



FEDERAL VETERINARIAN

VOLUME 73, NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2016

Announcements

ATTENTION!

2016 Active Membership Dues & Associate Subscriptions are now considered past due.

If you still need to make your payment towards your 2016 dues, contact:

Ms. Mariana Barros
at mbarros@nafv.org.

UPCOMING:
Riverdale Chapter Meeting
meeting on
Thurs. March 17th,
in APHIS-Training room 2, from
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM EST

► Inside this issue:

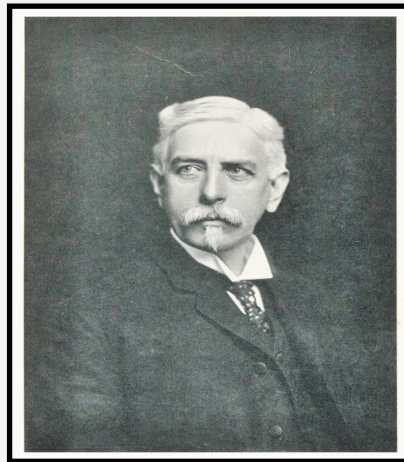
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Call for Nominations: 2016 Dr. Daniel E. Salmon Award



With questions refer to [Salmon Award Description](#)

Nominations for the 2016 Salmon Award are now open!

Due Date: April 1, 2016

To submit a nomination please send:

Nomination Letter

[Nomination Form](#)

Nominations can be submitted to:

Dr. Michael Gilsdorf

nafv@nafv.org

Or

**1910 Sunderland Place NW
Washington, DC 20036**

The Dr. Daniel E Salmon Award is presented annually to recognize outstanding contributions and notable service in the public's interest by a veterinarian federally employed in any human health, environmental health or animal health discipline. This award was established to honor the first director of the United States Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Animal Industry in its centennial year-- 1984. Dr. Daniel E. Salmon was a world renowned veterinary medical scientist who pioneered research in bacterial diseases of animals and in immunology. His efforts led to the development of killed vaccines and to the naming of the bacterial genus Salmonella in his honor. His work contributed immeasurably to improving the public's health and to disease control efforts in general. It is hoped that this award will encourage junior veterinarians to contribute excellence in their performance and to aspire for public service as a lifelong career.

Award Price

One award may be given yearly to worthy nominees. The award consists of a plaque and an honorarium of

\$500.00. This award is supported through the National Association of Federal Veterinarians. The award will be presented at the annual Department of Agriculture Thomas Jefferson Honor Awards Ceremony, usually held in November.

Eligibility Criteria

The nominee must be a veterinarian who is a career employee of the federal government with at least five years of service as of December 31st of the current year. No more than one nomination per 400 (or portion thereof) veterinarians employed may be submitted by an agency within any federal department.

Performance Criteria

The nominee must have demonstrated sustained significant contributions over a period of five years or more in federal programs involving public health, consumer protection, or animal health and welfare while serving in any preventive medicine, regulatory, research or environmental health position.

Information Requested

Please send the signed electronic

(Continued on Pg. 7, "Salmon Award...")

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The annual subscription rate is \$50.00 for United States and Canada and \$70.00 for foreign mailing, payable by January 1 each year. Subscriptions are not available to those eligible for membership.

Any veterinarian employed full time by the federal government may become an active member (non DoD dues \$234.00 annually, payable annually, semiannually, or by federal payroll deductions--eligibility limited solely to USDA veterinarians--of \$9.00 authorized by signing USDA Form AD 1054 (FSIS) or SF 1187 (APHIS) and DoD dues \$150.00 annually). Fifty dollars of the annual dues is for the subscription to the Federal Veterinarian.

Associate membership may be granted to active members when they retire from federal service. Associate members pay no dues. Associate mailed subscriptions are \$25.00 per year.

The National Association of Federal Veterinarians is a non-profit corporation and the purposes for which it is formed are to promote the veterinary profession, to improve the professional efficiency and material interests of the members, to acquaint the public with the activities of veterinarians in the federal service, and to cooperate with the American Veterinary Medical Association, the United States Animal Health Association and other similar groups with common interests.

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EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN**Thoughts on Accomplishments of Federal Veterinarians in the past 98 years****By M. J. Gilsdorf DVM**

As we begin 2016, I am again reminded that NAFV has been supporting federal veterinarians for 98 years. There have been thousands of federal veterinarians who have contributed their talents to the nation and NAFV in that timeframe. NAFV has the names of most all of our members back to 1922 and many of their accomplishments are included in our previous newsletters. We plan to enter those names into a database and put it on the membership section of the NAFV web page as time permits: to honor all those who have served before us. We have had numerous NAFV members who have contributed significantly to animal health, food safety and public health over these years. We will be including articles about their accomplishments in future newsletters. We also welcome and encourage current members to share their stories and accomplishments so we can capture them for future generations.

The following individuals have served NAFV as EVP or Secretary/Treasurers to ensure the NAFV membership goals and objectives were met as directed by the elected Board of Directors:

- Michael James Gilsdorf DVM, MS, BS (July 3, 2007 to the present- 8 years);
- Valerie Ragan DVM (February 13, 2006 to July 2, 2007- 1.5 years);
- Dale Boyle DVM, MPH (January 1, 1997 to February 12, 2006- 9 years);
- Edward Menning, DVM, MPH (October 1, 1980 to December 31, 1996- 16 years);
- R. E Omohundro, DVM (March 1, 1976 To September 30, 1980 - 4 years);

- Clarence H Pals, DVM (January 1, 1965 to February 28, 1976- 11 years);
- F.L Herchenroeder, DVM (December 1, 1959 to December 31, 1964- 5 years);
- L. T. Hopkins, DVM (November 12, 1950 to November 30, 1959- 9 years);
- Earl C. Cannon, DVM (December 1, 1949 to November 11, 1950- 1 year);
- William C Herrold, DVM (May 1 1945, to November 30, 1949- 4 years);
- M. R. Clarkson, DVM (September, 1943 to April 30, 1945- 2 years);
- Fern A. Imler, DVM (January 1, 1932 to September 17, 1943- 11 years);
- J. S. Grove, DVM (July 1, 1924 to December 31, 1931- 7 years);
- L Enos Day, DVM (1918 to December 31, 1923- 5 years).

Federal veterinarians have accomplished much in the last 100 years. We have eradicated 16 major diseases from the United States and significantly improved the lower costs production of animals in the US, improved food safety, improved vaccines and biologicals, and kept the cost of food lower. Here is a list of animal diseases eradicated from the United States and the year it was accomplished.

- 1892 -- Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia
- 1929 -- Foot-and-mouth disease
- 1929 -- Fowl plague
- 1934 -- Glanders
- 1942 -- Dourine
- 1943 -- Texas cattle fever
- 1959 -- Vesicular exanthema

(Continued on Pg. 3, "EVP Column...")

(Continued from Pg. 2, "EVP Column...")

- 1959 & 66 -- Screwworms (southeast & southwest)
- 1971 -- Venezuelan equine encephalitis
- 1973 -- Sheep scabies
- 1974 -- Exotic Newcastle disease
- 1978 -- Hog cholera
- 1985 -- Lethal avian influenza
- 2004 -- Pseudorabies in commercial swine
- 2011 -- Brucellosis in domestic bovine & bison
- 2015 -- Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

During the early 20th century, contaminated food, milk, and water caused many foodborne infections, including typhoid fever, tuberculosis, botulism, and scarlet fever. Trichinellosis was also a major issue in humans and swine. Since the passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act of 1906, the federal veterinarians and inspectors have promulgated regulations and conducted inspections to ensure food is safe and wholesome. Because of our successes in food safety, public health focus has shifted in the second half of the 20th century from disease prevention to control of chronic conditions, such as cardiovascular disease and obesity.

Refrigeration, pasteurization and pesticide residue legislation/inspection set stricter standards to improve food safety. Newly recognized foodborne pathogens have emerged in the United States since the late 1970s; for example, egg-associated *Salmonella* serotype Enteritidis infection, *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 attributed to consumption of undercooked ground beef, and calicivirus from the unwashed hands of an infected food handler to the meal of a consumer. These challenges were met by improving animal husbandry, establishing the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) programs, better animal feeding regulations, the use of uncontaminated water in food processing, more effective food preservatives, improved antimicrobial products for sanitizing food processing equipment and facilities,

and adequate surveillance of food handling and preparation. These methods have contributed greatly to reducing pathogens in the food supply including pathogen eradication campaigns. Federal veterinarians play roles in most of these mitigations.

Improved surveillance, applied research, and outbreak investigations have revealed the mechanisms of contamination that are leading to new control measures for foodborne pathogens. New diagnostic techniques and the rapid exchange of information through use of electronic networks and the Internet are allowing more rapid exchange of information. The genetic DNA fingerprints of specific pathogens are being identified and shared electronically among laboratories, enhancing the ability to detect, investigate, and control geographically distant yet related outbreaks. CDC, the Food and Drug Administration, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), other federal agencies, and private organizations are enhancing food safety by collaborating in education, training, research, technology, and transfer of information and by considering food safety as a whole from farm to table.

With the help of federal veterinarians, food safety agencies are beginning to work on solutions to systemic food safety problems, facilitating outbreak tracebacks, identifying root causes of foodborne illness, and in-plant solutions. A well-publicized risk/benefit framework may help with consumer acceptance of better methods such as irradiation. A better system might also help acceptance of new technologies, like nanotechnology. Nanotechnology is just one of many promising new technologies that may help detect or prevent exposure to foodborne pathogens. The last 100 years have allowed us to progress significantly. I think the next 100 years will see even more advances even though progress seems too slow at times.

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm4840a1.htm>

Animal & Plant Health Inspection Services

On January 4, 2016, the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) issued an updated Federal Order related to swine enteric coronavirus diseases (SECD), effective today.

The updated Order will do several things, including changing how emergency funding APHIS received in 2014 will be used. APHIS has reprioritized its needs going forward and will focus all remaining SECD funds towards diagnostic testing. With this modification, the funds should last long enough to cover diagnostic testing through this winter season.

[READ FULL ANNOUNCEMENT HERE](#)

For Print readers: <http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAAPHIS/bulletins/12e3bea>

2015 Top Recruiter Spotlight: Dr. Michael S. Mikhaiel

Dr. Michael S. Mikhaiel, DVM, MPH
Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA
Current Position: Supervisory Public Health Veterinarian
Current Location: Woodland, WA
Number of Recruits in 2015: 10

By Mariana Barros, NAFV

Dr. Michael Mikhaiel, a 1978 graduate of Assiut University - Asyut, Egypt, joined federal service in 1989 as a Veterinary Medical Officer (VMO) for FSIS at a small plant in California. Today he presides as a Supervisory Public Health Veterinarian (SPHV) overseeing slaughtering and processing operations at a bigger plant in the state of Washington. Dr. Mikhaiel credits his career advancements to his hard work over the past 26 years combined with a constant procurement of training and education, and advice from mentors, both in his immediate work surroundings in FSIS, and from the NAFV.

Dr. Mikhaiel has been an active NAFV member since December, 1989. He is currently serving as an alternate FSIS representative for a fourth consecutive term on the 2015-2017 NAFV Board of Directors, and remains the NAFV Coordinator for the Northwest Region of the US. Recently, I called Dr. Mikhaiel to ask a few questions on the work he has done as a federal veterinarian, and why he has been, and continues to be, such a strong advocate for the NAFV.

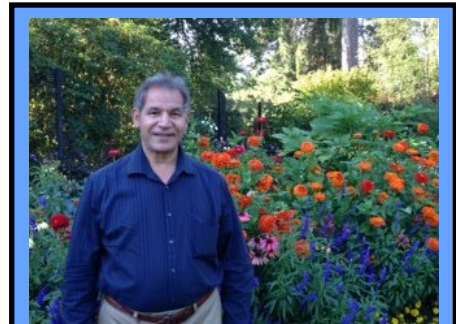
Most of your veterinary colleagues are in private practice. What made you decide to join public practice?

DMM: *There were several factors that I found to be advantageous in going into the public sector rather than private practice. For starters the process of entering into federal work is much easier to navigate through for foreign graduates like myself, than entering private practice. This, plus my desire to work in public health, and the financial security that federal positions provide in benefits like health insurance, paid time off and retirement, which are not guaranteed when opening your own practice, made federal service seem like the right choice for me.*

What are your principal duties?

DMM: *As an SPHV I oversee slaughtering and processing operations including: Humane Handling (H.H) verifications; ante mortem inspection; post*

mortem inspection; disposition on railed out carcasses; Sanitation Standard Operation Procedures (SSOP); Sanitation Operation Procedures (SOP), and Hazards Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) verification; mentoring, training and performance evaluations of inspectors; reviewing plant data and tests results; and communicating with plant management on regulations.



“I think every federal veterinarian should support the only voice who is speaking up on our behalf.”

-Dr. Michael S. Mikhaiel

Dr. Mikhaiel previously served as a Front Line Supervisor in three different locations over the course of 4 years.

What do you like best about your work with the federal government?

DMM: *Aside from having job security, and retirement, I like having the feeling of doing my part in what I believe is our main focus in this field - which is to protect the public, which specifically in our case is the consumer. I think the work federal veterinarians do as a whole to protect public health in disease control and eradication is so important. I've truly enjoyed dedicating my career to protecting public health.*

Why did you decide to become an NAFV member?

DMM: *When I heard of the work that the NAFV was doing on the behalf of federal veterinarians in representing us in front of Congress and Agency leaders, it was clear to me that I should join. I think every*

(Continued on Pg. 5, “Top Recruiter...”)

(Continued from Pg. 4, "Top Recruiter Spotlight...")
 federal veterinarian should support the only voice who is speaking up on our behalf. I became especially passionate about spreading this message after being one of the veterinarians who benefited from NAFV's success in raising the minimum GS level for veterinarians to 11, and gaining true-overtime. From my perspective, acquiring more members and gaining support for the association only makes our voice stronger in addressing the issues and decisions that impact our everyday lives.

particularly difficult situations and/or issues. Having the benefit of the NAFV's counsel has also helped me feel supported and provided guidance in many crucial situations throughout my career.



How have mentors helped you achieve success?

DMM: *I've learned a lot from mentors, and mentoring PHVs. I've learned to call on others as mentors, and colleagues as resources when dealing with par-*

Pictured on the right:
 Dr. Mikhael with his only daughter, **Emily J. Mikhael** on her graduation day from Louis & Clark Law School in Portland, Oregon.

National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

January 14, 2016

CONTACT: Dr. Heather Case, Executive Director, NBVME
mail@nbvme.org

The Collaboration for Veterinary Assessments consisting of the National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (NBVME) periodically surveys practitioners to ensure that the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE®) reflects the knowledge, skills, and competencies needed by entry-level veterinarians. This survey provides veterinarians in practice with the opportunity to help build the foundation for the NAVLE to ensure that it accurately assesses entry-level competencies.

The current National Association of Federal Veterinarians designee to the NBVME is Dr. Gary Gackstetter. Dr. Gackstetter has been an instrumental leader on the NBVME Board of Directors serving on a number of working groups and committees and as Chair (2013-2014) and Immediate Past Chair, (2014-2015). He is currently the Co-Principal Investigator with Dr. Mark Raymond of the NBME, planning the Veterinary Practice Analysis.

(Editor's Note: The NBVME Practice Analysis Survey does not address veterinary public practice specialties. However, if you receive a request for a response, please respond and make clear that public practice veterinary medicine needs to be specifically addressed in future surveys.)

Call for NAFV Board of Directors Nominations

This is an election year for NAFV Executive Officers and Board of Directors- which includes President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, FSIS Board Directors (3), APHIS Board Directors (2), and one Board Director who represents all other federal agencies.

There are two ways members can be nominated for NAFV officer positions:

1. **Request**- contact the NAFV office and submit your name be considered by the nominating committee and the position you wish to fill.*

* If candidates for positions have not been submitted by petition or volunteered, the nominating committee may also be contacting members to determine if they are interested in being nominated.

2. **Petition**- a member may be nominated for president-elect or secretary-treasurer by petition of at least twenty (20) active members submitted by July 1, 2016; being nominated by petition guarantees a slot on the ballot.

The terms of office are for two years beginning January 1, 2017. If you are interested in advancing your career, this would be a great way to gain leadership experience. The Board will meet in-person in the spring of 2017 in Washington, DC and by conference call in 2018. Additional Board activities will be handled by conference calls when needed.

With any questions, please contact Dr. Michael Gilsdorf at mgilsdorf@nafv.org or 202-223-4878.

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UW-MADISON RESEARCHERS FIND ZIKA VIRUS IN COLOMBIA, LOOK FOR WAYS TO STOP IT

January 26, 2016

CONTACT: Matthew Aliota, [608-262-7785](tel:608-262-7785), mtaliota@wisc.edu

DOWNLOAD PHOTOS: <https://uwmadison.box.com/zika-virus>

MADISON, Wis. — In October 2015, a team of researchers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Universidad de Sucre in Colombia ran the first tests confirming the presence of Zika virus transmission in the South American country.

In a study published in the journal *Emerging Infectious Diseases*, the team documents a disease trajectory that started with nine positive patients and has now spread to more than 13,000 infected individuals in that country.

“Colombia is now only second to Brazil in the number of known Zika infections,” says study lead author Matthew Aliota, a research scientist in the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine (SVM).

Zika virus, which spreads among humans via mosquitoes, causes illness characterized like many other viral infections by fever, rash and joint pain. Officials estimate that four out of five people who contract the virus do not get sick and the virus is rarely fatal. However, pregnant women in Brazil infected with Zika have given birth to babies with small heads and underdeveloped brains, a condition called microcephaly.

“If you’re pregnant or planning on being pregnant, absolutely, cancel your vacation,” says Aliota, echoing the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warning that pregnant women not travel to the more than 20 countries now known to have active Zika transmission, like Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and in the Caribbean. In these countries, mosquitoes are spreading the virus to people.

For the Colombian finding, Aliota and his research team, which includes Jorge Osorio, professor of pathological sciences at SVM, and two visiting doctoral students from Colombia, tested samples from 22 patients for the genetic fingerprints of Zika, dengue and chikungunya viruses.

Nine came back positive for Zika virus. Now, 13,500 cases have been identified in Colombia. The researchers’ findings highlight the need for better, more accurate laboratory diagnosis of Zika virus.

The symptoms of Zika virus are “really nonspecific and it overlaps with a lot of things, especially with dengue virus and chikungunya,” says Aliota. “It’s hard when someone comes in with a fever and a rash to narrow it down.” Zika virus was first found in Uganda in 1947 but remained limited to Africa and Southeast Asia for decades. But in 2007, an outbreak occurred in the Pacific Islands and recently the virus began to spread in the Western Hemisphere.

“Historically, Zika virus has just caused mild disease, but as it moved into the New World, in Brazil, we started to notice these more serious consequences associated with it,” says Aliota. “There is a lot that is unknown.”

Aliota hopes to help change that.

His research on Zika virus and others like it is focused on how the viruses evolve and adapt to their hosts, including mosquitoes and humans. As he and the team show in the study, the Zika virus has split into two distinct lineages, African and Asian. The Colombia strain of the virus can be tracked to Brazil, which can be traced to a strain that originated in French Polynesia.

“There is certainly something different about these viruses that have allowed or facilitated this geographic

(Continued on Pg. 7, “UW-Madison Researchers...”)

(Continued from Pg. 6, “UW-Madison Researchers...”)

expansion,” Aliota says.

He and Osorio are now looking for ways to control it. As members of the Eliminate Dengue Program, an international effort managed by Monash University in Melbourne, Australia, they have explored how a bacterium that infects 60 percent of insects around the world may be used as a tool to combat the spread of dengue and similar mosquito-borne viruses.

Zika, dengue and chikungunya (which are also found in Colombia) are RNA viruses, which refers to how they encode their genetic material, and each is transmitted by a specific mosquito called *Aedes aegypti*. The mosquito is common in Colombia and other countries where Zika has become prevalent. The bacterium, *Wolbachia*, is not naturally found in the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, but researchers with Eliminate Dengue have found that when they infect mosquitoes with the bacteria in the lab, it prevents them from transmitting dengue, chikungunya and yellow fever.

“The Eliminate Dengue Program is doing field experiments to see, will we be able to replace wild-type, existing populations of mosquitoes with these *Wolbachia*-infected ones and does it block dengue transmission?” Aliota says. “Now, we’re going to start looking at how that might be used for Zika virus control as well in South America.”

Here in Madison, Aliota is also trying to better understand how these viruses might evolve and adapt to this potential control strategy, to try to stay ahead of any potential issues they might encounter in the field.

But while Texas and Florida need to be on alert, Aliota says Wisconsinites need not be worried about transmission of Zika virus here. “We’re not going to get Zika transmission in Wisconsin. We don’t have *Aedes aegypti*,” he says. “The cold winters are good for something.”

—Kelly April Tyrrell, kelly.tyrrell@wisc.edu, 608-262-9772

(Continue from Pg. 1, “Salmon Award...”)

version of the nomination letter to Dr. Michael Gilsdorf at mgilsdorf@nafv.org. All the basic information requested below must be included in the nomination letter.:

1. Name, title and grade/rank (as of December 31, of the current year) of nominee.
2. Bureau, agency or corps and department.
3. Home address and email address of nominee.
4. Educational background and awards or commendations received during nominee's federal employment.
5. Give a brief description of nominee's present grade, duties and responsibilities including the scope of work, its complexity and overall responsibilities for varied programs and supervision.
6. Give a brief chronological outline of previous positions held indicating scope of duties and

responsibilities.

7. State the reasoning, using specific examples, that shows the nominee has made sustained significant contributions involving public health, consumer protection, preventive medicine, animal health or animal welfare while serving as a federal employee. These examples must show resourcefulness, skill and dedication in applying the broad knowledge of veterinary sciences. Rather than just listing accomplishments, explain the significance of their contributions to communities, to programs, to science or to preventive medicine.
8. Submit the wording (in 35 words or less) of a proposed citation to be included on the award plaque.

The recommendation must be signed by the head of the agency or his/her representative. All nominations to be eligible for the 2014 award must be received no later than April 1, 2016. (No exceptions will be made!)

										GS 12/13 equiva- lent			
Dept of Defense													
-US Army			1st Lt	CAP	MAJ	LTCO L	COL	Brig Gen	Gen				
Military				229	164	105	33	1					532
Civilian										46			46
Reserve													0
Nonappropriated Fund										72			72
-US Air Force				CAP	MAJ	LTCO L	COL						0
Military				6	17	17	9						49
Civilian													0
TOTAL DOD	0	0	0	235	181	122	42	1	0	118	0	0	699
Dept of Interior													
U.S. Geological Survey		1	2	7	2	2							14
-Fish & Wildlife SVC			3	5	1	1							10
-Natl Park Svc			2	2	2					1			7
TOTAL DOI	0	1	7	14	5	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	31
Federal Bureau of Investigation		1		2									3
TOTAL FBI	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
-Natl Marine Fish Svc			1		1								2
TOTAL DOC	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
US Agency Intl Dev													
US Agency Intl Dev					1								1
TOTAL USAID	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Dept Veterans Affairs				2	12	3							17
TOTAL DVA	0	0	0	2	12	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
Dept of Homeland Security			1	1	1	7	2				1		13
TOTAL DHS	0	0	1	1	1	7	2	0	0	0	1	0	13
Natl Air & Space Adm						4							4
TOTAL NASA	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Smithsonian (Zoo)				5	3	2	1						11
TOTAL Smithsonian	0	0	0	5	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	11
US House of Rep							3						3
TOTAL House	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
US Congressional Staff						1							1
TOTAL Congressional Staff	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
US Senate	0												0
TOTAL Senate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
US Cong. Research Service						1							1
TOTAL US Cong. Res. Serv.	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	1	219	1,013	660	495	260	72	4	0	197	1	11	2,933

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Call or visit FEDS online today as coverage must be in place prior to knowledge of an allegation, investigation, claim or suit or coverage will not apply!

2016 James H. Steele Veterinary Public Health Award Call for Nominations

The Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) program seeks nominations for the James H. Steele Veterinary Public Health (JHSVPH) Award. The award recognizes an EIS officer or alumni who has made outstanding contributions to the field of veterinary public health and One Health disciplines.

Eligibility:

All current EIS officers and former EIS officers within 5 years of having completed EIS training (i.e., members of the EIS classes of 2011–2015) are eligible.

Nominations:

All CDC staff, EIS officers, EIS supervisors, and EIS alumni may submit nominations. The nomination package should include a 2-page narrative describing a nominee's contributions to the field of veterinary public health and One Health, from his or her start with EIS to the present. Contributions before starting EIS may be included but will not be scored. The narrative should illustrate the current or expected public health impact of a nominee's work on veterinary public health and One Health; specific projects in research, outbreak response, prevention, or other related activities may be cited.

The narrative should specify a nominee's EIS class year. Two letters of recommendation are required; at least one must be from a current or former supervisor if the nominator does not fulfill this criterion.

Submit nomination packages electronically to the JHSVPH Award Committee, c/o Casey Barton Behravesh at dlx9@cdc.gov using the subject line "Steele Award Nomination Package."

The award committee must receive all nominations by COB Monday, March 14, 2016.

The award recipient will be announced during the 2016 EIS Conference.

For questions and information on nomination evaluation criteria, contact Casey Barton Behravesh at dlx9@cdc.gov (404-639-0367) or Renee Amos at enx9@cdc.gov (404-498-6152).

Identity Theft: Victim of OPM Data Breach

By Dr. Allan Hogue, DVM

I got an email from CSID, the credit monitoring service Office of Personnel Management (OPM) hired for federal employees who's data was compromised when the governments computer system was hacked. The message said, "Alert available on Web" and "Review your credit alert from CSID." I logged into my account of CSID and found there were new credit inquiries from Best Buy and Sam's Club. I immediately called CSID since I had not opened a new account with either business. The specialist (with me conferenced) called the bank associated with those credit inquiries and they determined that two credits cards had been opened in my name. They closed both accounts and assured me that I was not responsible for any charges involved. The CSID specialist then told me she would send my case to their Identity Restoration Department since fraud was involved and someone would contact me.

It was nearly a week before I got an email message from an Identity Restoration Specialist with CSID. In that time there were two additional credit inquiries from Lowes and Sears and charges were made to the Best Buy and Sam's Club cards from about \$3200 each. The email message stated that I needed to provide the following:

- The Limited Power of Attorney form (Notarized)
- The Federal Trade Commission Affidavit (Notarized)
- A copy of your police report
- A copy of a government issued id (such as a driver's license, passport, or state id)
- A copy of proof of address such as a utility bill or other bill in your name
- Any other documentation or correspondence relating to these accounts (including credit reports with any inaccurate information circled)

I called the CSID specialist and expressed my concern about the activity that was continuing to affect my credit report. We made some additional conference calls to the Banks associated with the inquiries and closed the accounts. Yesterday I got a notice by mail from Verizon that I had opened three wireless accounts; which I had not done. The interesting thing about the Verizon wireless accounts is there was no credit inquiry associated with it. If I hadn't checked into it, they would have sent me a bill. As of this writing, events are continuing to unfold. A fraud alert is in place so I will be contacted before any new credit applications are approved.

The lesson I hope others would take from my experience is: Don't rely on CSID to manage the restoration of your identity; they will help, but you need to manage the process. I spent the greater part of two days with CSID specialists on conference calls and they were calling the same businesses twice. Write down the names and numbers of people and businesses contacted. There is a complex web of banks, credit card companies, and businesses involved and it's essential to track and document your discussions. A second lesson is: have a fraud alert attached to your credit report immediately. CSID provides a link to an online form.

I don't know how my identity was compromised or even what information about me was compromised. I don't know if my identity was compromised in the OPM data breach or if it happened later. I can tell you that it's very unsettling to experience identity theft. On the bright side, I have been repeated assured that I am not responsible from any charges and the credit inquiries will be removed from my credit report. We'll see...

If you have any questions on how to protect your identity, please visit <https://www.opm.gov/>

REMINDER TO OUR MEMBERS!

Official email addresses and titles for LinkedIn, or other social media is prohibited as it is not official business.

As a government official, you must follow OPM rules regarding social media for both official and personal use when you are using your government equipment. All agency users are expected to comply with OPM policies and procedures.

The two levels of social media engagement include:

- 1) **Official Use** - social media engagement on behalf of the Agency on sites where OPM has an official Web presence; and,
 - 2) **Personal Use** - day-to-day use of social media sites by agency users, not related to official duties. Agency users must be mindful that in their personal participation in social media sites, they must not hold themselves out as presenting the official position of OPM, except with the express permission of the Office of Communications and Public Liaison (CPL).
- Personal use of social media while on government time is subject to OPM's personal use policy which provides guidance on "appropriate and inappropriate" use of Government resources. NAFV recommends that you not engage in social media using your government equipment or official email address, official phone number, etc.

Federal Veterinarians Protect and Improve Public and Animal Health and Welfare

VETERINARY HAPPENINGS

Notify NAFV of Promotions, Reassignments, Transfers, Awards, Retirements, etc. for members not listed in the "Veterinary Happenings" column so they may be included in a future issue. The following information was received by NAFV.

USDA FSIS Members

USDA APHIS Members

- Dr. Bob Bokma**, Riverdale, MD, Retirement 01/03/16
- Dr. Benjamin Carson**, Quail, TX, Retirement 12/31/15
- Dr. Osmundo Castilla**, Riverdale, MD, Retirement 12/31/15
- Dr. Asghar Chaudhry**, Bordentown, NJ, Retirement 12/31/15
- Dr. Mary Evans**, Ames, IA, Retirement, 12/21/15
- Dr. Allan Hogue**, Riverdale, MD, Retirement, 12/31/15
- Dr. Kristin Schmitz**, Riverdale, MD, Retirement, 12/31/15
- Dr. Tracy Thompson**, Longmont, CO, Retirement, 11/28/15

National Association of Federal Veterinarians
1910 Sunderland Place
Washington, DC 20036

Periodicals postage paid
at Washington, DC

Welcome New Members

- Dr. Laura Waterbury-Mangus**, GS-12, ROS '14, Erie, PA
- Dr. Joze Z. Lacson**, GS-11, PHI '82, Artesia, CA (Recommended by Michael Mikhael)
- Dr. Penni Cole**, GS-12, TEX '94, Mt. Pleasant, TX (Recommended by Rebecca Hairgrove)

Email Changes of Address to:
mbarros@nafv.org

Returned Checks
NAFV charges \$10.00 for checks returned
for insufficient funds