



FEDERAL VETERINARIAN

VOLUME 75, NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER 2018

ANNOUNCEMENT

NAFV Members

Our 2018 NAFV BOD Elections are now officially open!

You may vote via mailed-in ballot found on page 11, or vote on our online ballot.

www.surveymonkey.com/r/XDRVR9G

Please choose just one of the two methods. Your name and address will be requested only to confirm that your membership is in good-standing.

With any questions, please contact nafv@nafv.org

NAFV: A Century of Service - Looking Back on the First 100 Years

In this issue of the *Federal Veterinarian* newsletter, NAFV takes a look back at one of its greatest accomplishments. In June 2002, NAFV published an elated notice announcing their achievement of true overtime pay for Public Health Veterinarians.

Prior to the legislation included in the 2002 Farm Bill which granted the Honorable Ann Veneman, then Secretary of Agriculture, the authority to pay overtime at a rate of her choosing to those employees who were exempt from the Fair Labor Standards Act, federal veterinarians were paid under the authority of the Pay Act in Title 5 of the U.S. Code. Because the Pay Act applied to federal employees as a whole, NAFV strategically aimed their efforts at including provisions in the Poultry Products Inspection Act which authorized the Secretary to both collect reimbursable fees and to pay overtime at whatever rate she thought appropriate.

To push this legislation through the House and Senate, NAFV and its members conducted a communications campaign with Congressional members and staffers, with an emphasis on Agriculture Committee members. On May 13, 2002, after having been passed through the 107th Congress of the United States, President George W. Bush signed the bill into law. The article below is being reprinted verbatim as it originally appeared in 2002.



Federal Veterinarian

Published in Washington, D.C. by
The National Association of Federal Veterinarians

Volume 59 Number 6

June 2002

Inside this issue:

EVP Column Pg. 2

5 Biggest Retirement Decisions Pg. 4

2019 Dr. Daniel E. Salmon Award Recipient Pg. 7

Dr. Judy Morley Obituary Pg. 9

Haemaphysalis longicornis: The Longhorned Tick Now in the US Pg. 11

Success on Overtime Law (Finally)

William G. Hughes

NAFV has been successful in getting the law changed to give the Secretary of Agriculture the authority to pay overtime at a rate set by her to veterinarians and others exempt from the Fair Labor Standards Act. This only applies to overtime services which are reimbursable and to those enforcing the provisions of the Meat and Poultry Inspections Act in FSIS, and the Import-Export Inspection Acts in VS and PPQ of APHIS. This has been a long and difficult effort, beginning in 1974 and cul-

minated in the president signing the 2002 Farm Bill which had the overtime provision included.

Early indications are that the Secretary of Agriculture will act promptly to pay those eligible at true time and one half rate for overtime services rendered. There is a possibility that this may have to go through Rulemaking and may take longer.

There are far too many people to name who were responsible for and contributed to this success. These range from Representative Ronnie Shows of Mississippi who

(Continued on Pg. 2, "OT Success")

Federal Veterinarian (ISSN 0164-6257)
1910 Sunderland Pl., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-1608

is published monthly except bimonthly in May/June and Nov/Dec by, and in the interest of, the National Association of Federal Veterinarians and their members to whom it is mailed free. Periodicals postage paid at Washington, D.C. Correspondence should be addressed to:

Executive Vice President
National Association of Federal Veterinarians
1910 Sunderland Pl., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-1608

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 non-uniformed veterinarian employed full time by the federal government may become an active member. Dues are \$234.00 annually, payable annually, semiannually, or by federal payroll deductions (eligibility for payroll deduction is limited to USDA veterinarians--of \$9.00 authorized by signing USDA Form AD 1054 (FSIS) or SF 1187 (APHIS)). Uniformed veterinarians dues are \$150.00 annually. *Active duty* uniformed veterinarians- please contact the NAFV office.

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.

Editor: William James, DVM, MPH
wjames@nafv.org

Postmaster: Send address changes to:
 Federal Veterinarian

1910 Sunderland Pl., N.W.

Washington, DC 20036-1608

Tel: (202) 223-4878 | Fax: (202) 842-4360

Email: nafv@nafv.org | Website: www.nafv.org

NAFV Board of Directors

President: Dr. Larry Davis

President-Elect: Dr. Barb Porter-Spalding

Secretary/Treasurer: Dr. Deanna Brown

Executive Vice President:

Dr. Marvin D. Meinders

Associate Executive Vice President:

Mariana C. Barros

Senior Staff Veterinarian: Dr. Michael J. Gilsdorf

General Counsel: William G. Hughes, Esq.

P.O. Box 340

Bozman, Maryland 21612

Tel: (410) 745-0045

(Continued from Pg. 1, "OT Success")

first introduced a bill last fall, to Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa, to our own NAFV members who called and wrote to Representatives and Senators. It also includes officials of the organizations which represent the regulated meat and poultry industry who acted purely with good conscience in their efforts to have this inequity corrected, because the extra overtime will be paid for by the industry. It includes numerous Representatives, Senators, and their staffers who mounted the effort to include the provision in the Farm Bill to keep it there. It even includes individuals with the Government Reform and Oversight Committee to allow the effort to be handled by the Agriculture Committees. This was the committee which had held up the effort last time.

Most of all it was the AVMA and its leaders and staffers which made the difference this time around and out Executive Vice President, Dr. Dale Boyle, for leading the effort in getting the AVMA to use its valuable resources in support of the effort.

Passing a law is no small accomplishment. It is unusual for such an effort to be successful when such a small number of people, however deserving, are affected, and when the effort is coordinated by such a small organization. This is why the assistance of the AVMA and others was so important.

All NAFV members are urged to write letters of thanks to their contacts in the House and the Senate. Even if you haven't done so to help passage, a letter of gratitude to your Representatives and Senators would be very appropriate.

NAFV EVP Column

NAFV Chapter Meetings

by **Marvin Meinders, DVM**

Chapter meetings are one of the most important blocks in the organizational structure that supports NAFV and its members. They provide a collegial framework to help build networks and introduce our members to people who understand their local issues and can help in discussing similar experiences and shared problems. Especially for new veterinarians in the area, local chapters can help them navigate through the hurdles of a new job and can provide a pool of resources who have likely experienced their problems and can provide advice from a useful perspective.

After visiting several chapters and talking with our members, I have come up with the following recommendations for chapters. Any members who are interested in learning more about their local chapters or who would like to form a local chapter should contact our NAFV nation-

al office for information 202-223-4878 or email: nafv@nafv.org.

- Chapters normally have three officers, a President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer who have responsibilities that are mainly focused inside the chapter. I recommend one additional position. That additional person would be an outreach/communication officer who would be attuned to new Federal Veterinarians in the area or Federal Veterinarians that are not currently NAFV members.

The outreach officer's mission would be to welcome these potential new NAFV members to their local chapter meetings and show them how NAFV membership can benefit them.

- I recommend the chapters encourage members to get involved as mentors for their chapter. Several agencies have official men-

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

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

toring training. I highly recommend that the chapters have at least two people trained in mentoring and be available to serve as additional mentors for the chapter. Effective mentors do more than show a new person where the coffee pot and the bathroom is located.

The mentor should take the new person around and introduce them to the appropriate people that they would be interacting with at work. They should also show them the unique procedures and processes that are done in their new job but may not have been common place in their last organization. If the new person is also new to Federal service, mentors should help them to develop a career plan such as courses to prepare themselves for the next level of responsibility and what jobs they should seek along the way to prepare themselves for a career.

Mentors should also be encouraged to run for one of the chapter's officer positions. Serving as one of the officers in the chapter will give them additional leadership experience as well as experience for holding offices at the NAFV and AVMA levels. Experience in running grassroot organizations can also be a good way to learn and hone leadership and business management skills All of these experiences and opportunities help to build a stronger resume and improve resume credentials for promotions to the next level.

- Finally, I recommend each Chapter have one social event per year such as a picnic which includes family members. This gives everyone the opportunity to meet face to face and get to know each other without the pressures of the office environment. I have found that getting to know your coworkers and their families informally creates more of a cohesive working environment.

I believe if you include these three recommendations as part of your chapter, it will help the chapter member not only in their career, but also improve their wellbeing.

Wrap-up of recent NAFV Chapter meetings near Modesto, CA and Portland, OR

The California members that came together on Saturday August 25, 2018 was a very young group. There were about 9 of them and probably over half had less than a year in FSIS.

There is only one common theme from the millennials – it's cost of living in the valley. They have background data comparing other locality pay from similar areas to the valley. The valley is a lot lower than their comparable areas. They are going to join together and write letters to their congressmen and representatives but also will send a letter to NAFV for review. They said they had background data comparing other areas and that the valley is a lot lower than what it is and the other states.

In Portland, I don't believe anyone was below 10 years in USDA. Out of the approximately 15 people there was I think 4 from APHIS employees with the remainder being FSIS. There were two parts of this four-hour long meeting;

One part was talking about starting a chapter much discussion because the area is so large and hard to get people together. So, they decided to try to organize chapters with circuits and it would probably result in for small chapters but would cover most of the area.

Second part was mainly talking about their issues and updating them on current NAFV activities. We were lucky to have Dr. Mikhael present since he was instrumental in forming the California NAFV Chapter and I think he will really help carry the banner to get the chapter going. One suggestion made during the meeting was for NAFV to conduct surveys. They felt the survey results would give them insight to other chapters' concerns as well as provide NAFV with the membership's point of view. They prefer NAFV to conduct the survey since NAFV provides a level of confidentiality that might not be available by other surveys.

Ms. Mariana C. Barros Celebrates 4 Years with NAFV!

NAFV Members, on August 1st of this year, I celebrated my fourth year of service to our NAFV members. Over the past four years, I have learned a lot about the critical work that federal veterinarians perform each day and have developed a passion for pursuing opportunities that support all of you in your important roles as federal veterinarians and as federal employees in general. Since I joined the organization, I have put most of my efforts into supporting our administrative and business compliance functions as well as working to make our online presence stronger, developing CE programming, and increasing membership communication.

While many of you have become accustomed with seeing notes & emails from me regularly, I hope that you all feel comfortable enough to give me a call or write a quick note if I can ever be of any help; it is my pleasure to be of help to you all.

- MCB



Here I am pictured enjoying a delicious cup of "café con leche" in Bogota, Colombia this past May.

The Five Biggest Retirement Decisions Feds Have To Make

by Alexis Hongamen

As a late career Fed, you are pondering retirement. For some, this is a chance to discover new hobbies and pursue things you didn't have time for when you worked. For others, it's an opportunity to pursue a different career with the safety net of a retirement income. And yet for others, it will be an opportunity to do a lot of relaxing after a career in the federal government.

Regardless of your circumstances, you have some big decisions to make during your retirement years. Some of these decisions have to be made right away, while others are several years down the road.

Let's take a look at what I believe are the five biggest decisions a federal employee will have to make for their retirement.

When To Retire

The first decision to make is when will the employee be ready to retire. This is a multi-faceted question.

The first hurdle is eligibility. There is a sliding scale based on the year you were born which dictates your minimum retirement age with the federal government. This entitles you to an immediate retirement, starting within 30 days of when you stop working.

Eligibility Information	
Birth Year	Minimum Retirement Age
Before 1948	55
1948	55 & 2 months
1949	55 & 4 months
1950	55 & 6 months
1951	55 & 8 months
1952	55 & 10 months
1953-1964	56
1965	56 & 2 months
1966	56 & 4 months
1967	56 & 6 months
1968	56 & 8 months
1969	56 & 10 months
1970 & After	57

This chart illustrates the Minimum Retirement Age.

There is also a Years of Service requirement to go along with your Minimum Retirement Age:

Eligibility Information	
Age	Years of Service
62	5
60	20
MRA	30

Once you have calculated when you are eligible to retire, you have to determine if you are emotionally and financially ready.

For some, their identity is wrapped up in the career they've spent years developing. They aren't ready for that part of their lives to change. There would be a void left that would have to be filled with other activities.

Financially, potential retirees have to gauge their suitability for leaving the work force. Can they cover their expenses through their annuity, social security (or FERS supplement), and withdrawals from the TSP or other investment accounts?

When To Start Social Security

The FERS (Federal Employee Retirement System) supplement, a financial bridge to cover retirees until they are eligible for Social Security, stops at age 62. At that time, retirees will have to make an extremely important decision on whether they will seek to draw reduced Social Security benefits early (age 62), at their full retirement age (67 if born in 1960 or later), or at the maximum benefit age of 70.

There is no universal right answer. It is a subjective and personal decision made on economics, estimated life expectancy and political beliefs. Some people would rather wait and not claim the reduced benefits early and opt for the higher payout at their full retirement age. Others want to defer benefits even longer, in order to maximize their payment. The longer you wait, the higher the payout until age 70, after which your payment does not increase. Remember that your payout is higher, but you have lots of payments to make up if you declined to receive lower payouts years earlier.

Finally, some believe the current social security benefits system will have to be modified and is unsustainable since the Social Security Trust Fund is set to be depleted by 2033 if changes aren't made. Therefore, their strategy is to claim as early as possible before to avoid facing reduced benefits. There is not a one-size-fits-all answer.

When To Start Withdrawing From The Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)

You don't have to begin withdrawing from your TSP when you retire. However, when you do, you have to be strategic in the amount and way you start pulling out your money.

As of the date of this article, there are plans in the works to modify the existing methods that are available, which are somewhat restrictive. Currently, you can select to pull the entire amount out, select an an-

(Continued on Pg. 5, Retirement Decisions)

Continued from Pg. 4, "Retirement Decisions")

nunity in exchange for the full value of the TSP, or select monthly payments that can be changed once a year.

You also have a one-time opportunity to make a partial withdrawal from your TSP before electing one of the three methods described above. Be smart and carefully consider your options. Most people don't want to outlive their TSP fund.

Should You Elect To Enroll In Medicare Part B?

The ability to enroll in the Federal Employee Health Benefits (FEHB) program is one of the best retirement benefits available to federal retirees. It allows them to participate in the same health insurance program they participated in as employees, after they retire. The premiums are not paid with pre-tax money as it was when they were working, but it is still a great program for the money.

The real question is should the retiree sign up for Medicare Part B, also known as doctor's insurance. This is also a personal decision.

Medicare Part B is not free. The fees are based on a sliding scale based on income.

Are you the type of person that prefers to pay premiums and limit co-pays and out of pocket medical expenses? Or would you prefer to not pay premiums every month and absorb the out of pocket costs?

Please check my extended article on Medicare and FEHB.

Should You Downsize, Move Or Stay In Your Home?

As a retiree, the single most powerful thing you can do for your finances is to control your expenses. I have worked with postal workers that can retire on time and highly paid government executives that have to work an extra year or two past their minimum retirement age. Why? One could control his expenses in retirement and the other would prefer to

live a more lavish lifestyle after leaving government service.

One option to consider in controlling your expenses is moving or downsizing. If you downsize in your current area, or move to a location where housing is more affordable, this should reduce your monthly housing expense or put more money in your pocket.

When moving, consider what relationships you are leaving behind. Are you leaving behind family? Or are you moving to be closer to family? Do you have any relationships where you are moving to?

Other options to consider if you decide to stay home and need money for daily expenses and your home is paid off are a reverse mortgage, a first mortgage or home equity line of credit.

This article is being reprinted with the permission of Mr. Alexis Hongamen and was originally published on FedSmith.com, a free online news service for Federal employees.

A note from the author:

The opinions voiced in this article are for general information only and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual. Carefully consider your investment objectives, risk factors before investing. Investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal. Diversification and asset allocation may not protect against market risk. Nothing in this article is intended as legal or tax advice. Please consult with your independent legal or tax advisor to seek advice based on your particular circumstances. For a list of states in which I am registered to do business, you can visit www.adviserinfo.sec.gov and search for my name. Original Article: <https://www.fedsmith.com/2018/07/31/five-biggest-retirement-decisions-feds-make/>

Statement from FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb, M.D., on FDA's new efforts to advance antimicrobial stewardship in veterinary settings

Source: FDA | 07/31/2018

Antimicrobial resistance is a global public health challenge. Antimicrobial drugs have been widely used in human and veterinary medicine for more than 60 years. When used judiciously, antimicrobials can effectively fight bacterial infections. However, we know that overuse or misuse of these drugs promotes the development of antimicrobial-resistant bacteria.

For all of these reasons, it's

critical that we implement good antimicrobial stewardship practices in human healthcare and veterinary settings. We must continue to take new steps to slow the development of resistance and extend the usefulness of these lifesaving drugs.

Combating antimicrobial resistance continues to be a top priority for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

To further these efforts, the

FDA will soon implement a new, five-year blueprint for how the FDA plans to build on its current programs to advance antimicrobial stewardship in veterinary settings. We'll expand on the FDA's existing actions, and launch some new programs. Our aim is to reduce overuse of antimicrobial drugs and combat the rising threat of resistance.

As part of the FDA's regulatory
(Continued on Pg. 6, "FDA Statement")

(Continued from Pg. 5, "FDA Statement")

mission, our Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) is responsible for ensuring the safety and effectiveness of animal drugs, including antimicrobials. CVM has already taken important steps to update the approved conditions of use for medically important antimicrobials to support judicious use in food-producing animals. We know that additional work is needed to address the complex challenge of antimicrobial resistance.

At FDA, we believe that the concept of antimicrobial stewardship encompasses several important principles of judicious use. These are critical to slowing the rate at which bacteria develop resistance to antimicrobial drugs. In simple terms, we believe medically important antimicrobial drugs should only be used when necessary to treat, control or prevent disease. In addition, when such use is necessary, these antimicrobials should be used in an optimal manner. They should only be used under the oversight of a licensed veterinarian.

Among the steps that CVM has already taken, perhaps the most significant action was implementation of [Guidance for Industry #213](#). This was the culmination of a process launched in 2013. The goal was to transition medically important antimicrobials that are used in the feed or drinking water of food-producing animals to veterinary oversight, and to eliminate the use of these products in animals for production purposes.

Of the 292 new animal drug applications initially affected by GFI #213, 84 were completely withdrawn. Of the remaining 208 applications, 93 applications for oral dosage form products intended for use in water were converted from over-the-counter to prescription status; while another 115 ap-

plications for products intended for use in feed were converted from over-the-counter to [veterinary feed directives](#) status. Moreover, production indications (e.g., growth promotion) were withdrawn from all 31 applications that included such indications for use.

Last year, we also published a paper proposing the use of a biomass denominator to adjust annual data on the amount of antimicrobials sold or distributed for use in food-producing animals in the U.S. This adjusted estimate is intended to provide more insight into broad shifts in the amount of antimicrobials sold for use in food-producing animals and give the FDA a more nuanced view of why sales increase or decrease over time. The agency also recently launched the Resistome Tracker. This is an interactive research and data visualization tool for antibiotic resistance genes.

To build on the progress already made, we're announcing that the FDA will shortly publish a blueprint on how we'll press forward. This blueprint will serve as the FDA's new, five-year plan. We'll include key goals, objectives and actions that CVM will focus on during fiscal years 2019 – 2023.

Our new activities will be aimed at addressing three key goals:

- Aligning antimicrobial drug product use with the principles of antimicrobial stewardship;
- supporting efforts to foster better stewardship of antimicrobials in veterinary settings;
- and enhancing the monitoring of antimicrobial resistance and antimicrobial drug use in animals.

The specific objectives and actions will be outlined in our forthcoming plan.

Some of the important issues to be addressed in this new plan in-

clude establishing appropriate durations of use of medically important antimicrobials, and bringing all dosage forms of medically important antimicrobials under veterinary oversight. We are also developing and advancing new strategies for promoting antimicrobial stewardship in companion animals.

We'll advance these goals in new guidance that the FDA will develop with broad stakeholder input. And we'll enhance transparency and keep the public apprised of progress being made.

For example, we'll shortly publish a list of all medically important antimicrobials labeled for use in animals that lack a defined duration of use on their labels. We'll keep this list updated as we work to implement a science-based approach for addressing this important issue.

We're also advancing new strategies to improve the collection and sharing of data on antimicrobial drug use and resistance. To advance evidence-based practices, we need to make sure that the entire community has access to good information. And we need to develop a long-term strategy for implementing a practical, efficient antimicrobial use monitoring and reporting system for veterinary settings.

Many stakeholders helped make our previous efforts a success. These include the animal pharmaceutical and feed industry; veterinary organizations; animal producer organizations; consumer organizations; various local, state and federal agencies; legislators; and other key stakeholders.

I look forward to releasing this plan shortly, and continuing to work collaboratively to promote stewardship and preserve the effectiveness of antimicrobials for human and animal health.

(article edited for length)

2018 NAFV Dr. Daniel E. Salmon Recipient Announced: Dr. Manuel Borca of USDA Agricultural Research Service

by Mariana C. Barros, NAFV

The National Association of Federal Veterinarians is proud to announce the recipient of its 2018 Dr. Daniel E. Salmon Award: Dr. Manuel Borca of the Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service (ARS).

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 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.

Dr. Borca currently serves as Lead Scientist for CRIS project 8064-32000-060-00D "*Countermeasures to Control and Eradicate Foreign Animal Diseases of Swine (classical swine fever and African swine fever)*" and has led the project since its inception in 2001 in the Foreign Animal Disease Research Unit (FADRU) Plum Island Animal Disease Center (PIADC). Dr. Borca is being recognized for his outstanding contributions to the field of veterinary virology, microbiology, and the discovery of veterinary medical countermeasures for priority animal diseases of swine.

Originally from Argentina where he received his DVM in 1989, Dr. Borca focused on research and veterinary virology early on in his career. He began his work in Virology at the National Institute of Agriculture in Argentina as a Post-DVM Fellow in the early 1980's, after which he eventually went on to achieve his PhD in Veterinary Virology from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, NE.

Today, Dr. Borca's work mainly revolves around the identifying of areas within the genomes in the viruses that cause Classical Swine Fever and African Swine Fever with importance in virus virulence and introducing genetic modifications to study viral pathogenesis with the intent of producing attenuated virus that can then be introduced to animals to replicate and produce an effective immune response without producing disease. This interesting crossroad of veterinary medicine and microbiology has lead to

noteworthy achievements throughout his career.

Accomplishments he is being recognized for include:

- Description of immune mechanisms associated to protection against FMDV;
- Identification of novel immunodominant B-cell and T-cell FMDV epitopes involved in the induction of a protective immune response.
- Assessment of the production of a new generation-low cost foot and mouth disease (FMDV) vaccines using recombinant antigens expressed in alternative systems.
- Established a molecular approach to rationally identify genetic determinants of virulence in FMDV.
- Discovery of genetic determinants of virulence in CSF.
- Developed next-generation marker attenuated CSF vaccines using rationally designed recombinant viruses.
- Rational development of a first-generation attenuated ASF vaccines using recombinant viruses.

A full description of these projects and the specific role Dr. Borca played in each is available at <https://bit.ly/2C5ZpZP>

While his role deviates from traditional veterinary medicine and is unique even within federal public service, Dr. Borca maintains his veterinary background as a pillar for the work he does within virology and microbiology. Most of his work today is focused on molecular virology and the manipulation of virus genome to understand mechanisms virus virulence and develop attenuate virus strains, his background for understanding the diseases is rooted in his veterinary training. He states on his veterinary background, "It provides guidance on the limitations on the possible application of the work that we are doing here at Plum Island."

In the lab, this affects the way in which animals are tested and detected, but it also provides pertinent guidance on how veterinarians in field agencies can use and implement the work that he does.

Dr. Borca will be awarded his plaque and recognition at the next USDA Awards Ceremony typically held each Fall.



NAFV recommends FEDS Professional Liability Insurance

Members Save \$10!
Enter Discount Code:
NAFV

NAFV Wants You to Protect Yourself.

Do you know personnel actions in federal employment are not covered by AVMA insurance?

Do you know that claims resulting in investigations can be made against you by anyone - plant workers, special interest groups, politically motivated elected officials, members of the public, or managers, co-workers or subordinates?

Do you know the FEDS policy has paid attorneys for numerous claims with some exceeding costs of \$30,000, \$40,000, \$50,000 and more than \$100,000 just over the past two years to defend federal veterinarians?

Do you know that FEDS Protection also provides an attorney to defend you in a state veterinary board investigation and proceeding arising out of the performance of your federal job duties.



Enrollment takes just 5 minutes!
Call 866.955.FEDS or
ENROLL ONLINE NOW

CDC: Surveillance for Foodborne Disease Outbreaks — United States, 2009–2015

Daniel Dewey-Mattia, MPH; Karunya Manikonda, MPH; Aron J. Hall, DVM; Matthew E. Wise, PhD; Samuel J. Crowe, PhD

Abstract

Problem/Condition: Known foodborne disease agents are estimated to cause approximately 9.4 million illnesses each year in the United States. Although only a small subset of illnesses are associated with recognized outbreaks, data from outbreak investigations provide insight into the foods and pathogens that cause illnesses.

Reporting Period: 2009–2015

Description of System: The Foodborne Disease Outbreak Surveillance System (FDOSS) collects data on foodborne disease outbreaks, which are defined as the occurrence of two or more cases of a similar illness resulting from the ingestion of a common food. Beginning in 2009, FDOSS reporting was made through the National Outbreak Reporting System, a web-based platform launched that year.

Results: During 2009–2015, FDOSS received reports of 5,760 outbreaks that resulted in 100,939 illnesses, 5,699 hospitalizations, and 145 deaths. All 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and CDC reported outbreaks. Among 2,953 outbreaks with a single confirmed etiology, norovirus was the most common cause of outbreaks (1,130 outbreaks [38%]) and outbreak-associated illnesses (27,623 illnesses [41%]), followed by *Salmonella* with 896

outbreaks (30%) and 23,662 illnesses (35%). Outbreaks caused by *Listeria*, *Salmonella*, and Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC) were responsible for 82% of all hospitalizations and 82% of deaths reported. Among 1,281 outbreaks in which the food reported could be classified into a single food category, fish were the most commonly implicated category (222 outbreaks [17%]), followed by dairy (136 [11%]) and chicken (123 [10%]). The food categories responsible for the most outbreak-associated illnesses were chicken (3,114 illnesses [12%]), pork (2,670 [10%]), and seeded vegetables (2,572 [10%]).

Interpretation: Foodborne disease outbreaks provide information about the pathogens and foods responsible for illness. Norovirus remains the leading cause of foodborne disease outbreaks, highlighting the continued need for food safety improvements targeting worker health and hygiene in food service settings. Outbreaks caused by *Listeria*, *Salmonella*, and STEC are important targets for public health intervention efforts.

Public Health Action: The causes of foodborne illness should continue to be tracked and analyzed to inform disease prevention policies and initiatives. Strengthening the capacity of state and local health departments to investigate and report outbreaks will assist with these efforts through identification of the foods, etiologies, and settings linked to these outbreaks.

(edited for length)

Master of Preventive Veterinary Medicine

The University of California, Davis welcomes applications for the Master of Preventive Veterinary Medicine (MPVM) Program in the School of Veterinary Medicine. The MPVM is a 1-2 year graduate professional master degree open to veterinarians and other medical professionals. Since 1967, the pioneering program's more than 900 graduates have excelled worldwide in leadership, academic, and research positions with universities, private industry, international agencies, non-governmental organizations, and governments.

Our modernized MPVM curriculum offers core courses in epidemiology concepts, study design, research, leadership, ecosystem health, and infectious disease epidemiology as well as statistics. Elective options allow students to explore zoonotic disease, food safety, diagnostic test evaluation, spatial analysis, mathematical modeling, disease ecology, and many more. Coursework in 'One Health' is available for students interested in public health and conservation at the interface of human-animal interaction. In addition to didactic instruction, students write a thesis on research they undertake during the course of the program. We support our extensive course offerings and student research with a large, diverse, vibrant faculty including new hires in epidemiology, wild life, food animals and poultry health, and a wealth of adjunct contributors from state and federal management agencies and organizations.

Instruction commences in early August each year.

Requirements for entry into the program include a minimum 3.0 GPA, as well as a TOEFL score of 85 or higher for non-English speakers. The application deadline is January 15th each calendar year. Interested applicants can learn more about admission requirements and explore financial aid options at <http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/mpvm/admission/admissioninfo.com>

Send inquiries to the MPVM Coordinator, Tami Ali (tali@ucdavis.edu); or the MPVM Chair, Dr. Ashley Hill (aehill@ucdavis.edu).



Obituary: Dr. Judy M. Morley, APHIS-VS

Dr. Judy Marie Morley, DVM, 56, passed away Monday, December 11, 2017 at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Edgewood. Judy worked as a Veterinary Medical Officer with the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service's Veterinary Services for over 35 years. She was also a Kentucky Colonel and a member of the National Association of Federal Veterinarians since 2006.

Dr. Morley is survived by her husband Greg Morley, daughter Kelsey Young, sons John and Hunter Morley of Sanders, KY, and brother Daniel Sabelhaus of Carrollton, KY.

Dr. Karla Clark of APHIS-VS wrote a few words about her friend & colleague Dr. Judy Morley:

Judy became a friend of mine in 2008 as we both were Designated Scrapie Epidemiologists for our corresponding states; she was warm, friendly and helpful. Our paths crossed a few times through our similar work duties and scrapie traces but developed a deepening friendship upon our change in positions as dedicated inspectors for the Agriculture Select Agent Inspection Services in 2014.

We spent many hours at trainings, inspections, hikes and ventures to the monuments in Washington D.C. including the Maryland Sheep Festival, as well as walks and talks in the locations we worked or trained in. We learned to use Skype, frequently sharing our screens to work on assignments. She included her family into our phone conversations and I felt a part of her family; still do. Judy exhibited the best traits of a co-worker, with the willingness to share her experiences. I often noted that she humbly assisted new inspectors in becoming familiar with procedures with helpful hints, sharing her knowledge and not expecting anything in return; she did this privately. She was inclusive and fair, a true team-member, working across agencies with our CDC fellow-inspectors equally as cooperatively as she did with our Agency inspectors. She was always looking for the silver lining in a difficult situation, a true optimist, despite the difficulties presented to her.

I miss her greatly, as many do who have had the benefit of working with Judy; I know our AgSAS team misses her greatly; I feel I not only lost a great colleague but also.. a sister. She was so proud of her family and accomplishments of her three children and beamed when speaking of her new grandson. I am grateful for having the privilege to have met and worked so closely with her. It is hard to believe she worked in federal service for over 30 years, with no plans to retire (this is not surprising if you knew Judy); she was a truly faithful, ever smiling, public servant until her final day, as she was determined to fulfill her inspector duties the following week.

NAFV Looking for Emerging Leader to Attend the Upcoming AVMA Leadership Conference, January 2019

NAFV Members, NAFV will be sponsoring a recent graduate within 10 years of graduating from Veterinary school to attend the 2019 AVMA Leadership Conference. Interested members should contact nafv@nafv.org or 202-223-4878.

January 10-13, 2019

The AVMA Veterinary Leadership Conference 2019 will be held January 10-13, 2019, at the Marriott Magnificent Mile. We are hard at work finding ways to continue to improve this conference for you! Check back this fall for more information on new things like: New leadership categories, education delivered in cutting edge and interactive formats, more facilitated and open networking opportunities, a new schedule and more!

Why Attend?

1. Sharpen the Saw! Learn new insights, expand and hone your leadership skills
2. Connect with a diverse network of leaders that represent all aspects of the veterinary profession
3. Deepen your understanding of how the AVMA works and uncover new and exciting ways to get involved!

Public Policy Symposium

Also new this year. The AVMA's Public Policy Symposium will be held Thursday, January 10 from 8 AM – 4 PM. More information on registration, schedule and programming will be available this fall.

OIE: New Tools to Confront Future Biothreats

The risks associated with the emergence or spread of animal diseases are hardly a new topic for veterinarians. In recent years, other scientific communities, experts and policy-makers have come to consider, quite rightly, that the benefits of actions to promote animal health are not restricted to improving animal health and productivity, they are also key components of any biothreat reduction policy. Animal pathogens can be used as biological weapons or for terrorism purposes.

The OIE has been involved in biothreat reduction programmes, in particular through scientific publications (for example, in 2006, with the publication of *Biological disasters of animal origin*) and the organisation of its first global conference in Paris, France, in June 2015, and for many years it has been helping to alert the international community to these issues.

[The OIE Sixth Strategic Plan \(2016–2020\)](#) also highlights the determination of Member Countries to strengthen ‘*relations with the international security community in areas of common interest related to the prevention, preparedness, response and recovery from the deliberate use of animal pathogens to cause harm and natural disasters*’. OIE teams therefore continue their efforts, with the support of our network of reference centres and partner organisations, to implement the [OIE Biological Threat Reduction Strategy](#), based on the concept of dedicated policies, outreach activities, building competencies and capacities, and global animal health information.

In November 2017, the OIE held a [second conference](#) on the subject in Ottawa (Canada), with the active support of Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. The recommendations of the Paris conference (2015) were followed up and new avenues were explored in light of the latest scientific knowledge. This *OIE Bulletin* provides you with full information on the projects, initiatives and programmes in progress. Our warmest thanks go to those who contributed to the success of the conference and to drafting this dossier.

Biothreats remain a matter of concern, but new tools enable us to reduce the level of risk. In addition, confirmation of the synergies founded on excellent intersectoral collaboration between the public health and veterinary sectors and public safety services makes us optimistic about our ability to prevent, prepare for, and respond to these threats.

Monique Éloit
Director General

Original posting: <https://oiebulletin.com/?panorama=01-new-tools-to-confront-future-biothreats>

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOOD SAFETY AND
INSPECTION SERVICE WASHINGTON, DC
FSIS DIRECTIVE**

7320.1 Revision 1 8/6/18

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF TRICHINELLA IN PORK PRODUCTS

I. PURPOSE

This directive provides inspection program personnel (IPP) with instructions on how to verify that establishments address *Trichinella* (*Trichinella spiralis*) during the production of pork products. FSIS is revising this directive because the Agency has removed the prescriptive regulatory requirements in 9 CFR 318.10 for the prevention and control of *Trichinella*. FSIS removed 9 CFR 318.10 because the regulations were inconsistent with the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) regulations (9 CFR part 417). Additionally, the previous version of this directive focused only on the treatment of sausage and sausage-like products for the destruction of *Trichinella*.

KEY POINTS:

- Provides IPP instructions for verifying establishment's compliance with HACCP requirements when considering *Trichinella* in RTE and NRTE pork products
- Clarifies the available options that are effective for the prevention and control of *Trichinella* in RTE and NRTE pork products
- Provides IPP instructions for verifying fresh/frozen raw pork products for exports when produced under a pork quality plus program

***Haemaphysalis longicornis*
The Longhorned Tick Now in the US**

by **Marvin Meinders, DVM, NAFV**

The longhorn tick is native to East Asia but also has been found in Australia, New Zealand and several Pacific islands and is a major livestock pest. But it was identified for the first time in the US in August 2017 on a New Jersey Farm.

Although aggressive measures were taken to eradicate the ticks in September and the premises was declared longhorn tick free, this spring the tick was found on the premises again. It has now been reported in Virginia, West Virginia, New York, and Arkansas. At this time, it is not known how the tick was transported from the East coast to Arkansas but has the potential to become endemic in the US.

There are a few points that should be highlighted:

- ◆ At this time, the ticks test negative for known tick-borne diseases.
- ◆ Other parts of the world, the tick is a known vector of many tick-borne diseases
- ◆ The tick prefers livestock, but will feed on human as well.
- ◆ Tick can reproduce asexually, so one female tick can start an infestation

APHIS has also released a fact sheet about the longhorn tick that is available at:

<https://bit.ly/2wr90p1>

Impact of Longhorn Ticks

USDA and state animal health officials are concerned about the longhorn tick's impact on livestock. These ticks frequently form large infestations on warm-blooded host animals. This causes great stress on the animal, reducing its growth and production. A severe infestation can kill the animal due to blood loss. While there have been no reports in the United States, the longhorn tick is known to transmit certain livestock and human diseases in other countries including Anaplasmosis, Babesiosis, Ehrlichiosis, Theileriosis, Rickettsiosis, and several viruses.

Protecting Livestock & Pets

Regular tick treatments and prevention measures for livestock and pets should be effective against the longhorned tick. Animal owners (both pet and livestock owners) should consult their veterinarian regarding which tick prevention products to use on their animals. Livestock owners should use tick prevention practices on their feedlots and pastures, such as keeping grass and weeds trimmed and clearing away brush.

Reference:

<https://academic.oup.com/jme/article-abstract/55/3/757/4840594?redirectedFrom=fulltext>

Federal Veterinarians Protect and Improve Public and Animal Health and Welfare

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

Periodicals postage paid
 at Washington, DC

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 APHIS Members

(Information available next month)

USDA FSIS Members

(Information available next month)

Welcome New Members

- Dr. Rebecca E. Ita**, APHIS-VS, GS-12, OSU '18, Boiling Springs, PA
 (Recommended by Kelly Hough)
- Dr. Thomas J. Doker**, US-AF, O-5, GA '90, Aiken, SC
 (Recommended by John Sanders)
- Dr. Jerald T. Steinbronn**, FSIS, GS-12, ISU '87, Elk Run Heights, IA
 (Recommended by Ginger Kennicker)
- Dr. Michelle Chapman**, FSIS, GS-12, TUS '18, Modesto, CA
- Dr. Robert E. Burleigh**, FSIS, GS-12, UP '71, Jenkinton, PA
 (Recommended by Catherine Bianchi)
- Dr. Rallene Glascoe**, FSIS, GS-11, TUS '17, Fresno, CA
 (Recommended by Niba Suh)
- Dr. Christopher Peña**, FSIS, GS-11, SRG '16, Amherst, NH
- Dr. Deborah L. Dufficy**, APHIS VS, GS-14, CSU '89, Greenbelt, MD

NAFV Agency Coordinators

FSIS Coordinators

Name	State	Email	Phone Number	District
Ann Beebe	PA	beebe@ptd.net	(610) 570-8657	Philadelphia
Manzoor Hussain	NC	manzoor6@yahoo.com	(910) 848-8238	Raleigh
Teresa Martinez	PA	dvm.tmartinez@gmail.com	(267) 615-6001	Philadelphia
Michael Mikhael	WA	msmikhael@netscape.net	(559) 940-0426	Denver
Tom Vermeersch	IA	tjvermeersch@hotmail.com	(217) 836-8340	Des Moines
Lynne White-Shim	IL	oskee99@gmail.com	(217) 722-2752	Chicago

APHIS Coordinators

Gary Brickler	CA	gary.brickler@gmail.com	(916) 207-9081	
Rachel Cezar	MD	drrachelcezar@gmail.com	(240) 470-5459	
Rod Meier	MT	rodmeierdvm@hotmail.com	(406) 460-1053	
Roberta Morales	NC	roberta.a.morales@gmail.com	(919) 612-7999	
Kathy Orloski	CO	kathy@frii.com	(970) 222-4161	
Barbara Porter-Spalding	NC	bpsgcs@gmail.com	(919) 601-9255	
Linda Schlater	IA	jschlater@aol.com	(515) 337-7599	
Amy Gill	MD	gillvetservices@gmail.com	(225) 200-2550	
Lisa Whiting	MI	medicinewoman84@hotmail.com	(313) 304-9739	
Bob Simer	TX	drsimer@hotmail.com	(405) 209-9666	