

# SVM ALUMNI



School of  
Veterinary Medicine  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

# Class Notes





JUNE 25, 2016  
MADISON, WIS.

**UW School of Veterinary Medicine  
Alumni Reunion**

All alumni and families are welcome as  
we celebrate graduates from the Classes of  
**1991 • 1996 • 2001 • 2006 • 2011**

[vetmed.wisc.edu/alumni-reunion](http://vetmed.wisc.edu/alumni-reunion)

**On the Cover:**

*Top row (left to right): Sarah Slaby, Class of 2003, and family; Debbie (Olbrich) Rink, Class of 2007, and daughter, Charlotte May; Kristen (Weiss) Reiter, Class of 1996 (photo by Cee.Ell.Vee Photography); and Barry Hartup, Class of 1993, delivering a workshop in Rwanda.*

*Bottom row (left to right): Will Sander, Class of 2009, in Uganda; Debra Junkins, Class of 1989, visiting Antarctica; Kris Ellingsen, Class of 1988; Bob Shampo, Class of 1994, and wife, Donna; and Olivier, son of Ayrika White-Mfoudi, Class of 2003.*

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Dear alumni:

I am excited to be sending you the third edition of *SVM Alumni Class Notes*. So many of you have shared how much you enjoy hearing about your classmates and other University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine (SVM) alumni. Thank you to all who took the time to send in your news!

We want to continue our efforts to keep you all in touch. This year, we look forward to having the help of our class representatives to share even more school and classmate news. Please be on the lookout for more information this spring. We're still looking for a few more volunteers to serve as representatives for some of the classes. If you'd like to learn more about this role, please let me know. I promise it won't take up much of your time!

I hope to see many of you at our alumni events throughout the year. We'll again be at the annual conventions for the Western Veterinary Conference (WVC), American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP), and North American Veterinary Community (NAVC). We are excited to have the alumni reunion on June 25, featuring the classes of 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006, and 2011. Also, the date is to be determined, but we'll again host a tailgate and continuing education event at the school in fall 2016.

We will also have a presence at UW Foundation-hosted events in San Francisco (March 5), Chicago (April 14), and Minneapolis (June 23). SVM faculty members have been invited to be featured at the events in Chicago and Minneapolis. Please check our calendar at [vetmed.wisc.edu/events](#) for more details for all of these events as they become available.

Again, thank you for staying in touch!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristi V. Thorson".

**Kristi V. Thorson**  
Associate Dean for Advancement and Administration

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## Class Notes

[ CLASS OF  
1987 ]**Jean Beau**

Hi everyone, obviously I am not very good at keeping in touch with people. I have been in Chicago since graduation. I never aspired to own my own practice (I haven't balanced my checkbook in more than three years and have no plans to do so in the near future). I worked for three practices before finding Uptown Animal Hospital, a seven-doctor practice on the northeast side of Chicago where I have worked as a general practitioner for the past 10 years. I was runner-up in the Chicago Reader 2010 "Chicago's Best Vet" (usually clinics, not individual veterinarians, are chosen). Uptown Animal Hospital won top honors this year.

I have volunteered for the Chicago Veterinary Medical Association Pet Loss Helpline – the first non-vet school helpline in the country – since its inception in 1993. I have also volunteered for the Rainbow Animal Assisted Therapy Dog group for the past 20 years and have volunteered with two of my own certified therapy dogs mainly at Children's Memorial Hospital in the outpatient psych ward working with physically, mentally, and emotionally disabled children. My dog, Boji, and I were one of two teams that founded that program. Every year my clinic sponsors the Rainbow Animal Assisted Therapy Heartworm Clinic, where Rainbow members get low cost heartworm testing and medication.

Personally, I have been with my partner, Robin, for the past 30 years. While I no longer participate in organized sports, I still keep active by hiking, biking, kayaking, rollerblading,

and exercising. I have had both of my knees replaced (one as a result of a tibial plateau fracture caused by my friend's 75-pound FBI explosives dog broadsiding me). I still need to have a torn rotator cuff (secondary to a bike accident) repaired. I hope to retire soon while I am still able to enjoy the things I like to do. That's about it for me. Take care!

**Gerald Henseler**

Gerald Henseler and [Holly Henseler](#), [Class of 1988](#), sold their practice in Pahrump, Nev., and retired in May 2015. We are now traveling and enjoying life.

**Sheri (Marnell) Newell**

In 1989 I opened my own practice, Homestead Veterinary Center, in Jonas, Pa. I still own and am the senior veterinarian there, and my husband of 26 years, Rich, is my hospital manager. I have achieved specialty certification in small animal diagnostic ultrasound, and that remains my passion.

As a recent empty nester, I have started on the path to American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (ABVP) certification! I have one daughter, who is now 20 years old. She is attending the University of St. Andrews in Scotland as a Sustainable Development major. Regretfully, I have not been back to visit University of Wisconsin, but I hope to visit again in the future.

[ CLASS OF  
1988 ]**Kris Ellingsen**

After graduation, I left Madison for the Pacific Northwest. I spent 11 years in Seattle and the past 16 in Portland, Ore. In Seattle, I ended up in the perfect situation for me, doing feline practice at one of the first feline-only clinics in the U.S., where I perfected my cat-care under a wonderful mentor. It was difficult for me to leave, but my husband's career took us to Portland, where I was eventually able to continue in feline practice. I also discovered my interest and honed my skills in high-volume, high-quality spay/neuter at veterinary shelters in the Portland area.

I have been involved with the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon since 2001 as a volunteer surgeon and have been board president since 2008. This winter, the organization will be moving into our own building and brand new clinic to help even more feral and stray cats and their caregivers with TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return). My husband and I have one 18-year-old headed to college next fall, and we are down to two cats...for now.


 CLASS OF  
1989
**Debra Junkins**

I took the SVM to Antarctica with my mom and me in 2014, and I have now visited all seven continents. Back home in Huntley, Ill., I am entering my 17th year as owner of Pet Vet Animal Clinic and Mobile Practice – seeing mostly small animals, a few horses, and a few “others” too.

In 2015, I was named an “Everyday Hero” by our local newspaper for allowing kids, young adults, and even adults, to shadow us and see if DVM or veterinary technician is really the career for them. I’m on Facebook and would love to connect with others from my class and the school!

 CLASS OF  
1988
**John Been**

All’s really swell with the Beens. We’ve had another blessing with a second grandchild – a girl – Gia, born this past June. All three boys are doing fine in their respective careers, and Ranju continues on at the UW Hospital as a medical technologist. I am still doing relief large animal work and loving all my hobbies.

I had a great time seeing several classmates at this year’s Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association (WVMA) convention. I’m honored to serve as the WVMA president this year and also sit on the UW School of Veterinary Medicine’s Board of Visitors, so I get to see all the exciting action going on there. There is major construction and expansion planned for the teaching hospital, so a great school is about to get even better. Go Badgers!

**Linda Giese Moseley**

I am senior partner at the Osseo Vet Clinic, where I started in 1988. Our practice has always been mixed animal, but now, instead of being primarily dairy, we are primarily small animal. One thing has not changed: you NEVER know what will be waiting for you each day – even with good scheduling.

I have two children, Rachel, 15, and Kaden, 12. They are active in 4-H, football, track, and FFA. We live on a 155-acre farm and raise crops and Polled Herefords. We like to travel, and the kids enjoy showing hogs and beef at various shows.

 CLASS OF  
1990
**Kristine Hoyt**

I am still in Maine, running my feline practice and raising my teenage daughter. Fellow Class of 1990 graduate **Harvey Medinger** has made it for a visit, but I am still waiting for any others who want to come visit a lovely home by the sea.

 CLASS OF  
1991
**Ron Biese**

Here are some of the tidbits about my life recently... I am still at Kaukauna Veterinary Clinic with SVM 1991 classmates **Kurt Rossebo**, as a business partner, and **Pat Laritson**, as an associate. Three years ago, we hired **David Gagnon, Class of 2012**. He is fitting in great and doing well, and the practice is busy again – like it was pre-2008.

My wife and I are now empty nesters completely. Our son, Kevin, is going to graduate from the University of North Carolina with a degree in athletic training. He is married to a wonderful woman, Nikki, and they have a child, Weston, who is adorable of course. It is absolutely wonderful being grandparents! We are very excited that our second grandchild is due in February 2016.

Our daughter, Kayla, graduated from Edgewood College in Madison with a nursing degree. She is currently working at the Children’s Hospital in Madison in pediatrics on the oncology/hematology floor and is really enjoying it. She is

dating a young man who is the heavyweight wrestler at Madison, and he is currently training for the 2016 Summer Olympics in Brazil. He was ranked fourth in the country after last season, so he has a decent chance of making the Olympic team.

We also have a 12-year-old Pomeranian and a 15-year-old yellow Lab who keep us busy with geriatric issues.

### Jeffrey J. Lohmiller

It's been an interesting year professionally. In February, I accepted an executive leadership position at the organization that I've been working for since 2000. This move was a major change for me, as I am now administratively responsible for four functional groups including the Veterinary Sciences team that I previously led. My position is one of leading corporate quality, which includes managing several functional areas as well as corporate strategy on product and service quality. My learning curve has been steep and with a series of challenges that I've accepted. I never would have anticipated what doors veterinary medicine would open and the diversity and challenges that would lie ahead. Amazing is all I can say.

On a personal level, Sue and I are looking squarely at being empty nesters as our youngest, Jacob, will graduate high school in June and will join the Navy's Tomahawk Missile Program on July 17. Lauren, who is now a sophomore in college and studying Chinese, has an Army scholarship and will be a translator. Alexis is gainfully employed in her field of study, interior design, and is transitioning from Savannah, Ga., to a new job in Dallas. Our oldest daughter, Brittney, who was born during second year of veterinary school, lives in Midland, Mich., and is a photographer for Midland Daily News. Sue continues to work as an independent financial advisor, and she and I are now planning for the next phase of life.

## CLASS OF 1992

### Carol McLaughlin

Not much has changed – I'm still single with no kids...other than the four-legged kind. I have three Australian Shepherds and a Rat Terrier. Almost all my spare time is spent working/training the dogs or competing in herding, agility, obedience, and rally.

About 10 years ago, I added two days of work at Veterinary Pet Insurance (now Nationwide) to my veterinary relief work. I grew to like it and was tiring of veterinary practice, so several years ago I started there four days a week and now work there Monday through Thursday and do veterinary relief work on some Saturdays. It's a great schedule and allows me much free time for dog activities! I perform medical reviews and disputes. It's kind of like cool investigative work but also using my medical knowledge and background. That's about it for me! I hope to see you all at our 25-year reunion in 2017!

## CLASS OF 1993

### Lisa Borzynski

Greetings to all! After graduation, I was in equine practice in Kentucky and Minnesota for 13 years before returning to Wisconsin in 2006 to join Wisconsin Equine Clinic and Hospital (WECH), a full-service equine hospital and referral center for the Midwest, in Oconomowoc.

I married Bill Cooper, whom I met at the vet school/med school Halloween party in 1990, and we have a 12-year-old daughter, Quinn. We have a small horse farm in Eagle, Wis., and I compete my horse on the hunter/jumper circuit and in eventing. I still love to travel, ski, bike, and scuba dive.

### Barry Hartup

The past year has seen some small but significant changes to my work with the International Crane Foundation (ICF) on behalf of the SVM Special Species section. Recent travels to crane conservation partners in Mongolia and Rwanda have opened doors for research projects and service that will further our development of a true conservation medicine practice with ICF. Rest assured, I'm still going to be focusing a lot of effort on Whooping Crane needs in Wisconsin and elsewhere, but it's nice to get back into the international side of things.

On a personal note, my wife, Merri, and I are now empty nesters, as one daughter graduated from UW last year and is now in Japan on a one-year internship, and the other has started college out east at Smith (sorry, she thought three Badgers in the family was enough). Please stop by the ICF in Baraboo, Wis., to say hello!



Hartup leading a workshop on avian laboratory diagnostic techniques with several veterinarians and students at the headquarters of Gorilla Doctors in Musanze, Rwanda.



### Scot Hodkiewicz

In May 2015, I published a book titled *Getting to Heaven by Going Through Hell*. This is a true-life account of our survival and recovery after a devastating 70 mph head-on collision with a drunk driver. I was nearly killed. In fact, I should have died four times that day – once on impact, once being pinned in a car with a torn femoral vein and ruptured spleen, once when I arrived at the hospital without a pulse, and again when I went into Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation (DIC). At one point, I was given a 1 in 100 chance of surviving. I had nine fractured bones, a bruised liver and lungs, ruptured spleen and bladder. I was in a coma for three days, in the hospital for two months, and out of work for six months. It took over a year of grueling rehab to get back close to normal. My wife and **Class of 1994 alumna, Mona Hodkiewicz**, broke her back in three places, broke her elbow, and had a major concussion but is blessed to have recovered. The three kids and two dogs were banged up, and my oldest daughter (nine at the time) broke her arm, but all survived.

The veterinary community came to our aid immediately. The SVM's Dr. Chuck Henrikson sent out emails to our classes to keep everyone informed, and friends and colleagues came and worked the office to keep it afloat. There were endless letters and emails of support. They were true angels to us. I never thought that day would turn out to be one of the best – not worst – days of our lives. It saved our family, and I thank God every day that we got into it. I found angels all around us, changed spiritually as I recovered physically, and found heaven here on Earth in people I love, a beautiful town to live in, and a career where I do good works every day. Our story demonstrates how we simply cannot see what God wants for us. As I say on the cover, "If you want to hear God laugh, just tell him your plan."

The book is available on Amazon and Kindle with a portion of proceeds going to help various charities, including the local Humane Society, Fellow Mortals Wildlife Rehabilitation Hospital, and Immanuel Lutheran Church. It was a difficult thing to write – having to relive all the hell we went through – but I felt it could help others going through a similar experience.

I hope it helps people find that heaven is not something reserved for after death, it is all around us, right here on Earth, if we only open our eyes.

### Tami Zalewski

After 22 years on active duty in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps, I retired in August 2015. This atypical career and incredible adventure had me working with wonderful people on global health projects in 30 countries, with side trips to another 30. The greatest gift was gaining perspective on how the rest of the world lives compared to the U.S. (along with getting home safely from some pretty rough areas).

For post-Army life, I am settling in Fayetteville, N.C., (near Fort Bragg) with my two dogs, Squirt and Max. I venture back to Wisconsin to catch up with family and friends during the summer months in my RV travel trailer and head back south to stay warmer for the winter. I plan on chipping away at my bucket list of travel destinations and have no shortage of overdue house and yard projects.

If you are in the Fayetteville or North Carolina area and need a tour guide, you are welcome to look me up.

CLASS OF  
1994

### Robert (Bob) Shampo

Life has been just a whirlwind rollercoaster ride over the past few years. After graduation in 1994, I rejoined the Air Force and finished a very successful career. I retired with a full pension from that position in December 2008. The Air Force took me to many amazing locations. I spent time in Africa, Europe, and several great areas in the U.S. Thanks to the Air Force, I can honestly say "I have been to Timbuktu and back!"

For three years after retiring, I worked part-time as an associate at a practice in Montana, providing weekend and after-hours emergency coverage. Working part-time allowed me to really enjoy some of the outdoor activities available in Montana. The camping, hiking, hunting, and fishing are truly amazing there.

My full rollercoaster ride began in March 2011, when my son, Austen, was killed in a motor vehicle accident. There are no words to adequately describe how such an event can really rock your world. Since then, I have relocated back to Wisconsin to be closer to family and became actively involved with The Compassionate Friends, a support group for parents of deceased children. I purchased a small animal practice in Cudahy, Wis., and really enjoy what I do.

The happiest of life's events along the rollercoaster ride was getting married to my amazing wife and business partner, Donna, in June 2015. She is the brains behind making our practice the wonderful success it has been. We just need to hire two more doctors to take that next step in growth.



### Erica (Purcell) Carroll

I cannot remember if I have submitted to Class Notes before, but it was so great seeing some of my fellow Class of 1995 classmates in June for the first time in 20 (!) years that I felt compelled to offer an update. First, it was great to see [Kevin Rockow](#), [Kevin Brunner](#), [Andrea Green](#), [Ed Metcalf](#), [Lisa Peters](#), [James Voss](#), and [Chris Pagel](#) – and to meet Mrs. Pagel. Forgive me if I forgot anyone at the little gathering off campus. At first, I did not recognize everyone – due to different or receding hairlines – but once I heard their voices, the memories came flooding back. (Mostly good ones!)

I just wanted to share that my husband of 16 years, Joe Carroll, and I have been living in Silver Spring, Md., since 2003 and plan to stay in the area another five years or so. I was a Naval reservist during veterinary school, went to the Army Reserves upon graduation, went back to UW in 1998 for a Ph.D. (Ron Schultz was my major professor), and then served on active duty after 9/11. I'm retiring from the Army in January 2017. I'm looking forward to a change, though. I'm a veterinary pathologist doing tox path GLP studies for new military-relevant compounds and hoping to begin a civilian career in tox path or pre-clinical safety testing of new drugs or vaccines.

I volunteered to serve as an SVM class representative but need ideas on if, or how, you would like the Advisory Board to serve you – whether you would like to meet for social or service purposes and what your interests, issues, or needs are as SVM alumni. If you have questions that you would like to see asked in a survey of alumni, I have a separate account for professional topics: [ericacarroll010@gmail.com](mailto:ericacarroll010@gmail.com). Feel free to send me your ideas.

### CLASS OF 1996

### Elizabeth A. Giuliano

I am fortunate to still have wonderful friends and colleagues at UW. I am currently a tenured full professor at the University of Missouri (MU), and I presently serve as President of the American College of Ophthalmologists.

### Kristen (Weiss) Reiter

I may have fallen off the radar, but that doesn't mean I have been sitting idle! I left Wisconsin in 1996 and moved to scenic Whidbey Island, Wash. I met and married my husband, Daren, and together we found heaven on earth – ocean, mountains, wildlife, and a unique community that is reminiscent of Mayberry in attitude and unique characters. After 13 years of providing full-time work in multiple part-time and relief positions (searching for a clinic to call home), I have dropped anchor at Useless Bay Animal Clinic, where I have been practicing small animal medicine for the past five years.

I also started SunDog Labradors shortly after my arrival in Washington. I have taken great pleasure in producing and showing my offspring and providing clientele with healthy family pets and show dogs – no chronic skin or ear Labradors out of my kennel!

I still raise and show Appaloosa horses but have found more enjoyment getting out into nature and trail riding. Since 2004, I have been a participant on the historic Chief Joseph Trail Ride, a ride that follows the trail of the Nez Perce retreat from the cavalry in 1877. We cover 100 miles of the trail each year, and when we arrive in Bear Paw, Mont., in 2016, I will have ridden the entire 1,300-mile route. I rode 117 miles across the state of Washington last year with the John Wayne Pioneer Wagoners and Trail Riders and have rounded up bison on Antelope Island, Utah, in previous years.

In my "spare" time, I enjoy photography and have been an official photographer for the Appaloosa Horse Club and *Appaloosa Journal*, providing the coverage for the Chief Joseph Trail Ride since 2007. In 2014, the staff at the *Appaloosa Journal* and I won an Award for Publication Excellence (APEX), which was no small feat, considering other recipients included companies such as Disney and Ford. My photography has been published in *Horse and Rider*, *Western Horseman*, *Trail Rider* and *EQUUS* magazines as well as the following books: *The Legendary Appaloosa*, *The Appaloosa Horse*, and Marty Becker's *Chicken Soup for the Horse Lover's Soul*. I still sew, draw, paint, and sculpt and have started leatherworking and beading, as well. My mom used to say, "Live every day like it's your last" – such wise words. Life is an adventure, and I've been out living it!

**Elizabeth Yogerst**

Vet Squared. When people ask me if I'm a vet or not, the answer is "yes and yes." Despite being about the last person you would expect to join the military, I joined the Air Force in 1999 as a Public Health Officer. Twelve years of handling everything from anthrax to zucchini took me around the Northern Hemisphere – Arizona, North Carolina, Alaska, Korea, and Germany, with deployments to Iraq and Kyrgyzstan. Air Force training, AVMA conventions, and airport layovers had me set foot in about half the United States. I have two cats who can also claim to be world travelers – starting in Alaska, going to Germany, and returning to the lower 48.

I've been back in Wisconsin since 2011, mostly working on a Master of Public Health degree. I just bought a house in Slinger that affords me the opportunity to garden, have fruit trees, and maybe even tend to urban chickens. I'm in the gray zone between public health and clinical veterinary medicine, investigating shelter medicine, and very interested in emergency preparedness and response. I'm occasionally on Facebook and LinkedIn – drop by and say "Hi!"

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**CLASS OF  
1997**
**Craig Webb**

I thought I'd share a recent picture...[Joe Herzog](#) and I were Class of 1997 classmates, and we got to meet up for dinner in Oahu in November 2015. I was there giving continuing education lectures at the Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association Annual Meeting in Waikiki, and Joe does both emergency medicine and teaches in the veterinary technicians program on Oahu. Joe has been in Oahu with his wife, Brenda, for eight years now, and I'm still at Colorado State University. We both loved our time at the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine and very much enjoy the updates on how well the program is doing these days. Go Badgers!




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**CLASS OF  
2001**
**Karen Tefft**

I've bounced around North America ever since graduation, but I am thrilled that in January 2015 I will be settling into a permanent position as a clinical assistant professor at North Carolina State University.

I interned in and practiced ER in Fort Lauderdale and Tampa for several years before moving to Canada for an internal medicine residency. I spent a couple years on the faculty of the Atlantic Veterinary College, where I completed my residency, before returning to the U.S. to work at The Ohio State University. I'm so fortunate that my husband, Robin, who I dated long-distance throughout vet school, has been able to move with me over the years!

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**CLASS OF  
2002**
**Erin (Pierson) Ribka**

It's been an unbelievably busy year...again! With my mentor, Brook Niemiec, I opened Louisiana's first dedicated veterinary dentistry practice in October 2014, and I took the leap to leave general practice completely in March 2015. I have been traveling a lot, helping to teach dentistry to vets and techs, as well as helping to start another veterinary dentistry practice in Fresno, Calif., with Dr. Niemiec and two other residents.

It has been hectic, working on the practice, specialization, and raising three kids with my fabulous (and exceedingly patient) husband. The twins are nearly 10 years old (!), Quinn is 8 years old, and all are still going strong in French school here in New Orleans. We were fortunate to take the whole family on a trip to France in summer 2014, spending a few days in Paris and visiting friends in Provence. It was amazing!

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**CLASS OF  
2003**
**Jessica (Pagenkopf) Daul**

After 12 years in private practice, I made the decision to become a public health veterinarian for the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS).

As of December 2015, I am in the midst of the three-month training schedule for this new career, and I am enjoying the opportunity to gain new knowledge and to learn new skills. I continue to live in Green Bay, Wis., with my husband, David, and children, Henry, 8, and Elizabeth, 2.



Clockwise from left: Class of 2003 alumna Ayrika White-Mfoudi and her family – including new baby, Olivier; Class of 2004 graduate Tera (Forbeck) Ramig and her two sons, Andrew and Christopher Lee; and Class of 2003 alumna Sarah Slaby on her family's organic dairy farm with her husband, Noah, and their three children, Kanah, 9, Jonah, 7, and Zionah, 3.



**Ayrika White-Mfoudi**

My son, Olivier David-Ellis Mfoudi, was born on Nov. 17, 2015. He joins big brothers Frederick and Benjamin.

**Jesse Sondel**

Life is fun here in Madison! My children are now seven and four years old, and I enjoy spending my time with family and friends, doing yoga, and coaching my daughter's hockey team. Sondel Family Veterinary Clinic was awarded Best of Madison Gold for 2015, and it is a tremendous joy to come to work daily. We are looking forward to the future while taking the time to enjoy life now as well.

**Sarah Slaby**

Dr. Sarah Slaby owns and operates her own veterinary practice, Dr. Sarah Slaby Veterinary Service, in Arcadia, Wis., focusing on dairy production for both conventional and organic dairies. In her spare time, she helps her husband of 10 years, Noah Slaby, on their organic valley dairy farm.

Dr. Sarah also helps serve a need for quality effective organic veterinary products with her second business, Dr. Sarah's Essentials LLC. She feels very blessed to be working in the dairy industry and promoting sustainable, environmentally friendly practices on both the dairies she serves through her practice and at home.

**CLASS OF 2004**

**Rob Blohowiak**

In 2016, Rob Blohowiak will be celebrating 10 years in business as owner of Great Lakes Equine in Hortonville, Wis. Great Lakes Equine is an exclusively equine, five-doctor practice with a fully equipped hospital and 24-hour emergency and ambulatory services. Dr. Blohowiak plans to celebrate all year with gift giveaways and a free picnic for clients and friends. Great Lakes Equine's motto is "Celebrating You, 2006 – 2016."

**Lisa Chapman**

On April 13, 2015, Dr. Lisa Chapman purchased Parkdale Pet Care Ltd., a full-service small animal hospital in West Bend, Wis. Dr. Chapman worked at Parkdale Pet Care for nine years before officially taking over ownership.

**Darin Flaska**

I purchased Arlington Heights Animal Hospital July 2014, and we welcomed our third daughter, Evelyn, at around the same time. I am father of Ryleigh, 7, Sydney, 4, and Evelyn, 1. Balancing ownership and fatherhood is tough but well worth it.

**Tera (Forbeck) Ramig**

Things have been busy in the Ramig household! All Points Equine LLC added another veterinarian to the staff and now offers acupuncture and massage therapy to its clients. Tera and Ben welcomed another boy, Christopher Lee, into the family on Oct. 16, 2015. Big brother Andrew was initially disappointed, as he wanted a sister, but has since come to terms with the new addition.



Left: **Amanda Christy** with her husband, Jay; step-daughter, Makayla; and dogs, Buck and Bella. Center: **Maria Krenz** (center white jacket) and the ZimmVet staff at the one-year anniversary of their new building. Right: **Becky Brotzman** with her husband, Eli, and sons, Caleb and Jacob Samuel.

CLASS OF  
2007

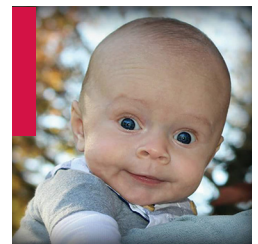
### **Becky (Mentink) Brotzman**

Thanks to the support and guidance of Drs. Nigel Cook and Dorte Dopfer, I finished a Master of Science degree in dairy science in December 2014. The project used principle component analysis and cluster analysis of Dairy Herd Improvement data to identify groups of large, Upper Midwest dairy farms, followed by a survey to discover patterns of performance associated with management practices. The high performance groups were also subjected to a survey of animal well-being measures. Results emphasize the need to avoid a “one-size-fits-all” approach to problem-solving on large dairies. A few months later, my husband, Eli, and I welcomed a baby boy, Jacob Samuel, on March 9, 2015. Caleb, 2, is a great brother, and they enjoy each other very much. My last official day of work at the SVM for The Dairyland Initiative was on Sept. 30, 2015, so that I can be home to care for my family. I greatly enjoyed the past five years spent working as an outreach specialist with the Food Animal Production Medicine section, and I will miss my colleagues and friends. Thankfully, I will have the opportunity to continue to do some teaching for The Dairyland Initiative and other consulting work privately on a limited basis.

### **Megan (King) Kramer**

After graduation, I worked at White-water Veterinary Hospital for five years before moving back to my hometown of Stevens Point, Wis., in 2012. I accepted a position at Community Animal Hospital (where I job shadowed as a kid!) and have been working there since as a general practitioner.

My most exciting news is that my husband, Justin, and I welcomed our first child this year! John Clifford arrived on Aug. 5, 2015. We couldn't be happier! He's a very happy baby and has brought us so much joy.



### **Christine Nelson**

For the last three years, Christine has been working at International Animal Rescue's orangutan rescue and rehabilitation center in Ketapang, West Kalimantan (Borneo), Indonesia.

CLASS OF  
2005

### **Amanda C. Christy**

After graduation, I began my active duty service in the Army. I have been stationed in Colorado, Hawaii, Africa, and am currently stationed in Maryland. I just completed a laboratory animal medicine residency and successfully passed board exams this summer.

CLASS OF  
2006

### **Maria (Ozarowicz) Krenz**

In November 2015, we celebrated the one-year anniversary of moving our clinic, ZimmVet, which we originally purchased in 2008, to a brand new 7,200 square-foot building. The new ZimmVet building in Zimmerman, Minn., features a clinic, pet hotel, dog daycare, as well as indoor and outdoor dog training facilities. We also added a doctor, so we are now a 2.5 veterinarian practice. By the time this is published, we will have welcomed our first child, a girl, in December 2015. I still live in Princeton, Minn., with my husband, Josh, on our 100-acre hobby farm, which includes cattle, horses, sheep, chickens, rabbits, and cats.

### **Jenna McCarthy**

My family and I moved from Colorado to Illinois in April 2013, and I have been working at Banfield Pet Hospital in Geneva since. Our older son, Evan, 5, became a big brother to Ian in June 2015.

### **Tami Strom**

My husband, Sean, and I adopted a son, Averson Robert Strom. He was born on March 14, 2015.



**Debbie (Olbrich) Rink**

My update for this year is the birth of our daughter, Charlotte May Rink, on Dec. 3, 2015. She weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces and was 20.5 inches long.

**CLASS OF  
2008**

**Matt Feirer**

Matt joined the staff of Marshfield Labs as a board-certified clinical pathologist in May 2015. He really enjoys reading cases for all of you and wants to thank you for all your support of the lab.

**Mara Hickey**

I finished my emergency and critical care residency in Los Angeles over a year ago. For a short time, I worked at a local small referral hospital, but I've always wanted an academic position. I am happy to say that I got my wish, and I am settling in at my new position as the head of the Emergency and Critical Care Service at the University of Sydney in Australia. This is a new service, and I am adjusting to a lot of small differences. I've also inherited the directorship of the internship program, so any of you overseeing residency programs may be hearing from me in support of new applications.

Between learning about tick paralysis, absorbing all aspects of the metric system, and learning which way the water really spins when the toilet is flushed, I've been pleasantly busy. The main things I miss so far are great Mexican food, cheap drinks, and In-N-Out burgers.

But all in all, Australia is fantastic, and if any of you ever head this way, please look me up so I can point you toward some great food and fantastic sights. Email: [mara.hickey@sydney.edu.au](mailto:mara.hickey@sydney.edu.au).

**Christy Rettenmund**

I finished my zoological medicine and surgery residency at the Wildlife Conservation Society (Bronx Zoo) in June 2015. I then took the American College of Zoological Medicine (ACZM) board exam in October and passed, so I am now an ACZM Diplomate! I am currently working as an associate veterinarian at the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore.

**CLASS OF  
2009**

**Suzanne McKichan**

My husband, Ryan, and I are going on year three in Wisconsin Dells, and we love it. I have been staying busy with – and enjoying – my own equine practice. We have Levi, 3, and Rylee, 1, so there's never a dull or quiet moment, at least until bedtime. We have two horses now, and I have had a great time trail riding and doing some reining work with one of them. I have also been pretty good about running lately, which is actually more relaxing than being at home sometimes. We're winding down home and barn-building projects, so hopefully we don't move anytime soon.

**Will Sander**

Over the past year, I finished my American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Policy Fellowship at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and am now a veterinary specialist consultant for Booz Allen Hamilton, working with the Defense Threat Reduction Agency in the Department of Defense. I am part of a multidisciplinary team examining different countries' human and animal health systems and their ability to detect and respond to pathogens of security concern. I also practice as a wildlife veterinarian on the weekends at City Wildlife. I am active in a few organizations including the District of Columbia Veterinary Medical Association (DCVMA), One Health Academy, American College of Veterinary Preventative Medicine (ACVPM), and the AVMA's Future Leaders Program and Committee on Environmental Issues. Last year, I spent a month in Uganda with Veterinarians Without Borders, training farmers how to better recognize diseases to report to district veterinarians. My wife, Sam, and I live in Hyattsville, Md. with our two dogs, one cat, and two leopard geckos.





**Connie Fazio**

In the past, I haven't had much to contribute. This year though, I am proud to say, that I am officially a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Radiology. Besides that, life is good too.

**Stephanie Kvalheim**

Stephanie Kvalheim and her husband, Jim, welcomed twin boys, Caleb James and Aaron Joshua, on July 1, 2015. She continues to work as a mixed-animal practitioner at Evansville Veterinary Service in Wisconsin.

**Dustin Lochner**

I got married in June 2015 and am still working at River Valley Veterinary Clinic in Plain, Wis.



**Margaret McDougall**

After graduation five years ago, my husband and I had 10 days of post-veterinary school quiet before our first daughter, Linda, was born. We enjoyed Madison with a newborn for six months before moving up to the Chipewewa Valley. I worked at a small animal clinic, and our second daughter, Rosemary, was born in 2013. Currently, I am teaching at a local veterinary technology program and am doing relief work for a couple clinics. I still have no idea what I want to be when I grow up, but am I hoping that I will eventually figure it out!



*Left: Connie Fazio (second from left), Class of 2010, poses for a photo with her fellow presentation and poster winners at the annual American College of Veterinary Radiologists Scientific Meeting. Right: Class of 2011 alumna Tara (Rabideaux) Johanek with her growing family.*

**Tara (Rabideaux) Johanek**

I am still working as an associate veterinarian at Apple Valley Veterinary Clinic in Appleton, Wis. My husband and I just welcomed our son, Adler James, into our lives on Sept. 6, 2015. We couldn't be more in love with our little man!

**Leanne Lilly**

After four years in primary care (a mix of preventive and emergency/urgent care, as is often the case), I decided to pursue a specialty internship in behavior. I left the beautiful state of Colorado for a position at the University of Pennsylvania, in partnership with a small, no-kill shelter in the area. It's a lot like being in school but with an office.

I'm enjoying a bit of "fame" with the program being featured in *Veterinary Practice News*, and one of my cases featured in *Penn Today* and online at *Dogster Magazine*, though "Famous Farrah" still awaits her forever home.

I see JD Foster (former SVM internal medicine resident) on a regular basis and sporadically bump into **Christin Reminga, Class of 2012**. It's so far been a very mild winter, with highs in the 50s and no snow. I am loving that and happy in my delusion that it may last. The Class of 2011 now has a Facebook group so we can share more, talk more, do more, and be there for each other. Can't wait to see what everyone has been up to!

**Amanda Pike**

I'm still living in Madison, and I still love it. I created Comforts of Home, a veterinary house call business that has been up and running since October 2011 and is now full-time. If anyone wants to talk about starting a business, I'd be very happy to discuss the good and bad and help prevent someone else from repeating the mistakes that I made!



**CLASS OF  
2012**

**Allison Janz**

2015 brought a lot of change. This past spring, I completed my certification in Veterinary Spinal Manipulation Therapy (VSMT). My husband and I also bought a mixed animal practice in central Missouri. It has been a rewarding experience to operate our own clinic.

**Jessica Southwick**

Jessica Southwick gave birth to baby boy, Turner John, on Oct. 9, 2014. She works as a large animal practitioner at Marshfield Veterinary Service in Wisconsin.

our two cats, Milo and Dexter, and also added a crazy mutt, Lexi Lu, a two-year-old FS Boxer mix, to the family. Overall, life is good!



**Julia Naber**

I am working as a full-time mixed animal practitioner in Berlin, Wis. Our family has grown again this year, just slightly faster than we originally planned! In July, we proudly welcomed twin boys, Nathaniel and Henry! They are both doing well and growing rapidly. Big brother Charlie is very proud of his baby brothers.

**CLASS OF  
2013**

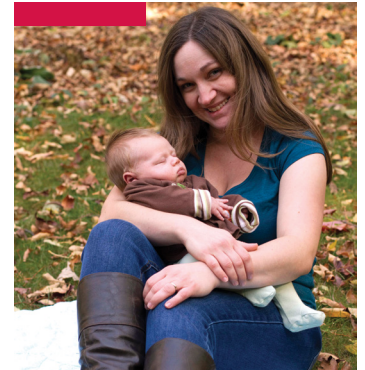
**Carrie Anderson**

After graduation, I completed an internship at Blue Pearl-Chicago, and began practice at a small animal clinic in Vancouver, Wash. However, day practice was not my calling, and after six months I moved to Salt Lake City, where I began working as an emergency doctor at Advanced Veterinary Care. I love my new job and being able to consult with and learn from the specialists that I work with on a daily basis. Plus, I love living in Salt Lake City; the mountains are beautiful—especially when they're covered in snow! Now I spend my free time with my four cats, visiting my boyfriend in Arizona when I can, trying not to adopt any new animals, and trying new, tasty recipes!



**Kristin Nyren**

Landon and I were thrilled to welcome our new family member home this past fall! Owen Charles Nyren was born on Sept. 18, 2015. He weighed 8 pounds, 14 ounces and was 21 inches long.



**Kendra Bauer**

In July 2015, my husband, our dog, and I moved across the country from Washington state to Washington, D.C. I have started a three-year zoological medicine residency at the Smithsonian National Zoological Park. My husband, Jace, has started a great job at a company called Opower, where he helps the world save energy. Our adorable one-year-old Border Collie mix, Elwood, is too smart for his own good and recently graduated top of his class at a local obedience school (yet he still has abysmal manners).



**David Sudbrink**

David Lee Sudbrink, Class of 2013, and **Lindsey Nikou (Marrotte) Sudbrink, Class of 2012**, were married in December 2014. They purchased Salt Creek Veterinary Clinic – a mixed animal practice located in Newcastle, Wyo. – in January 2015 and currently serve the northeastern corner of Wyoming and the south-

**Gina Laur**

Life has been sailing along without much change professionally. I am still a small animal practitioner in a rural clinic in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, where I started after graduation. Although it is primarily small animal-focused, we see a lot of wildlife and a little bit of anything else that walks in the door! My husband, Dave, and I are celebrating our 10-year wedding anniversary at the end of 2015 and are expecting our second child (another boy!), due Feb. 3. My son, Gavin – born between our second and third year of veterinary school – is already 4½ years old and is a complete joy. We still have

western corner of South Dakota. They are expecting the arrival of Baby Sudbrink in early February 2016 (expected Class of 2041). Baby Sudbrink will join their herd of three horses, one cow (also expecting), one ram, four dogs, and two cats.

**CLASS OF  
2015**

**Justin P. Hess**

I am an associate large animal (mainly bovine) veterinarian at Dairyland Veterinary Service in Casco, Wis.

SVM Alumni Class Notes is published by the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine. We welcome your suggestions and contributions, though we reserve the right to edit submissions.

We thank the generous donors who provided funding for this publication. No state funds were used in its production.

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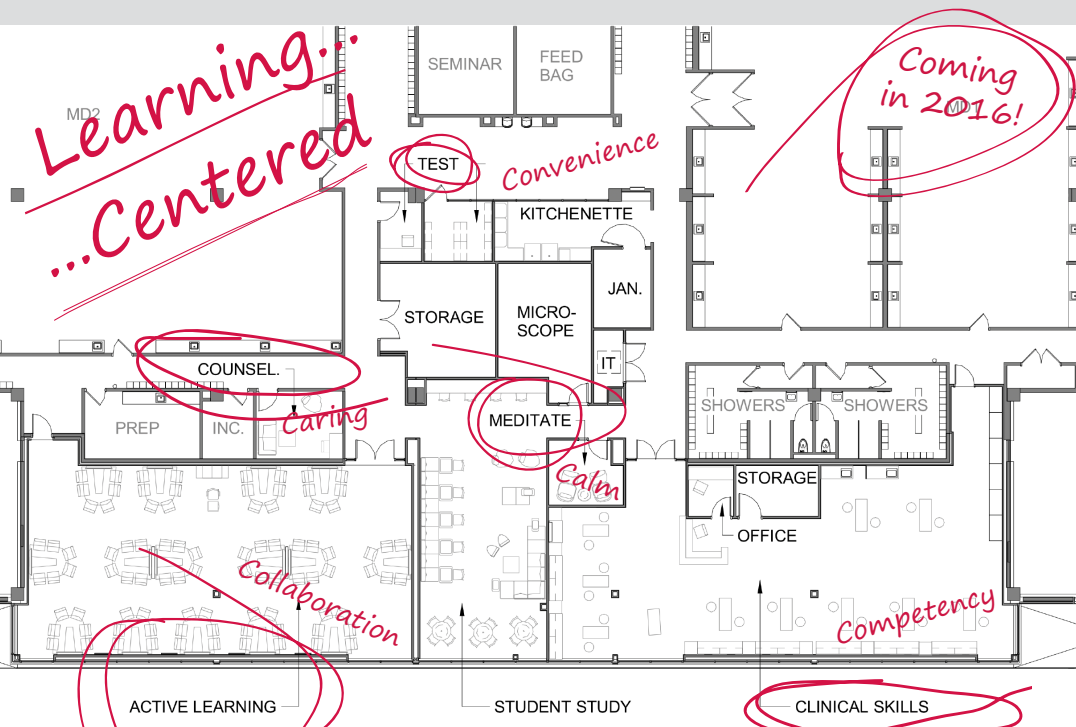
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