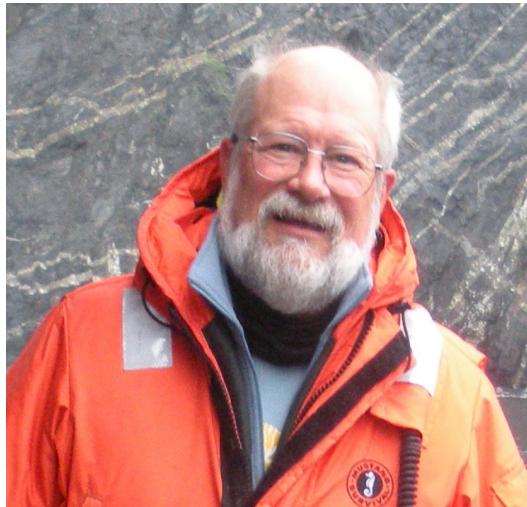


A VETERINARIAN'S TALES FROM  
THE MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM  
FEATURING DR. MIKE MURRAY  
THIS IS A SOCIAL MEETING—BRING A FRIEND!



Dr. Mike Murray (Purdue '77) commenced on a life devoted to his career. After stints in the U.S. Army and private practices ranging from small animals to zoo, avian and exotics, he settled down at the Monterey Bay Aquarium in 1988 where he is the staff veterinarian with a special interest in Southern Sea Otters. "Luna" (shown at right) is one of many that was rescued from the wild, cared for and then released. This endangered species numbers only about 2,800 animals in the wild. Dr. Murray is an internationally known and acclaimed figure in his field.

Dr. Murray keeps track of 550 species comprising 35,000 potential patients. His time is filled with consultations, patient exams, surgery and research. "I'm the Swiss Army Knife of the institution," he quips.

To properly care for animals expected to be returned to the wild, interaction with humans must be minimized. To that end, workers disguise themselves using black rain ponchos, welder's masks and heavy gloves when coming near the animals. Dr. Murray's animal care staff numbers 75 to 100 workers. The Monterey Bay Aquarium is a scientific and conservation-based institution which provides tremendous job satisfaction on a daily basis. Dr. Murray declares, "I have the best job in the world . . . it's all fun!"



[www.PeninsulaVMA.org](http://www.PeninsulaVMA.org)

Tuesday January 21, 2014

This PVMA meeting offers 1 hour of CE Credit

The meeting will be held at **The Vans Restaurant** in Belmont which is located at **815 Belmont Avenue**, west off El Camino Real, up the hill. There is parking adjacent and also across the street to the west. 6:30pm for adult beverages, 7:00pm for dinner and program

- PVMA members free; Life Members \$25; Guests \$45 -

## Epidemiology Corner

Charlene Edinboro, DVM, PhD

A resource for veterinarians and owners is the Pet Poison Helpline, an animal poison control center based out of Minneapolis, which is staffed 24/7 to answer questions about potential poisonings. The fee is \$39 per incident including follow-up consultation for the duration of the poison case. Pet Poison Helpline is available at 800-213-6680 and at [www.petpoisonhelpline.com](http://www.petpoisonhelpline.com). This group gives free webinars with helpful information for veterinarians and staff members.

Are your clients aware of enough biology to understand the need for spaying/neutering before unplanned litters and much earlier than 1 year of age? A recent study in the UK revealed that many cat owners had a “poor” understanding of this, with 80% of the respondents reporting “accidental litters.” Here’s the abstract: <http://veterinaryrecord.bmj.com/content/early/2013/11/25/vr.101909.abstract.html?papetoc>. This study illustrates the value of veterinarians as educators!

Here’s the link to the forms and information for requesting rabies vaccination exemption in San Mateo County (scroll to the bottom of the page): <http://smchealth.org/AnimalLicensing>. Remember, the paperwork must include copies of medical records (including pathology reports) that state and/or corroborate the diagnosis that is the basis for the exemption request. Titers are not required and are not substitutes for the complete package of forms and supporting records.



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# Bird Shelter and Rescue

## In South Kingstown, Rhode Island



After cats and dogs, birds are America's third most popular pet. Parrot popularity began to soar a few decades ago helped along, perhaps, by the 1970s television show "*Baretta*" whose title character had a cockatoo that played a prominent role in many adventures. "They were a fad and millions were sold for years until now the problem is coming home to roost," said Marc Johnson, founder of Foster Parrots, an organization that operates New England's largest parrot sanctuary out of a former chicken farm in Hopkinton, RI. Many owners aren't prepared for the challenges and decades-long commitment of caring for parrots. With their intellect approaching that of a human toddler and a lifespan much longer than a dog or cat, parrots demand years of intellectual and social stimulation. They're loud and sometimes aggressive and many species can outlive their owners.

Stephen Lazicki operates **Bird House and Rescue in South Kingstown, Rhode Island** but was forced to move from his original location when the landlord decided to tear down the building that housed his 80 unwanted, abandoned and neglected birds at the end of 2013. About 10 times a week, he reports, someone calls him wanting to get rid of a parrot. Lazicki, an Army veteran and former aerospace machinist, has run his shelter which he also calls his orphanage, for 17 years. "Parrots are very intelligent and need a lot of attention. People buy a parrot without any idea of what they're getting into," he laments. He takes in the birds and then works to find them new homes. More than 50 were adopted in 2013 but there's a steady stream of new arrivals. Unless he finds a suitable location, the shelter will have to close its doors.



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All submissions must be received by  
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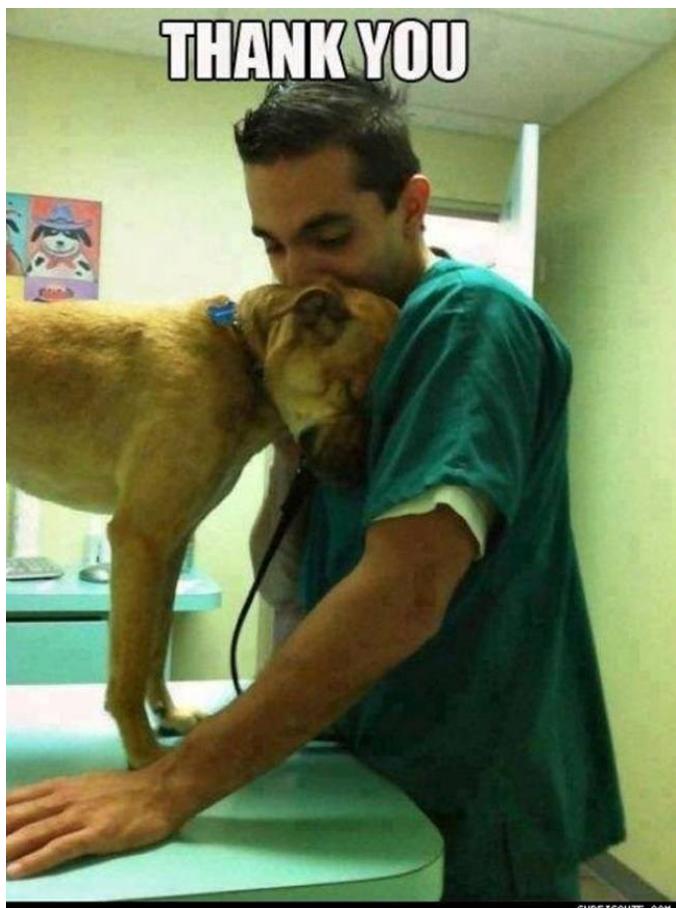
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# NOTEWORTHY NEWS . . .

## In Memoriam

Dr. Daniel Yturraspe (DVM, WA '65), PhD in surgery (CO), passed away on December 29th following a short illness. Dan was a native of Jordan Valley, Oregon. He was a Board certified veterinary surgeon who started practice in San Francisco then later in San Bruno, Belmont and finally at VCA Holly Street Animal Hospital in San Carlos. He was a Life Member of PVMA and fondly remembered by all his colleagues. Burial will be in Oregon. Please call his colleague Dr. Jim Bower at (650) 631-7400 for information on a Memorial Service locally. Plans are pending as we go to press at year-end.

## Mark Your Calendars

The **Fifteenth Annual Small Animal Veterinary Symposium** will be held on Sunday March 2, 2014. This year's event again will be at the San Francisco Airport Marriott and will feature five tracks of speakers. The event will be sponsored by SAGE Centers - for information contact: [mRailton@SageCenters.com](mailto:mRailton@SageCenters.com)

## New Laws for 2014

The sale of animals at Swap Meets and Flea Markets will be prohibited.

The minimum age for canine rabies vaccine changes from four months to "three months and older" in California which is in line with other states.

### Caution!

**A case of Rabies in a dog was confirmed in San Mateo County in August 2013. It's out there!**

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