Summer has finally arrived after a very see-saw kind of Spring in Colorado! This issue of the VRCC newsletter highlights our Emergency, Internal Medicine and Ophthalmology teams as well as upcoming events and news.

Learn more about Mandy, the Client Coordinator for the Ophthalmology team.

The Internal Medicine team discusses Smokey, an Australian Shepherd who came in with a stick lodged in his nose—ouch! Learn more about each of our Emergency doctors in the specialty highlight.

We have a full listing of events you'll want to review and mark on your calendar, including a continuing education gathering this fall as well as our Battle of the Vet Hospital Stars later this year.

Happy Summer!
Your VRCC Team

CONTINUING EDUCATION: COLORADO RAPIDS

Join our VRCC Specialists at Dick’s Sporting Goods Park in Commerce City from 6pm-10pm in October, for an evening of learning at the Colorado Rapids stadium. Current topics in specialty veterinary medicine will provide continuing education credits and dinner will be served. Space is limited to 150 people, and registration is a first-come, first-serve basis. As always, this CE event is FREE to attend. Registration will open up for this CE in late August. Details including date and how to register to follow!

SPECIALTY HIGHLIGHT: EMERGENCY

VRCC Emergency service is open 24 hours a day, every day of the year to help you and your clients. We would like to take this opportunity to re-introduce our team of ER doctors to you:

Dr. Debbie Van Pelt is the Medical Director for VRCC, and the daytime emergency and critical care doctor who works Monday through Thursday. She joined the VRCC team in 2007. She did her Emergency and Critical Care residency at Colorado State University and is ACVECC board certified. Dr. Van Pelt worked in the Critical Care Unit at CSU and graduated from the University of Saskatchewan.

Dr. Luke Rump has been a part of the VRCC Emergency team for the past 19 years. He graduated from Iowa State University and did an Emergency internship at the Veterinary Institute of Trauma, Emergency and Critical Care in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1994. Dr. Rump practiced emergency and critical care in St. Louis, Missouri and Boulder, Colorado before joining VRCC.

STAFF HIGHLIGHT: OPHTHALMOLOGY

Mandy Hess, BA, Client Coordinator

Mandy is the Client Coordinator for VRCC Ophthalmology. Chances are that you have spoken with her when calling the Ophthalmology department. Mandy holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Visual Arts from the University of Northern Colorado, as well as an Events Management Certification. In addition to being the ‘voice’ of the Ophthalmology team, Mandy owns her own wedding and event floral design business, MJM Designs. Because of her love of animals, she donates 5% of her profits to the local humane society.

Mandy has worked for VRCC Ophthalmology for 2.5 years and has been in the veterinary field for eight years. She even met her husband, Matt (a CVT), while working at the same hospital. They have been married over two years this past April.

Mandy loves to plan outings and events for her team. Some of these outings include the team’s annual Christmas party at a bowling alley for “crazy” bowling, Colorado Rockies’ games, crafting dates at Upstairs Circus or Canvas & Cocktails, and friendly competitions during holidays like the annual Easter Egg Hunt. Mandy is referred to as the “mom” of the Ophthalmology Department since she keeps track of everyone’s birthdays, special occasions, makes sure everyone is taken care of during busy days, and ensures the department works smoothly and efficiently as possible. She also loves to plan potlucks, when really she just likes to have an excuse to bake something delicious. Outside of work and owning her business, Mandy enjoys hiking and being outside (in warm weather) with her husband and two dogs, traveling when the opportunity arises, playing recreational sports, sampling craft beers from breweries around the Denver Metro Area, and spending time with family and friends.
Dr. Megan Rector has been with VRCC since 2010. She received a Masters degree from Colorado State University in 2005 and her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine in 2009. She completed a small animal rotating internship from Texas A&M University in 2010.

Dr. Victoria Fields grew up in San Diego. She graduated from Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine in 2010. Dr. Fields completed a one year rotating internship at Animal Hospital Specialty Center in Highlands Ranch before joining the Emergency Service at VRCC Veterinary Specialty & Emergency Hospital.

Dr. Stacy Montomerie grew up in Colorado and completed both undergraduate and DVM degrees at Colorado State University. She completed an emergency and critical care internship at Fort Collins Veterinary Emergency and Rehabilitation Hospital prior to joining the VRCC Emergency team.

Dr. Terri Felske graduated from the University of Minnesota veterinary school in 2009 and completed a small animal rotating internship at Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine in 2010. She has worked as an emergency and general practice veterinarian in New Hampshire, North Carolina and Colorado before joining VRCC.

Dr. Heidi Servi graduated from University of Wisconsin Veterinary School in 2008 and completed an internship at Lakeshore Veterinary Specialists Glendale, WI. She has worked in emergency and general practice in Wisconsin and Colorado prior to joining VRCC full time.

Dr. Andrea Zikovitz graduated from Ontario Veterinary College in 2014 and then completed a rotating internship with VCA South Shore AH in Massachusetts.

Dr. Luan Strom graduated from Ontario Veterinary College in 2014 along with Dr. Zikovitz. She worked for Four Seasons Veterinary Specialists Loveland, CO prior to joining VRCC.

Dr. Heidi Servi graduated from University of Wisconsin Veterinary School in 2008 and completed an internship at Lakeshore Veterinary Specialists Glendale, WI. She has worked in emergency and general practice in Wisconsin and Colorado prior to joining VRCC full time.

Dr. Andrea Zikovitz graduated from Ontario Veterinary College in 2014 and then completed a rotating internship with VCA Veterinary Referral Associates in 2012 and Neurology/Neurosurgery Internship at At Veterinary Specialty Care in 2013.

We appreciate being able to help you and your clients!

We are proud to announce that cardiology services will now be available in Colorado Springs at Animal Emergency Care Center as of May 2016.

Dr. Luan Strom graduated from Ontario Veterinary College in 2014 along with Dr. Zikovitz. She worked for Four Seasons Veterinary Specialists Loveland, CO prior to joining VRCC.

Dr. Taylor White (relief) graduated from University of Wisconsin in 2011. She has completed a rotating internship at VCA Veterinary Referral Associates in 2012 and Neurology/Neurosurgery Internship at At Veterinary Specialty Care in 2013.

After 25 years at VRCC, Dr. Steven Wheeler is retiring at the end of June. As one of the original founders of VRCC, Dr. Wheeler opened the Internal Medicine practice in 1991. We are so thrilled for him to start this next (relaxing) stage in his life, and wish him the best. He will be sorely missed by the VRCC family, the referring veterinary community, pet owners, and of course, his patients. Happy retirement Dr. Wheeler! Mark your calendars! Sunday, September 11th, 2016 is the 5th Annual Battle of the Vet Hospital Stars! Registration just opened and is filling quickly! Go to our website for more info: www.vrcc.com/calendar-of-events/battle-vet-hospital-stars. A fundraising contest on our website for more info: www.vrcc.com/calendar-of-events/battle-vet-hospital-stars. A fundraising contest

Dr. Jessica Timian, DVM, MS, DACVIM

Smoked recovered uneventfully from the procedure. After discussing the findings with the owner, it was revealed that Smokey loved to play in the backyard, and occasionally would dive into the brush to find a ball. Likely, the stick got loded in Smokey’s nose during one of his endeavors to recover his ball. A follow-up call was placed later in the week to the owner, who reported that Smokey had complete resolution of clinical signs at home.

He will be sorely missed by the VRCC family, the referring veterinary community, pet owners, and of course, his patients. Happy retirement Dr. Wheeler! Mark your calendars! Sunday, September 11th, 2016 is the 5th Annual Battle of the Vet Hospital Stars! Registration just opened and is filling quickly! Go to our website for more info: www.vrcc.com/calendar-of-events/battle-vet-hospital-stars. A fundraising contest

VRCC Oncology Clinical Trials - Currently Enrolling! The VRCC Oncology department is currently offering clinical trials for the treatment of canine lymphoma, melanoma and bladder transitional cell carcinoma. Please contact the Oncologists at VRCC to discuss clinical criteria for participation. Please call us at 303-874-2054 for more information or to set up an appointment.

Sticky.jpg

Although only the tip of the foreign body could be visualized, this portion was grabbed with a forceps inserted through the scope. The foreign body was carefully guided out of the nose, and found to be a large stick (see below photo).