

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT — SEPTEMBER 2025

Dear Colleagues,

As summer winds down and we move into fall, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the upcoming fire season. Each year, wildfires remind us of the vital role veterinarians can play in disaster preparedness and response. For those of you who may be interested, I encourage you to consider volunteering with the **California Veterinary Medical Reserve Corps (CAVMRC)**. This dedicated group of veterinary professionals helps provide care for animals during emergencies, and participation is both impactful and deeply rewarding.

The CAVMRC is also offering an upcoming virtual low-cost continuing education opportunity on October 26. This is a great way to stay current while supporting the important work of this organization. Details on how to get involved and register for the fall training at this link: https://cavmrc.net/volunteer-for-the-cavmrc

In addition, our partners at the San Francisco Department of Public Health have provided us with an update on the current status of avian influenza (HPAI) and its local implications. This is an evolving situation, and I look forward to passing along their insights to keep our community informed and prepared.

I also want to highlight an exciting event coming up — San Francisco Aid for Animals' 2nd Annual Penthouse Pawty on Friday, November 14. Tickets go on sale September 15. This wonderful organization partners with San Francisco hospitals and veterinarians to provide grants that help Bay Area residents afford life-saving medical care for their animals. It's a fun evening for a great cause, and I hope many of you will join in supporting their mission.

Thank you all for the incredible work you do each day for our patients, clients, and community. I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming meetings and events.

Warmly,
Emily Adamson, DVM
President, San Francisco Veterinary Medical Association







AVIAN FLU UPDATE FROM THE SFDPH

Hello SFVMA Community,

We are reaching out to let you know about a recent local case of feline avian influenza and share additional information on how to access H5N1 testing.

On July 17, 2025, the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH) received notification of a domestic indoor cat in San Francisco that tested positive for influenza A, the first known local case. This cat experienced respiratory and neurological symptoms and ultimately was euthanized. Subsequent testing confirmed that this cat was positive for Influenza A (H5N1), feline avian influenza. The cat consumed commercial raw pet food prior to illness onset; however, investigation for the source of infection is ongoing. We have identified no further transmission between this cat and other exposed animals or humans. The health risk to the general public remains low.

Influenza A in cats is a <u>reportable disease per Title 17</u> and can lead to severe respiratory and neurologic illness, and death. Veterinarians should report any suspect cases and test cats that meet the following clinical and epidemiological criteria:

CLINICAL SIGNS

- Acute onset respiratory illness (e.g., dyspnea, tachypnea, oculonasal discharge, thoracic radiographic findings consistent with pneumonia)
- Neurologic illness (acute and rapidly progressive encephalopathy, ataxia, paralysis, seizures, blindness/chorioretinitis)
- Lethargy, loss of appetite, and fever (especially with neutropenia/leukopenia, thrombocytopenia, and/or hepatopathy)

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL HISTORY

A history of one of the following within the 2 weeks preceding onset of the present illness:

- Consumption of raw milk, raw meat/egg, or raw pet food
- Hunting and/or consumption of wild birds or poultry
- Close proximity to or direct contact with dairy farms or poultry farms with H5 detection
- Lives in the same household or have frequent contact with a cat presumptive or confirmed H5 infection

AVIAN FLU UPDATE FROM THE SFDPH (cont.)

If you suspect Influenza A in a cat, please contact our Communicable Disease Branch at (628) 217-6100 for additional guidance and specimen submission instructions. Testing can be arranged through our Public Health Lab (PHL). The test request form is attached.

For additional information, please see <u>CDPH's guidance and testing protocol</u>. Feel free to reach out at any time if you have questions.

Thank you,

SFDPH Communicable Disease Program (628) 217-6100 cdcontrol@sfdph.org

Farrell Tobolowsky, DO, MS

Medical Director, Communicable Disease Program
Deputy Director, Communicable Disease Branch
Population Health Division, San Francisco Department of Public Health
Farrell.tobolowsky@sfdph.org

Communicable Disease Control Main Line: (628) 217-6100

Work Phone: **(628) 217-6342** Work Cell: **(415) 734-7319**

FELINE INFLUENZA TEST REQUEST FORM (Fillable PDF):

https://www.sfvma.net/Feline_Influenza_Test_Request_Form.pdf



UPCOMING IN-PERSON CE MEETING

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2025

"CANINE PROTEIN LOSING ENTEROPATHIES: Tips and Tricks for Effective Management"



PRESENTED BY

SAGE Veterinary Centers

Navneet Saini DVM, DACVIM (SAIM)

Veterinary School: UC Davis, School of Veterinary Medicine

Internship Training: Cornell University (Rotating Internship), VCA ASEC (Specialty Internship in Internal Medicine)

Residency Training: University of Minnesota, College of Veterinary Medicine

Certification: Diplomate ACVIM (SAIM) (2024)

Dr. Navneet Saini is a Bay Area native and a second-generation veterinarian. She grew up thinking that her dad had the coolest job and decided that she wanted to follow in his footsteps and pursue a career in veterinary medicine. She attended UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine and acquired her DVM in 2019. Following graduation, Dr. Saini completed two rigorous internships at Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine and VCA Animal Specialty and Emergency Center (ASEC). These experiences inspired her to pursue a career in internal medicine where she could help pet parents navigate complex case workups and support them throughout chronic disease care. She completed a residency in small animal internal medicine at the University of Minnesota, College of Veterinary Medicine in 2024 and became board-certified later that year.

Her personal philosophy is that the pet parent is a vital member of the healthcare team, and she enjoys empowering clients to take charge of their pet's care. Her interests include endocrinopathies (hormonal disorders like diabetes mellitus), kidney disease, and infectious diseases. She also has received specialized training in minimally invasive removal of uroliths (bladder stones).

Outside of work, Dr. Saini enjoys spending time with family and friends, cooking and eating delicious food, international travel, and cuddling her calico cat, Mimi, and miniature dachshund, Kiki.

(Agenda, Menu and RSVP info on page 6)

UPCOMING IN-PERSON CE MEETING (cont.)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2025

Please RSVP with your Meal Choice via the SFVMA website by FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12! www.sfvma.net/rsvp

AGENDA

6:15 – 7:00 pm Check-in and Hors d'oeuvres

7:00 – 7:30 pm SFVMA Announcements /

Updates / Dinner Starts

7:30 – 8:30 pm **CE Lecture**

2025 MEETING SCHEDULE

March 20 • **June 19**

September 18 • November 20

DINNER MENU

HOR D'OEUVRES

- Roasted Tomato, Kalamata Olives, Parmesan & Arugula Flatbread (V)
- Bacon Wrapped Scallops
- Dungeness Crab Cakes with basil aioli

FIRST — (choose one)

- Lobster Bisque
- Baby Blue Gem Salad gorgonzola, heirloom tomatoes, pickled onion, creamy blue cheese dressing
- Vegan Baby Gem Salad (V)

COFFEE AND TEA AVAILABLE CASH BAR WILL BE AVAILABLE

MAIN COURSE — (choose one)

- Grilled Colossal Prawns —
 roasted fingerling potatoes, seasonal vegetables,
 shishito peppers, pickled cucumber
- 8 oz Zabuton Steak mashed potatoes, grilled asparagus, port wine demi-glace
- Roasted Beet Sirloin (Plant Based) wild mushrooms, farmer's market vegetables, thunder sauce, barley furikake dust (V)

DESSERT — (choose one)

- Assorted Fruit Sorbets passion fruit sauce (V)
- Flourless Chocolate Lava Cake raspberry cabernet sauce, fresh berries (GF)
- New York Style Cheesecake seasonal fruit topping

Remember: The Association pays for uneaten meals. If you have RSVP'd and will not be able to make it, we need you to send in your cancellation **no later than Monday, September 15.**

(Topic and Speaker info on page 5)

MEETING SPONSOR



24/7 ER and Specialty

Anesthesiology

Cardiology

Critical Care

Dentistry

Emergency

End of Life Care Internal Medicine

Integrative Medicine

Neurology

Oncology

Onsite MRI

Ophthalmology

Physical Rehabilitation

Radiology

Radioactive Iodine Therapy

Surgery

Urgent Care



Scan to learn more about our specialties

SAGE San Francisco I 600 Alabama St. I SAGE Redwood City I 934 Charter St. I SAGEcenters.com

SPONSOR A FUTURE MEETING

In order to continue to support our charitable and scholarship funds, and generally maintain the organization (with keeping dues payments reasonable), the Board will continue to seek sponsorships that help to cover the costs of our programs.

If you are interested in sponsoring a future meeting, please contact **Emily Adamson**:

sfvmapresident@gmail.com



CHARITABLE DONATIONS

The SFVMA Board will consider charitable grants to organizations that support the care and welfare of animals in our community and promote the veterinary profession.

Please contact

Karen Truong

for details on

requests for donations:

sfvmatreasurer@gmail.com



LATEST NEWS FROM SFAfA — FALL 2025



SFAFA SAN FRANCISCO AID for ANIMALS

SAVE THE DATE: SECOND ANNUAL PENTHOUSE PAWTY AT THE SALESFORCE TOWER

We are delighted to announce that we are partnering with Salesforce again this year to hold our second annual **Penthouse Pawty** fundraiser. Salesforce has generously allowed us to host our event on the top floor of the Salesforce Tower on the evening of **Friday, November 14th**. It will be an evening of old and new friends, delicious food and drinks, amazing views and some surprises.

If you want to support SFAfA or are just curious about what it is like at the top of the tallest building in San Francisco, mark the date on your calendar. Ticket sales will begin in September and will be limited. Due to Salesforce's security requirements, tickets will not be able to be purchased within 72 hours of the event.

Please watch for details. We will be updating the event page of our website https://www.sfafa.org and sending out lots of announcements as the planning progresses. We hope to see you there!

Sponsorship and Silent Auction

If your you or your hospital are interested in helping to sponsor the Penthouse Pawty or would like to donate to our silent auction, please reach out to us at info@sfafa.org. The more community support we receive, the more funds we will be able to raise and in turn will be able to help you and your hospital help more clients in need.

OUR NEW FISCAL YEAR HAS BEGUN

Our new fiscal year started July 1st and is in full swing. We are delighted that so many participating hospitals are already using their funds to help families in need. If you did not receive your announcement at the beginning of July or have any questions about accessing your funds, please feel free to reach out anytime.

(continued next page...)

LATEST NEWS FROM SFAfA — FALL 2025 (cont.)

MORE TRAINING FOR OUR MEMBER HOSPITALS

One of our goals this year is to make sure that everyone in our program has more access to all of the information that they may need to utilize their funds. We have started hosting live **Virtual Training Webinars**. The webinars will teach you about the SFAfA Grant Program and give you the tools that you need to access any information that you might need to navigate our program successfully. If you are new to SFAfA or just want a refresher, you are welcome to join us. If you are interested and not able to attend one of our scheduled webinars, please let us know.

Over the next few months, we will be distributing an **SFAfA Toolbox** to all of our member hospitals. This toolbox will include information about the program, quick-access guides to using your funds for your doctors and staff, marketing materials for you and your clients and information about the different ways that you can partner with SFAfA.

INGRID TAUBER FUND FOR ANIMALS

Our Tauber Fund is available for any of your higher-cost cases. If your client needs extra help, always check the For Providers page on our website to see if Tauber funds are available. Currently, the fund is well-funded. Please remember the per case maximum is \$4,000, and maximum hospital usage is \$10,000 per year.

Thank you from all of us at San Francisco Aid for Animals!!!!



LATEST NEWS FROM SFAfA — FALL 2025 (cont.)

Join us for our biggest fundraiser event this year!

> 360° SF Skyline Views at Salesforce Tower, Top Floor

Food, drinks, silent auction items, and more

All volunteer-run non-profit benefiting your local Bay Area animals



For more details visit:

https://www.sfafa.org/eventdetails/sfafa-penthouse-pawty-event

SFAfA is a fiscally sponsored project of Inquiring Systems, Inc, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. EIN 94-2524840



SAN FRANCISCO AID FOR ANIMALS



Save the Date! SFAfA's 2nd ANNUAL **PENTHOUSE PAWTY**

Friday, November 14, 2025 6-8pm 415 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA

WWW.SFAFA.ORG 👺 INFO@SFAFA.COM 👺



@SFAFAORG

SUBMITTING REQUESTS TO SFAFA

HAVE A FAMILY WHO CAN'T AFFORD THE CARE FOR THEIR PRECIOUS ANIMAL?

San Francisco Aid for Animals Can Help You Save a Life

SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR FUNDING



Go to www.sfafa.org



Select 'For Providers' and 'Funding Request Forms' (Password: sfafa)



Complete the GIA or Tauber form online



Scan and email invoices showing in-kind donation to requests@sfaidforanimals.org



SFAfA reviews and confirms application and then has a check issued



Hospital receives grant from Community Initiatives and receipt for donated services

SFAfA Grant Examples

General Guidelines

(GIA and Tauber Funds are available for any case, please use all of your funds)

- 1 The pet must have an urgent need for medical care.
- The case has a good prognosis.
- If it's a long term problem, the clinic must be able to provide ongoing care.
- Your client must have exhausted all other financial options.
- Your hospital will provide a matching or greater discount/donation of in-kind services
- Your client must reside in, or have significant connection to, the San Francisco Bay Area.

Condition Examples

(List is not all inclusive. Please reach out to us with any questions!)

- Infectious diseases (Parvo virus, feline panleukopenia, influenza, anaplasmosis...
- Hepatitis / Liver Disease
- Gastro-enteritis, hemorrhagic gastro-enteritis, inflammatory bowel disease
- Acute Pancreatitis
- Respiratory disease
- Abcesses
- Blood transfusions if good prognosis
- Immune mediated thromocytopenia

- Corneal ulcers
- Skin conditions (Demodex, scabies,...)
- Toxin exposure
- Initial workup for any condition with good prognosis
- · Cushings Disease
- Feline urinary obstruction
- Fractured bones
- Trauma cases (hit by car, fire...)

- Amputations
- Skin tumors
- Wound repair
- Skin grafts
- Severe dental disease
- Enterotomy
- Cruciate ligament repair, TPLO, Back Surgery
- Lens luxations
- Pyometra

SFVMA SCHOLARSHIPS

Veterinary Students

We will offer a scholarship to one UC Davis veterinary student and one Western Veterinary student in 2025. Applications are typically accepted between **October and December annually** as determined by the college.

REQUIREMENTS

- Must be currently enrolled in the veterinary program at UC Davis or Western University
- Current or former employment with an SFVMA member
- Must be able to prove employment with member

RVT Students

To support and encourage RVTs in San Francisco, the SFVMA has established a scholarship program for students enrolled in an accredited RVT program. We will award \$1,000 to two candidates who are currently or have previously worked in the practice of an SFVMA member, and have a stated desire to return to SF after graduation.

Submissions should include a personal statement from the student, a letter of recommendation from the veterinarian, and proof of enrollment at an accredited RVT program. The deadline for applications is **May 1 annually**.

Questions should be sent to Maggie Li Puma at sfvmavp@gmail.com

CONTACT FOR UC DAVIS VET. STUDENTS



SFVMA CURRENT OFFICERS



PRESIDENT

Emily Adamson, DVM

sfvmapresident@gmail.com



VICE PRESIDENT

Maggie Li Puma,

DVM, DACVO

sfvmavp@gmail.com



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Anne MacFarlane, DVM

sfvmasecretary@gmail.com



CVMA HOUSE OF DELEGATES REPRESENTATIVE

Joe Fong

jfong.cvmahodsf@gmail.com



R CALIFORNIA VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

If you haven't already done so, please consider becoming a CVMA member.

The CVMA defends your right to practice by actively representing the veterinary profession on proposed federal and state legislation and regulations at the legislature and the Veterinary Medical Board.

https://cvma.net/membership/



LETTER FROM ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL

Dear Practice Owners/Managers,

Thank you for being part of the San Francisco animal community and caring for the many pets in our City.

We understand that this is a demanding time for veterinary practices. We are writing to remind you that the San Francisco Health Code requires that all rabies vaccination information for dogs must be reported to the Department of Animal Care and Control within 30 days of administration.

To maintain compliance please submit copies of your rabies information to acc.rabies@ sfgov.org by the 5th of every month. Attached is a sample spreadsheet containing the required information. If your system is unable to produce a report, please provide a pdf version of your rabies certificates. The rabies certificates must contain the following fields:

Owner — Last Name	Animal — Name
Owner — First Name	Animal — Sex
Owner — Email Address	Animal — Breed
Owner — Street Address 1	Animal — Date of Birth
Owner — City Name	Animal — Coat Color
Owner — State or Province Name	Animal — Microchip Number
Owner — Zip/Postal Code	Animal — Date Rabies Given
Owner — Primary Phone	Animal — Rabies Due Date
	Animal — Rabies Serial / Lot #
	Animal — Rabies Manufacturer

Dog licensing is required by law as part of our rabies control program. Licensing also remains an essential tool in returning lost pets to their guardians. It also helps SFACC determine where to focus our outreach and emergency planning efforts.

The city is currently using licenses made by Pet Hub (www.pethub.com) that include a QR code where the basic plan enables anyone who finds a dog to scan the code and obtain owner-supplied information about the pet and its family, speeding reunification. Last fiscal year, SFACC reunited 54% of stray dogs with their owners through our lost and found programs.

Licensing can now be done online at sfanimalcare.org/services/licensing-your-pet

Thank you for your support and cooperation in this important health and safety issue.

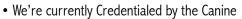
Virginia Donohue

Director, San Francisco Animal Care and Control

CLASSIFIED ADS

REFER TO A WELL ADJUSTED PET FOR PHYSICAL REHABILITATION!





Rehabilitation Institute to serve as an Intern Training Site for Graduating Animal Rehabilitation Students

- We are only 10 minutes south of San Francisco
- We see patients Tuesday-Saturday
- We will keep you up to date on your patients' progress

WE CAN HELP IMPROVE YOUR PATIENTS' QUALITY OF LIFE AND SURGICAL OUTCOME WITH THE FOLLOWING



• Mobility Impairment

- Non-surgical Neuromuscular Conditions
 - Faster Neurosurgical Recovery
- · Conservative Management of Joint Instability and Pain







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- Medical Acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Acupuncture & Herbal Consultation
- And More!



Rehabilitation Veterinarians: Dr Ilana Strubel and Dr. Jennifer Case, both Certified in Canine Physical Rehabilitation and Acupuncture, Dr. Molly Landeen, Certified in Canine Physical Rehabilitation, along with Licensed Acupuncturist, Dr. Ella Woods.



WELL ADJUSTED PET 15.967.3861

ILANA STRUBEL, MA, DVM, CVSMT, CCRT, CVAT WWW.AWELLADJUSTEDPET.COM INFO@AWELLADJUSTEDPET.COM

NEW LOCATION!

100 Eureka Square, Pacifica, CA 94044

CLASSIFIED ADS

24/7 EMERGENCY AND SPECIALTY CARE

San Francisco VMA members!

The unparalleled emergency and specialty care you've come to know and trust for your patients at SAGE Centers across the Bay Area continues to thrive and expand in our historic 600 Alabama Street hospital in the Mission.

We aim to be your referral partner of choice for complex cases, unexpected emergencies, and specialty interventions. Please reach out anytime if we can help you and your patients.

- + Emergency Services 24/7/365
- **Surgery** (soft-tissue, orthopedic, laparoscopic, thoracoscopic)
- Anesthesiology
- + Cardiology (medical and interventional including pacemaker, balloon valvuloplasty, pulmonary artery stenting)
- + Oncology (medical, surgical, clinical trials, electrochemotherapy)
- + Internal Medicine (NEW tracheal stenting)
- + Radiology (ultrasound, CT)
- + Animal Ambulance







SAGE San Francisco | 600 Alabama St. | (415) 566-0540 | SAGECenters.com

CLASSIFIED ADS





We make euthanasia less stressful for your patients, clients, team and you.

... serving Marin, SF and San Mateo Counties

www.AGentleRest.com | 415-729-5435 | agentlerest@gmail.com

ADVERTISE WITH SFVMA

Interested in advertising with the San Francisco Veterinary Medical Association?



For more information,
please contact
Anne MacFarlane at
sfvmasecretary@gmail.com

... or you can use our online form: www.sfvma.net/advertise

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Want to do something that saves lives, feels good and helps your community? Then volunteer to help animals when disasters strike in California!



Thousands of animals need care during and after disasters. Some 63% of California households

have pets, including an estimated 10 million pet cats, nine million dogs, and one million horses. Other pets, farm animals, and wildlife also need assistance during and after disasters like earthquakes, floods, and wildfires.

Veterinary professionals are vital to animals during disasters. The mission of the California Veterinary Medical Reserve Corps (CAVMRC) is to provide veterinary professionals with the training and credentialing necessary to support animal health and public health.

Deployment is always voluntary. Volunteers get involved at whatever level works for them – assistants are needed as well as leaders, part-time responders are as welcome as those who can help out for a week or two, plus there are ongoing roles in areas such as planning and disaster response. Volunteer participation can be a matter of life or death for rescued animals and means the world to the owners of those animals.

BENEFITS OF JOINING THE CAVMRC

The CAVMRC provides veterinary professionals:

- Credentialing necessary to support animal health and public health emergency response.
- Continuing education and training opportunities that allow you to strengthen your skills to better serve your practice, your community and our state.
- Networking and information sharing opportunities with veterinary team members across the state.

WHO CAN JOIN THE CAVMRC?

You don't need any prior disaster response experience or training to join the CAVMRC. The entire veterinary practice team is welcome, including:

- Veterinarians
- Registered veterinary technicians
- Veterinary assistants, office managers and all support staff members
- Students in veterinary medical programs
- Retired veterinary professionals with a current license

PROGRAM AFFILIATION

The CVMA registered the CAVMRC as a unit of the Medical Reserve Corps under the California Emergency Medical Services Agency and works in cooperation with local, statewide, and national agencies. The CVMA has played an important role in preparing for and responding to disasters in California since 1994 and builds on this experience with this new affiliation.

For more information visit the CAVMRC website:

cvma.net/resources/disaster-response-program-2/california-veterinary-medical-reserve-corps-cavmrc/

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Veterinary Street Outreach Services (VET SOS) is recruiting volunteers— DVMs and veterinary assistant/technicians — for its monthly mobile clinics serving the companion animals of homeless San Franciscans. Visit www.vetsos.org for more information, including upcoming clinic dates. Support the human-animal bond in this vulnerable population and work with outstanding volunteers from all over the Bay Area!

Volunteer Vet Techs Needed at PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support)

PAWS mission is to preserve, support and nurture the human-animal bond for those most vulnerable in our community, low-income San Francisco residents who are seniors (over 60 years old) and/or persons living with a disability, with pet food and vet care, among its services.

Volunteer Vet Techs assist one of our licensed Volunteer Veterinarians with exams and nail trims at our Ask The Vet consultations. Our vet exam room is located in the PAWS building in the Mission neighborhood of San Francisco.

Volunteer Vet Techs do not need to be licensed vet techs, but must have a minimum of one year experience working in a veterinary environment, and feel comfortable performing animal restraint and animal handling tasks within a limited clinic environment.

Please contact Program Coordinator, Volunteer Services, Walter Campbell for more information and to apply to volunteer:

wcampbell@shanti.org (415) 830-7026