From the President’s Desk

Dear Colleagues

Another year has gone by at an incredibly pace. I hope that all of you can now look forward to a couple of days or maybe a couple of weeks of a well earned rest and relaxation in the company of your families and friends.

Our annual scientific congress took place on the 10th and 21st October in Windhoek. It was preceded by the Annual General Meeting of our Association and a CPD course offered by Pfizer on the 19th October. The events were very well attended and the congress turned out to be a very successful meeting. Many colleagues commented very positively on the various aspects, like the scientific programme, topics, speakers, venue, social events and the exhibition. The trade exhibition by the industry was once again of a very high standard and the support by the industry again very extensive and generous.

Our congress is becoming ever more popular and new firms are attending each year. Financially the congress was also a success and we were able to generate a moderate profit. My sincere thanks go to all the members of ExCo who put in a lot of time and hard work into the organization of congress, as well as our sponsors and speakers who helped to make congress such a successful and enjoyable event. Dale Parrish from Intervet subsequently sent us this note: “Thank you very much for a well organized congress. I always look forward to it because it is the highlight of my year. It is the people who make the difference.”

Planning for the next congress in 2006 has already started. At this stage the idea is to hold it once more in Swakopmund, although no final decision has been taken yet. We would like to encourage everyone to contact us with proposals regarding speakers, topics and social events. This will greatly assist us to organize a meeting which is of maximum benefit to all of you.

As another service to our members we have presented congress delegates with a file on “Toxic Plants of Veterinary Importance in Namibia”, which we hope will become a very useful tool to the Namibian veterinarian. Due to the very high cost of producing this file, we will have to charge a fee for additional copies, for those who still wish to acquire the file.

The recent severe outbreak of rabies in dogs in Windhoek has once again shown that we can never relax our vigilance in our constant battle against animal diseases. Following a meeting with concerned private veterinarians in Windhoek, after the mass vaccination campaign, VAN recognized that rabies is a national problem and should be tackled as such and decided to become involved proactively and offer its help and resources in an appropriate way to create an ongoing public awareness regarding the dangers of rabies and the importance of vaccinations. In this regard VAN is planning to organize a National Rabies...
Symposium in 2006, possibly in association with the medical profession. It is also planned to make RABIES the theme for the activities of World Veterinary day 2006. Again ideas, suggestions and help in this regard from you, our members, will be greatly appreciated.

A busy year is behind us and an even busier one seems to be ahead of us. In conclusion, I would like to wish all of you and your loved ones all the best for the Festive Season as well as a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Rainer Hassel, President, Veterinary Association of Namibia.

VAN ExCo Digest

We would like you to meet your representatives in the ExCo committee. The profile given below is how they see and express themselves.

The President: Rainer Hubertus Hassel is a partner in the mixed practice “Windhoek Animal Hospital” in Windhoek.
His address is:
P.O. Box 5039. Tel 061 224925 e-mail: hassel@iafrica.com.na
Veterinary field of interest: small animal medicine and surgery. Hobbies: hunting, fishing and electric model trains.

The Vice President: Dr Alexander Toto
He is 34 years old, married to Chipo for 11 years now. They have two children Tatenda (daughter – 10 yrs) and Kudzai (son – 7yrs).
He is employed by the directorate of veterinary services (DVS), in the Ministry of Agriculture Water and Forestry (MWAF) as a state veterinarian (SV) dealing with Livestock Identification and Traceability System and is based in Windhoek.

Hobbies: Photography and art, playing racquet sports and watching soccer and rugby

Passions: Business and politics

Principle: If any would not work, neither should he eat

Childhood Dream: To run a country

The Secretary: Dr Roger PASKIN works in Meat Board of Namibia as the Manager for Trade and is based in Windhoek. He deals with Epidemiology, product quality monitoring and enhancement, safe and healthy international trade.

His vision is to see all veterinarians in Namibia working together to (a) improve our professional standards and (b) improving livestock health by technically sound means

Dr. Mike Beggs: Private vet
Corner House Veterinary Clinic
1 Church Street, Windhoek
P.O. Box 5010 Windhoek
Tel : 061 244 095
Cell: 081 128 0622
Small and equine clinician

Interests : Small Animal and equine medicine and surgery , emergency medicine , weightlifting, hiking , trail riding.

The treasurer: Dr A Marais, is a State veterinarian and the registrar of the Veterinary council of Namibia. I am State vet Windhoek, registrar of the Council, teach at Neudamm college, married to John (environmental scientist), have 2 daughters 7 and 10

Dr Albertina Baby Musilika-Shilongo is Veterinary Officer for import/export control. She is married to Natangwe Shilongo, and a mother of two boys.

Expectations: Market access to lucrative markets locally and international for all livestock owners in the Northern Communal Areas, in particular North Central and Kunene by the year 20011.

Dr Milton Maseke is a state veterinarian based in Gobabis 28 years of age making him the youngest state vet in Namibia.

Dr Edmore Masaire is a state veterinarian based in Ondangwa. Married to Azvinei Temptation for eight years and have two daughters (Ruvimbo Tsungai-7years and Anesu- 5years) and son Anotidashe Godsave- 3 years.

Hobbies: Exploring computer technology, worshiping, sports exercise with my children.

Passion: Having an impact on my world for better and for Christ.

Vision: To become a successful dairy farmer and a business man.

Dr Esther Muradzikwa did a three year National Diploma in Agriculture at Polytechnic college of Namibia before her BVSc certificate done in Harare. She is a SV in Otjiwarongo and married to Dr Edwin Muradzikwa. Have three children 2 boys (Tanaka 7 years and Tatenda D. 2 years) and 1 girl (Varaidzo 3 years).

Passion: Care of Children & farming

Expectations: Working in collaboration and assisting one
another towards making our individual and cooperate dreams come true.

Why is it important to be a VAN member?

What does the Association do for me?

This is probably the most frequently asked question by veterinarians of this association. Colleagues do not often appreciate the day to day management of the association and often take it for granted. This same phenomenon is not only a Namibian problem. For those of you who have read the SAVA vet new news, you have probably met a similar issue.

Here are examples of some important functions which the VAN performs:

1. Represents veterinarians in dealings with the public, the government, the press, the Veterinary Council, the Pharmaceutical Council, the Professional Provident Society, etc.

2. Organizes continuing education through congresses, seminars, courses and workshops. Formulates tariff guidelines for practitioners.

3. Promotes, improve, support and protect the interest of veterinary profession and maintain the dignity of an honourable profession.

4. Obtain and Disseminates information to its members by publications such as circulars and The Manga.

5. Originate and promote improvements in the laws affecting the profession and to support or oppose alterations to the policy. VAN contribution is particularly towards important issues such as animal welfare, medicines, veterinary education and ethics.

Ten more good reasons...

1. The VAN is an identifiable, professional organisation with its own corporate image, which promotes the health and welfare of animals and mankind.

2. The VAN serves as an umbrella body for veterinarians and acts as an advisory body to the Veterinary Council of Namibia.

3. The VAN provides a collective and powerful voice to ensure effective liaison with government, research and academic institutions, industry, the general public and the media.

4. The VAN has created a platform for various branches and groups and, thus, serves the collective interests of a particular group of veterinarians.

5. The VAN, with its groups and branches, organises congresses, seminars, courses and workshops to maintain a high level of continuous veterinary education for the profession.

6. The VAN serves the collective interest and fellowship of all veterinarians, irrespective of their field of specialisation.

7. The VAN stimulates professional communication through its monthly publication – The Manga.

8. The VAN, through its ExCo committee, launches marketing and PR campaigns to create an awareness of the profession among the public and serves to promote effective marketing within the profession.

9. The VAN establishes norms for professional conduct.

10. VAN may provide financial assistance to members of the Association, or to such members of the profession who are not members of the association, or to their dependants, or to veterinary students, as the association may think fit.

Principles of Peripheral Nerve Repair

M. R. Raffe

This is an interesting aspect that you can read from the IVIS website. For those who receive the electronic copy please follow the links as they are presented here. For those who receive a hard copy log on to:

http://www.ivis.org/special_books/orth/

Biology of Nerve Repair and Regeneration

- MORPHOLOGY
- PHYSIOLOGY
- CLASSIFICATION OF NERVE INJURY
- RESPONSE TO INJURY
- FACTORS INVOLVED IN NERVE HEALING
- METHODS USED IN ASSESSMENT OF PERIPHERAL NERVE INJURY

Surgical Repair of Peripheral Nerves

- GENERAL PRINCIPLES
- SURGICAL TECHNIQUES
- NERVE CUFFS
- NERVE GRAFTS
- NERVE GAPS
• FACTORS INFLUENCING SUCCESS OF SURGICAL REPAIR

• POSTOPERATIVE CARE

• ASSESSMENT OF NERVE REPAIR
CONTINUED EDUCATION

For those of us who would like to follow some continued education courses, I have found this for you. You can follow the links for more information or you can log on to IVIS website http://www.ivis.org/

Start page

We have the pleasure of inviting you to the

4th International Veterinary Vaccines and Diagnostics Conference (IVVDC)

June 25-29, 2006 in Oslo, Norway

The conference provides an excellent opportunity to meet colleagues and be updated on recent progress and future perspectives in the fields of vaccinology and diagnostics.

The IVVDC has become an important meeting place for regulatory authorities, pharmaceutical companies and the scientific community. An exciting scientific program has been prepared covering the various areas of vaccinology and diagnostics.

Social events will be an integral part of the meeting.

We look forward to seeing you in Oslo!

On behalf of the organisers,

Arve Lund
Chair Scientific and organising committees
National Veterinary Institute, Oslo

Liisa Sihvonen
Vice-chair Scientific committee
National Veterinary and Food Research Institute, Helsinki

The conference is supported by:

World Organisation for Animal Health: http://www.oie.int
Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture: 

First announcement and the invitation

More information for the congress bellow can be obtained from the SAVA website.

Annual South African Equine Veterinary Association Congress

2006 - South Africa: Scientific Program.

SUNDAY 19 February 2006

14H00 - 17H00: Registration
18H30: Welcoming Cocktail

MONDAY 20 February 2006

07H30 - 08H00: Late registration

OPENING SESSION
08H00 - 08H30: Opening address
08H30 - 10H00: Diagnostic anaesthesia and treatment of horses with sore feet R Dabareiner
10H00 - 10H30: Medication of the navicular bursa (1) R Dabareiner
10H30 - 11H00: Tea
11H00 - 11H30: Medication of the navicular bursa (2) R Dabareiner
11H30 - 13H00: Management of surgical diseases of the fetlock D Richardson
13H00 - 14H00: Lunch

SESSION Chairman: Johan Marais
14H00 - 14H30: Scintigraphy a non-invasive, quantitative assessment tool for the lame horse E Kilian
14H30 - 15H30: Surgery for the laminitic and navicular horse R Dabareiner
15H30 - 16H00: Tea
SAEVA 38th Annual Congress

Registration Form: 2006

19-23 February 2006, Pine Lodge, Port Elizabeth

Note: Registration after 16 January 2006: Rates increase R400-00
**Delegate Details** (This section may be copied for each additional delegate)

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- EPG Member
- Membership fees
- EPG New Member Applicant
- SAVA Non EPG member
- Non SAVA Non EPG member
- Pre-graduate student member
- Day delegate: program per day

*Please add 14% VAT:* R________ (VAT)

**TOTAL PAYABLE:** R________

**Please tick functions you will be attending:**

- Cocktail Sun
- Dinner Monday
- Braai Tuesday
- Formal Dinner Wednesday

Registration fee includes lunch, teas, all functions, scientific programme and proceedings.

*Please note: Accommodation (b&b) to be booked on Accommodation booking sheet attached.*

**Cheques:**

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**IMPORTANT NOTICE!!!**

A copy of the deposit slip is required. It must be faxed with your details clearly marked on the slip or a copy attached to your registration form if posted. Confirmation will be sent to you upon receipt. Without proof of payment no bookings will be made.

**Disclaimer**

The Congress Organising Committee of the SAEVA Congress will do everything possible to ensure that your attendance at the Congress will be as comfortable and beneficial as possible. The Organising Committee, its appointed agents or other sub-contractors act on the basis that they attend to the arrangement of the Congress for the convenience of the Congress delegates. They perform all tasks on condition that the Organising Committee, member of its management team, or its appointed agents or other sub-contractors cannot be held responsible for loss, damages or inconvenience, however arising, including negligence experienced by delegates of the Congress including the journey to/from the Congress; neither can they be held responsible for any unforeseen partial or total cancellation of the event; neither will any refunds be entertained other than set out above. The program is subject to change without notice. By completing and forwarding your registration form you agree to the above conditions.

Please post your completed registration form and cheque/deposit slip to SAEVA Office, P.O. Box 16539, Pretoria North, 0116.

**Enquiries:** Madaleen Schultheiss 0825756479 Tel: (012) 346 3442 or 346 1590 Fax: 086 6719 907