e-newsletter  
*RVT* e-newsletter

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

CVMA Committees  
CVMA House of Delegates  
California Veterinary Medical Reserve Corps (CAVMRC)

## **CVMA OFFICERS / LOCAL CONSTITUENTS**

## **CVMA STAFF**

# Benefits of CVMA Membership

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## Continuing Education

The CVMA offers members discounts on continuing education (CE) with the **Pacific Veterinary Conference**, the **Spring Seminar in Yosemite**, and the **Fall Seminar**. CVMA-sponsored conferences give you the chance to spend time with friends and family, attend great CE, build professional relationships, and discover products and services from allied industry partners. **View Mandatory CE and Recordkeeping information.**

## Information & Resources

Immediate access to critical information through the **CVMA.net** and **InLine Program** websites, the **CVMA Weekly** e-newsletter, *California Veterinarian* magazine, **CVMA At the Capitol** e-newsletter, **RVT** e-newsletter, press releases and action alerts. Use the **Member Resource Directory** to find contact information on California state agencies, federal agencies, and more!

## Veterinary Safety and Compliance

The CVMA InLine Program assists CVMA members with workplace safety, employment issues, and laws and regulations that affect the veterinary profession. **Visit the [cvma-inline.net](http://cvma-inline.net) website** for more information.

## Regulatory Compliance

The offers the **CVMA Guide to Cal/OSHA Compliance**, available online, to help veterinarians reach full regulatory compliance with Cal/OSHA. The subscription-only guide has information on how to produce and implement a safety program and is designed specifically for veterinary facilities in California. The guide includes interactive web pages that allow you to create a customized written safety plan for your facility, downloadable forms to help implement your safety program, and much more.

Additionally, the CVMA also offers these **regulatory products and services**:

- A series of 8¾" x 11¾" laminated plaques that are suitable for hanging in your practice and that meet a number of regulatory requirements.
- An Employee Posting Set, consisting of two laminated posters with required California and Federal postings for practices.
- Postings, template policies, and training resources to assist with Radiation Compliance.
- CVMA Director of Regulatory Affairs is available to offer assistance to veterinarians with regulatory concerns.

## Legislative Monitoring and Advocacy

The CVMA advocates for you at the State Capitol with lobbyists. The CVMA supports and sponsors legislation favorable to the veterinary profession and to animal welfare. Our **Legislative Action Center** at CVMA.net keeps you up to date on current legislation and the corresponding CVMA positions.

## Protection of Your License

The CVMA continuously looks for unlicensed veterinary activity in all areas of practice including dentistry, chiropractic and legend drug sales. When we identify individuals who are illegally practicing

veterinary medicine, we educate them and refer them to the Practice Act and we also notify the California Veterinary Medical Board.

## Legal Services

The CVMA Legal Services program offers CVMA member veterinarians up to one-half hour of telephone and research work per month with the law firm of **Wilke, Fleury, Hoffelt, Gould & Birney, LLP** at no cost. Generously sponsored by the Veterinary Insurance Services Company (VISC).

## Veterinary Insurance Services Company (VISC)

The California veterinary profession has unique needs and risks. As a veterinarian, technician, office manager, or staff person with professional and personal insurance needs, you may be renewing an existing policy or starting a new one. **VISC** provides the best fit for veterinary businesses and for personal insurance. The specialist brokers, the CVMA's member-owner broker, at VISC have decades of experience in veterinary medicine. Call 888.762.3143 for information.

## RVT Distance Learning Program Discounts

The CVMA has negotiated with two RVT distance learning programs for substantial discounts for employees of CVMA members. In addition to a traditional school or the alternate route, this offers veterinary technicians another way to become an RVT. The two programs are: Penn Foster College and the Distance Education Veterinary Technology Program (DEVTP) of the American Animal Hospital Association and Cedar Valley College.

- **DEVTP Information**
- **Penn Foster Information**
- **Penn Foster Brochure**

## CVMA Certified Veterinary Assistant Program

Veterinary assistants now have the opportunity to advance their knowledge and learn the skills needed to increase their value as a member of the veterinary practice team through this **CVMA-endorsed program**.

## Access to CVMA Staff

The CVMA staff is always available to help CVMA members in any way. We can answer your questions on regulatory, membership, legislative, continuing education, public relations, marketing and other issues concerning the veterinary profession. Please feel free to call or **email** with any questions, comments, or ideas.

## The "My Account" Information on CVMA.net

You can access the CVMA Directory and Find a Veterinarian database, view your member information and your CVMA Guide to Cal/OSHA Compliance subscription, and much more. The My Personal Information section allows you to change your password and update your information, gives you access to your continuing education records, recent purchases log, order history, and lists your current and past CVMA committee participation and associations for reference. You may also pay your dues online as well as make contributions to the Political Action Committee (PAC) and the California Veterinary Medical Foundation (CVMF).

## Listing in Find a Veterinarian

The **Find a Veterinarian** link on the CVMA website lets potential clients locate you personally when searching for a veterinarian. The directory listing includes CVMA members' practice names, addresses, phone numbers, and types of practice. Keep that information up to date with the CVMA and new clients will easily find you!

## CVMA Directory

Network with colleagues and specialists through our online **CVMA Directory** – a searchable listing of all veterinarians and CVMA member RVTs in California. Though all veterinarians are listed, this is available only to CVMA members.

## Classified Ads Discount

The CVMA offers **classified advertising** on the website and in the *California Veterinarian* magazine. CVMA members get a discount of up to 25% for classified ads regarding positions offered, practices for sale/lease/buy, and equipment sales miscellaneous. Veterinary professionals can also post their resumes.

## Mentoring Kit

Veterinarians and RVTs can take advantage of a **speaker's kit** that the CVMA has prepared, for use on occasions such as classroom presentations. There are two PowerPoint presentations, one for elementary school students and the other for middle and high school students; both presentations are on one CD. Also included are a suggested script, suggested visual aids, and information on additional resources. Kits can be ordered at CVMA.net or call 800.655.2862.

## Disaster Brochures

Offer your clients essential information on animal care during a disaster. The California Veterinary Medical Association and the California Department of Food and Agriculture developed disaster brochures in order to provide all animal owners in the state with basic information on how to plan in advance for animal care during and after a disaster.

The brochures include information on how to prepare a disaster kit for animals and a fill-in-the-blank emergency contact panel for the client to fill out. Through public awareness we hope to reduce animal suffering during a disaster.

- **Disaster Brochure Order Form** (brochures are grouped in bundles of 100)

## CVMA Economic Survey

The CVMA conducts a confidential survey to gather data on the economic and employment conditions affecting the current and future practice of veterinary medicine in California.

# CVMA Member Services

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## INSURANCE PROGRAM



The California veterinary profession has unique needs and risks. As a veterinarian, technician, office manager, or staff person, with professional and personal insurance needs, you may be renewing an existing policy or starting a new one. **Veterinary Insurance Services Company (VISC)** is the CVMA's member-owned brokerage company. It provides the best fit for veterinary businesses and for personal insurance. The specialist brokers at VISC have decades of experience in veterinary medicine. Visit [www.visc-ins.com](http://www.visc-ins.com) or call 888.762.3143 for more information.



You may participate in the **Delta Dental** insurance program, designed to cover your personal and staff needs. This plan benefits the hospital owner, their families, and full-time employees with a tax-free employment benefit. Contact **Capitol Association Plans** for information at 916.944.1707.



Affordable, high-quality eye care plans are available with **Vision Service Plan**. Call **Capitol Association Plans** for more information at 916-944-1707.

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## BUSINESS SERVICES



**CareCredit** offers a pet healthcare monthly payment plan to assist members by expanding treatment acceptance. [www.carecredit.com/practices/veterinary](http://www.carecredit.com/practices/veterinary), 800.300.3046, ext. 4519.

## Law Firm of Wilke, Fleury, Hoffelt, Gould & Birney, LLP

The CVMA Legal Services program offers free consultations to assist member veterinarians in areas of the law related to veterinary practice through the law firm of Wilke, Fleury, Hoffelt, Gould & Birney, LLP. Visit [cvma.net](http://cvma.net) for more information.



HireRight, Inc. offers background checks for veterinary practices at discounted rates. [www.hireright.com/cvma/](http://www.hireright.com/cvma/)



### Merchant Card processing

**Infintech** offers CVMA members the most competitive rates. Contact Will Watson at (979) 345-2988 or [will.watson@infintechllc.com](mailto:will.watson@infintechllc.com) for information.



**CheckmarcUSA** provides free check recovery services to CVMA members. You receive 100% of the face amount of any dishonored check that is recovered.



As a member you are eligible to save on all your office supply purchases. To get started, **register** for online ordering with Staples Advantage or contact Natasha Knox at 800.898.2420; [natasha.knox@staples.com](mailto:natasha.knox@staples.com).



**I.C. System, Inc.** provides CVMA members with an effective and economical method for improving cash flow and **collecting overdue monies**. I.C. System has collected over \$3 million for CVMA members. For further information, contact I. C. System at 800-279-3511.

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## OTHER SERVICES

### Car Rental Discounts

- **Hertz** - 800.654.2210; [www.hertz.com](http://www.hertz.com) (Use CDP #261497)
- **Alamo** - 800.354.2322; [www.alamo.com](http://www.alamo.com) (Assoc. ID #706768)
- **Avis** - 800.831.8000; [www.avis.com](http://www.avis.com) (AWD #A750700)
- **National** - 800.328.8017; [www.nationalcar.com](http://www.nationalcar.com) (ID #5435683)



## Amusement Park Discounts

- **Legoland** add tickets to your cart and then enter your savings code 295-DEALS.
- **SeaWorld**
- **Gilroy Gardens**
  - Username: CA VET
  - Password: 2016fun
- **Great America** (username and password case sensitive)
  - Username: cga-cvma
  - Password: CaGA95054

## CVMA Online Store

Visit the CVMA's **online store** to take advantage of member pricing.

# CVMA Upcoming Events - CE's

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## CVMA'S PACIFIC VETERINARY CONFERENCE

**June 29-July 2, 2017 – Long Beach**

The 2017 Pacific Veterinary Conference in Long Beach will incorporate fourteen learning tracks of CE sessions and wet labs led by highly respected, top-notch speakers. This four-day conference gives you the chance to take dynamic CE, network with veterinary professionals, and learn about the hottest trends in veterinary medicine with our day-two Vet Expo. After your sessions, spend time with family and friends exploring beautiful beaches, local attractions, eating amazing cuisine, and shopping at funky boutiques. All CE sessions and the Vet Expo will be located at the Long Beach Convention Center.



**For more information visit, [www.pacvet.net](http://www.pacvet.net)**



## CVMA'S FALL SEMINAR IN LAKE TAHOE

**October 13-15, 2017 – The Ritz-Carlton**

The CVMA is excited to offer our fall seminar in the beautiful Lake Tahoe region. This seminar combines three one-half day sessions with afternoons free to have fun with your family, friends, and colleagues. Veterinarians can earn 12 CE units, RVTs and CVMA CVAs can earn 8. Join us for learning, networking, and relaxation! **For more information, visit [cvma.net](http://cvma.net).**

# CVMA Publications



## California Veterinarian

*California Veterinarian (CV)* is published six times a year. The readership is CVMA members and non-members licensed California veterinarians. This makes the circulation over 12,000, the largest circulation of any state veterinary publication.

The *CV* reflects the nature of the profession, needs of the readers, and industry and association news. The publication contains Features and Departments. Features consist of timely news affecting the veterinary profession, continuing education articles, pertinent messages, membership benefits, and general interest articles. Departments consist of timely practice tips, RVT news, veterinary school news, law & ethics columns, members in the spotlight, membership news, and classified ads. Display ads are distributed throughout the publication. An annual index appears in the November/December issue.

## CVMA Weekly

The CVMA is excited to present a member's only e-newsletter – the *CVMA Weekly*! This informative new publication from the CVMA will be delivered directly to your inbox every Wednesday featuring the latest news for veterinary professionals in the state, as well as important CVMA updates.



## CVMA at the Capitol

In order to keep CVMA members better aware of current state legislation that may affect the veterinary profession and animals in California, the CVMA provides the *CVMA at the Capitol* e-newsletter. *CVMA at the Capitol* provides updates on the status of bills the CVMA is following each year and details the CVMA's positions on each bill. This newsletter is produced to keep members informed on the CVMA's advocacy efforts on current legislation on their behalf.



# Volunteer Opportunities

## CVMA Committees/Task Forces

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**Agriculture Committee:** Explores and suggests solutions on food animal-related issues.

**Allied Industry Committee:** Nurture the relationships between the CVMA and its allied industry partners.

**Animal Welfare Committee:** Addresses animal welfare issues.

**AVMA Advisory Committee:** Seeks individuals from California to serve in AVMA positions. Develops suggested policy that can be passed along to the Board of Governors as needed on issues of importance at the AVMA.

**CVMA Certified Veterinary Assistant Committee:** The responsibility of this committee is to oversee the CVMA CVA credentialing program with the purpose of increasing the number of RVTs.

**CAVMRC Steering Committee:** Assists in overseeing the activities of the California Veterinary Medical Reserve Corps.

**Economic Issues Committee:** Develops and prioritizes economic data and information that would be most important and useful to our members and to new graduates entering the profession.

**Finance Committee:** Reviews and recommends the CVMA annual balanced budget to the Board of Governors for approval. Makes recommendations on financial policies or procedures to the treasurer and/or Board (for policy matters) for implementation.

**Legislative Committee:** Reviews and recommends positions on all legislative activity of the CVMA.

**Premises Task Force:** The responsibility of this task force is to review Article 3, Section 4853, Registration of place of practice premise permits of the Business and Professions Code and all other relevant sections of statute and regulation in order to make recommendations to the Veterinary Medical Board regarding setting minimum standards and licensing premises for all practice types.

**Registered Veterinary Technician Committee:** Promotes career enhancement and furthers the development of the delivery of veterinary care. Makes recommendations of membership services. Promotes RVT certification. Recommends RVT awards to the Board of Governors.

**Ways & Means/Presidents Council Committee:** Reviews the Constitution and Bylaws and recommends to the Board of Governors any changes deemed beneficial to the association. In addition, it shall review the CVMA Policy Manual as needed.

*For more information, contact us at 800.655.2862 or email [staff@cvma.net](mailto:staff@cvma.net).*

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## Represent Your Local VMA in the CVMA House of Delegates

Attend your local VMA meeting and volunteer to be a representative in the House of Delegates. The House is an advisory body to the CVMA Board of Governors on matters of local and regional interest and on matters of policy affecting the practice of veterinary medicine and its branches. The House is, in principle, the voice of the constituent associations. They meet twice a year – in January and at the Pacific Veterinary Conference in June/July. For more information, contact Marie at 800.655.2862 or email [mheinz@cvma.net](mailto:mheinz@cvma.net).

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## Volunteer for the California Veterinary Medical Reserve Corps

Veterinary professionals have unique skills which are needed when disasters strike in California. If you would like to help your community during a disaster, volunteer for the **California Veterinary Medical Reserve Corps** (CAVMRC). The CAVMRC provides veterinary professionals with the training and credentialing necessary to support animal health and public health emergency response. Anyone on the veterinary practice team can participate – veterinarians, veterinary technicians, veterinary assistants, office managers and all support staff members, students in veterinary medical programs, and retired veterinary professionals with a current license. Email questions to Dr. Grant Miller at [gmillers@cvma.net](mailto:gmillers@cvma.net).

# CVMA Officers / Local Constituents

## CVMA OFFICERS – 2016-2017

**CVMA President**  
Ken Pawlowski, DVM

**CVMA President- Elect**  
Kevin Lazarcheff, DVM

**CVMA Treasurer**  
George W. Bishop, DVM

Please click on the name of your local VMA for more information

**Alameda County VMA** (Alameda County)

**Antelope Valley VMA** (Cities of Lancaster, Palmdale and Ridgecrest) Cities of Acton, Agua Dulce, Edwards, Lake Hughes, Lake LA, Lancaster, Leona Valley, Littlerock, Newhall, Palmdale, Pearblossom, Quartz Hill, Ridgecrest, Rosamond, Santa Clarita, and Tehachapi)

**Central California VMA** (Fresno and Madera Counties)

**Contra Costa County VMA** (Contra Costa County)

**CA Equine VMA**

**CA Food Animal VMA**

**CA Holistic VMA**

**CA Lab Animal VMA**

**Delta VMA**

**Humboldt-Del Norte VMA** (Humboldt and Del Norte Counties)

**Kern County VMA** (Kern County)

**Marin County VMA** (Marin County)

**Mendo-Lake VMA** (Mendocino and Lake Counties)

**Merced-Mariposa VMA** (Merced and Mariposa Counties)

**Mid-Coast VMA** (North Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties)

**Monterey Bay VMA** (Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz Counties)

**Mother Lode VMA** (El Dorado and Placer Counties)

**Napa-Solano VMA** (Napa & Solano Counties)

**North Valley VMA** (Butte, Colusa, Nevada, Plumas, Sutter, and Yuba Counties)

**Northern California VMA** (Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Shasta, Siskiyou, Sierra, Tehama, and Trinity Counties)

**Northern San Joaquin VMA** (Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tuolumne Counties)

**Orange Belt VMA** (Imperial, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties)

**Peninsula VMA** (San Mateo County)

**Redwood Empire VMA** (Sonoma County)

**Sacramento Valley VMA** (Sacramento and Yolo Counties)

**San Diego VMA** (San Diego County)

**San Francisco VMA** (San Francisco County and City of San Francisco)

**Santa Barbara-Ventura VMA** (South Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties)

**Santa Clara Valley VMA** (Santa Clara County)

**CA Shelter VMA**

**Southern California VMA** (Los Angeles and Orange Counties)

**Tulare-Kings County VMA** (Tulare and Kings Counties)

**Western University VMA** (WU Faculty)

# CVMA Staff

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## **Executive Director**

Valerie Fenstermaker – Ext. 32

e-mail address: [vfenstermaker@cvma.net](mailto:vfenstermaker@cvma.net)

Directs CVMA staff in all areas and oversees all functions of the CVMA; liaison to CVMA Executive Committee, Board of Governors and House of Delegates; liaison to AVMA and other state and national organizations.

## **Executive Assistant**

Marie Heinz – Ext. 39

email address: [mheinz@cvma.net](mailto:mheinz@cvma.net)

Assistant to the Executive Director; staff liaison to the CVMA Board of Governors and House of Delegates; CVMA awards coordinator; liaison to the AVMA; staff liaison to the AVMA Advisory, Animal Welfare, and Leadership Development committees.

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## **Conference & Events Department**

### **Director of Conferences & Events**

Della Yee – Ext. 11

e-mail address: [dyee@cvma.net](mailto:dyee@cvma.net)

Meeting planning; Continuing Education seminars; Pacific Veterinary Conference; staff liaison to the Allied Industry Committee and the Pacific Veterinary Conference Program Committee.

### **Meetings & Events Coordinator**

Lily Briggs – Ext. 26

e-mail address: [lbriggs@cvma.net](mailto:lbriggs@cvma.net)

Event coordinator; assists the Director of Conferences & Events.

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## **Finance Department**

### **Director of Finance**

Kathy Van Booven – Ext. 33

e-mail address: [kvanbooven@cvma.net](mailto:kvanbooven@cvma.net)

Responsible for all accounting for the CVMA; CVMA-PAC; building manager; staff liaison to the CVMA Finance Committee.

### **Finance Coordinator**

Sharmelee Browne – Ext. 17

e-mail address: [sbrowne@cvma.net](mailto:sbrowne@cvma.net)

Assists Director of Finance with accounts payable; accounts receivables; dues billings, etc.

### **Accountant**

Bernice Evans – Ext. 22

e-mail address: [bevans@cvma.net](mailto:bevans@cvma.net)

Responsible for all accounting for the California Veterinary Medical Foundation (CVMF) and the Veterinary Insurance Services Company (VISC); assists the Director of Finance.

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## **Legislative Department**

### **Legislative Coordinator**

Lori Gentner – Ext. 15

e-mail address: [lgentner@cvma.net](mailto:lgentner@cvma.net)

Monitors legislative bills; coordinates the Key Member System; staff liaison to the CVMA Agriculture, Political Action and Legislative committees.



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## Marketing/Public Relations Department

### Director of Communications

Kristen Calderon – Ext. 36

e-mail address: [kcalderon@cvma.net](mailto:kcalderon@cvma.net)

Oversees communications over all platforms - digital, magazines, newsletters and marketing materials. Plans and implements communication and membership strategies, policies and procedures in support of the Board's programs and initiatives.

### Design & Marketing Manager

Howard Steffens – Ext. 31

e-mail address: [hsteffens@cvma.net](mailto:hsteffens@cvma.net)

Coordinates marketing and graphic design for all CVMA publications and events.

### Publications Manager

Trisha Consunji – Ext. 16

e-mail address: [tconsunji@cvma.net](mailto:tconsunji@cvma.net)

Coordinator of all aspects of the *California Veterinarian* and *CVMA Weekly*—including editing, authors, and display advertising; writes and edits CVMA marketing pieces; CVMA media contact.

### Communications Coordinator

Jennifer Jacobs – Ext. 12

e-mail address: [jjacobs@cvma.net](mailto:jjacobs@cvma.net)

Manages social media and writes and edits CVMA projects and websites.

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## Membership Department

### Director of Membership & Web Services

Debbie Cary – Ext. 34

e-mail address: [dcary@cvma.net](mailto:dcary@cvma.net)

Management of membership department, computer services and website; staff liaison to the CVMA Ways & Means/Presidents Council committee and the California Veterinary Medical Foundation.

### Membership Coordinator

Laura Phillips – Ext. 20

e-mail address: [lphillips@cvma.net](mailto:lphillips@cvma.net)

Membership database, membership recruitment/retention; Certified Veterinary Assistant Program; classified ads; student programs; staff liaison to the Economic Issues, CVMA CVA and RVT committees.

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## Regulatory / Disaster Preparedness Department

### Director of Regulatory Affairs

Grant Miller, DVM – Ext. 40

e-mail address: [gmiller@cvma.net](mailto:gmilller@cvma.net)

Consultant to membership on regulatory issues, products and services; Internship/Residency program; CAVMRC & CARES program.

Lori Gentner – Ext. 15

e-mail address: [lgentner@cvma.net](mailto:lgentner@cvma.net)

Staff liaison to the CAVMRC Steering Committee.



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## Front Office

### Receptionist

Mary Young – Ext. 10

e-mail address: [myoung@cvma.net](mailto:myoung@cvma.net)

Phones; mail distribution; office supplies; maintenance of office machines; educational library; CE posting; products orders.

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### CVMA Office Contact Information:

Phone: 800.655.2862 or 916.649.0599

Fax: 916.646.9156

Email: [staff@cvma.net](mailto:staff@cvma.net) | Website: [www.cvma.net](http://www.cvma.net)